



WEEK
FIVE
JULY 2022

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



SYMBOL TOSS

WHAT YOU NEED: "Symbol Toss" Activity Page, cardstock, painter's tape, and beanbags

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Symbol Toss" on cardstock, one set per activity. Tape the pages on the floor

in a 3 x 3 tic-tac-toe grid.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to toss a beanbag at the symbols. Review whatever symbol the beanbag lands on. Repeat as many times as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review all of the symbols and introduce self-control.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, I'm so glad you're here! Come play a game with me."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all the pictures. They are the symbols of the things Jesus can help us with. [Child's name], take a beanbag and toss it at the pictures. Let's see what it lands on. (Pause.) Oh, look. It landed on [symbol] for [symbol's virtue]. Jesus can help us choose [virtue]. (Continue with each child.) That was awesome."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was a great review of all the things Jesus can help us do. There was a new symbol. It was for self-control. We'll hear a story about self-control today."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by telling the children to wait, wait, wait then move. Repeat as many times as desired until you reach your destination.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me choose self-control.

WHEN JESUS IS YOUR FRIEND FOREVER
JOHN 3:16

MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life.'"

JOHN 14:6, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can help you do everything?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus can help me do everything.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.





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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



BUBBLE CONTROL

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bubble solution and a large bubble wand or machine

NOTE: We recommend that you only use a hand-operated wand or bubble machine to prevent blowing bubbles with your mouth during the Covid-19 pandemic.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me choose self-control.

WHEN JESUS IS YOUR FRIEND FOREVER
JOHN 3:16

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Have the children stand in front of you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Blow the bubbles toward the children. Encourage the children to freeze until you ask them to pop all the bubbles. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's play with bubbles! While we play with them, let's practice the self-control that we heard about in our Bible story today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I want every to be super STILL while I blow the bubbles until I say, 'Go,' then you may pop all of them. Are you ready?" (Do activity.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job! You did so well with self-control. Jesus can help us have self-control. **Who can help you do everything? Jesus can help me do everything!**"

MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life.'"

JOHN 14:6, NIV

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



JESUS CAN HELP ME CHOOSE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Help Me Choose Symbols" and "Help Me Choose Label" Activity Pages; cardstock; Avery® #5163 labels or equivalent; dessert paper plates; dot markers; scissors; utility knife; clear tape; ruler, and a pen

WHAT YOU DO:

Kids will create Story Symbol strips that slide through decorated dessert paper plates so they can remember the wonderful ways Jesus helps us make waves. Be sure to check our Pinterest board (<https://bit.ly/FirstLookPinterest>) to see an example.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me choose self-control.

WHEN JESUS IS YOUR FRIEND FOREVER
JOHN 3:16

MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life.'"

JOHN 14:6, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can help you do everything?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus can help me do everything.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:

- Copy "Help Me Choose Symbols" on cardstock and cut apart, one for every two children. Each page contains four strips, two strips per child. Do not cut the images into squares. You want them to be in a continuous strip. There is a tab above each strip and a blank square at the beginning of the first strip. During the activity, the children will line up their two strips and attach the first strip on top of the tab that reads "Attach your first strip here."
- Copy "Help Me Choose Label" on label paper, one label per child.
- On the center of each plate, create two slits that the story sequence strips can slide through.
 - Find the center of the plate. Measure 1" above the center and mark with a pen. Measure 1" below the center and mark with a pen.
 - Using a ruler, create a line that is 3" long on each of your original marks. These lines should be horizontal, parallel, and 2" apart (stacked vertically).
 - Use a utility knife to cut the two lines.
- Write child's name on the back of their plate.

DURING THE ACTIVITY:

- Encourage children to decorate their plates.
- Have them add the label to the top of their plate, above and parallel to the slits.
- Show children how to attach the first strip to the second strip. The square with the Teddy Bear symbol should cover the tab that reads: "Attach your first strip here."
- Secure the two strips with clear tape.
- Insert the Story Symbol strip in the lower slit from behind the plate, and then insert in the upper strip from the front of the plate. This will allow only one symbol to be seen at a time.
- Demonstrate how to gently pull the strip up to show the next symbol.





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25 MINUTES

(JESUS CAN HELP ME CHOOSE, CONTINUED)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends. We have been learning about all the things that Jesus can help us with. We learned that Jesus can help us choose love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, goodness, and self-control."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I have a cool craft for us to make today to help us remember that Jesus can help us do everything. Let's start by decorating your plate with the dot markers. *(Pause.)* Awesome! Now add this label to the top, above the slits on your plate. *(Pause.)* Now let's put these strips together. *(Demonstrate.)* Put a piece of tape on the front and the back where they meet. *(Pause.)* Great! Now I'll slide the strip through the slits on your plate and watch what happens. *(Pull the strip from the back to reveal the first symbol.)* Jesus can help me choose . . . love. There's the love symbol. *(Pull the strip from the back to reveal the second symbol.)* Jesus can help me choose . . . joy. There's the joy symbol.

"You give it a try. Gently pull the strip up in the back. *(Pause.)* Jesus can help me choose . . . peace. Do you see the peace symbol? *(Pause.)* Great! Keep going! *(Repeat until you've gone through all the symbols.)* That was a great way to review all the things that Jesus can help us with."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In the very beginning, we learned that God loves us so much that He gave us His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. When Jesus is your friend forever, He can help you do EVERYTHING! Jesus can help you choose love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and gentleness. When Jesus is your friend, it's like you have this power. Jesus can give you the power of self-control. It means you can choose to do the right thing. Jesus can help you choose self-control because Jesus can help you do everything. **Who can help you do everything? Jesus can help me do everything.**"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at John 14:6; journal; fun-shaped pen; "Journal Summer Symbols" Activity Page; Avery® Labels #6450 or equivalent; and reward stickers or a handstamp

WHAT YOU DO: Copy "Journal Summer Symbols" on label paper, one sticker per child.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me choose self-control.

WHEN JESUS IS YOUR FRIEND FOREVER
JOHN 3:16

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Show me your muscle arms, like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Oooo! Those are some big muscles! Today, we'll show our muscle arms while we walk to our Small Group spot. Here we go! (*Flex your biceps as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*)"

"That was fun! Now let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*)"

MEMORY VERSE

"Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life.'"

JOHN 14:6, NIV

"In our Bible story today, we learned that when Jesus is our friend forever, He gives us the power like a strong muscle (*flex*), to do what is right. His power helps us choose love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, and gentleness. Whew! That's a lot Jesus can help us with because Jesus can help us do everything! **Who can help you do everything?"**

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus can help me do everything!"

KEY QUESTION

Who can help you do everything?

SGL: "We have been learning a Bible verse that says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life,"' John 14:6. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)"

"That means Jesus is everything. And because Jesus is everything, He can help us DO everything! Let's stand up and say that together one time with the motions, then anyone who wants to say it can have a turn."

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus can help me do everything.

Say the verse with the motions together one time.

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'Jesus answered, (*hands by mouth*) "I am (*point up*) the way and the truth and the life,"' (*march*) John 14:6." (*Open hands like a book.*)"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

SGL: "You sound ready to me! (*Give two thumbs-up.*) Now you can sit down. Anyone who wants to try to say that verse can. I have my [stickers/handstamp] ready! (*Give each child the opportunity to try to say the Bible verse.*)"

"Yay, [child's name]! Here is your [sticker/handstamp]! (*Repeat with each child as they try to say the Bible verse.*)"



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(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

“Okay everyone, when I count to three, I want you to stand up and show me your [sticker/handstamp]. One, two, three! *(Pause to look.)* Yayyyy! *(Give fist bumps to the children.)*”

“Now let’s sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. *(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)*”

“Today, everyone gets to choose one of our story stickers to go by your name in our prayer journal. *(Point to each sticker as you name it.)* We have the heart for love, smiley face for joy, teddy bear for peace, clock for patience, heart and hands for kindness, candle for goodness, high-five for faithfulness, feather for gentleness, and muscle arm for self-control. When I say your name, pick a story sticker to go by your name. *(Say each child’s name as you write it down. Let them pick a sticker to put by their name. Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*”

“This looks great! Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: “Dear God, thank You for giving us Jesus to be our friend forever. Thank You that Jesus can help [child’s name] choose [sticker child chose]. Thank You that Jesus can help [child’s name] choose [sticker child chose]. Thank you . . . *(continue with each child and their sticker)*. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”