



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



1. LET'S BE GENTLE

WHAT YOU NEED: Cotton balls, plastic spoons, and two plastic bins

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Fill one bin with cotton balls and set it on the floor on one side of your activity area. Place

the empty bin about ten feet away from the bin of cotton balls. Give each child a spoon and have them line up next to the bin of cotton balls.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to take turns placing one cotton ball on their spoon and walking slowly to the empty bin to drop their cotton ball. If the child drops the cotton ball, they can put it back on their spoon and keep going. Once they've dropped their cotton ball into the bin, encourage them to head back to the line to let the next friend have a turn. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how today's Bible story is about being gentle.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come line up over here with me! (Pause.) Let's practice gentle walking. I'll show you what that looks like."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Here's what we'll do. When it's your turn, I want you to pick up a cotton ball and place it on the spoon like this. (Demonstrate.) Then GENTLY walk to the empty bin and drop your cotton ball into the bin. (Demonstrate.) If you drop the cotton ball as you're walking, it's okay! Just put the cotton ball back on the spoon and keep going. Once you drop the cotton ball, come back to the line so the next friend can have a turn. Ready? [Child's name], pick up a cotton ball and gently walk. (Pause.) Great job! When you walk gently, the cotton ball stays on your spoon better. [Child's name], your turn! Pick up a cotton ball and gently walk with it. (Continue with each child.) That was SO fun! I saw you being careful and gentle. Great job!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In today's Bible story, we'll hear how Jesus was gentle. I can't wait to hear our story today."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by walking gently and slowly.

BIBLE STORY

I can be kind like Jesus.

JESUS IS GENTLE
MARK 5:25-34

MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves at all times."

PROVERBS 17:17, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



WEEK
TWO
MARCH 2023

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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



1. HIGH FIVE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Stand together in an open area of the room.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Say the verse with the children, then encourage them to give each other a high five for doing a good job. Repeat several times.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we can be kind like Jesus.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand with me. Let's do the motions as we say our memory verse together! I know everyone will do a great job!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "'A friend (*hook pointer fingers together*) loves (*hug yourself*) at all times (*arms out and twirl*),' Proverbs 17:17. (*Open hands like a book.*) That was so awesome. Let's give each other a HUGE high-five for doing so well! (*Pause.*) It is so kind to tell someone that they did a good job. Let's do it again! (*Repeat as desired.*) I love to see everyone being so kind to each other."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our memory verse tells us that friends always love each other, just like Jesus loves us! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"

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MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically
designed for older preschoolers



3. TURN AND TELL

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Have the children line up in your activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Explain to the children that you will play the telephone game. You will turn to the first child in line and whisper a simple statement. Then that friend will turn and gently and quietly whisper the message to the next friend and so on. When the message reaches the last friend, call on that friend to say it loudly to see if it matches the original message. Repeat with new messages as time and interest allow.

Here are some possible messages: Blueberries are blue. I love birthdays. Cows say, "Moo!" Friends are fun. Row, row, row your boat. Today is Sunday.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we can be kind and gentle like Jesus, too!

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, let's gather right here in a line and have a seat."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll play a game called 'Telephone'! I'll whisper a message into [child's name]'s ear. I want [child's name] to listen carefully then turn and pass that message to the next friend very gently and quietly as I did. We'll pass the message down the line from friend to friend until we get to the last friend in line. Then [child's name at the back] will share the message out loud to see if the same message we started with made it all the way down the line! Ready? (*Whisper a message in the first child's ear.*) Okay, turn and pass the message to your friend just like I did. (*Pause.*) Now turn and pass it to the friend next to you. (*Continue until the message gets to the end.*) Okay [child's name], tell us what the message is. (*Pause.*) Is that the message? I whispered (*repeat the message you used*). Let's try another one! (*Repeat as desired.*) Great job, friends! You did a good job of sharing the message gently and quietly!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible story, there was a woman who had been sick for a long, long time. She had gone to so many doctors. But no one could heal her. She had heard Jesus could make sick people better! So she made her way through the crowd, reached out, and touched Jesus' clothes. And just like that, she was healed! She felt SO much better! But Jesus turned around and wanted to know who touched His clothes. The woman wondered if she would be in trouble because she didn't ask to touch Jesus' clothes. But Jesus was gentle and kind to her. Jesus loved the woman and told her that she was all better. Jesus was gentle and used kind words, and we can, too. **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus.**"

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
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MADE TO REFLECT
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" from Week One paperclipped in Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per small group. Paperclip one card in your Bible at Proverbs 17:17. You will keep this card in your Bible all month.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lead the children to your Small Group spot, sit down, and gather the children around you. Review the Bible story and memory verse then pray with the children.

WHAT YOU SAY:

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll tip-toe gently, like this (*demonstrate*), to our Small Group spot. Follow me! (*Tiptoe slowly and gently as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*)"

"Ooh . . . that was so gentle. Now let's sit down gently 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.*)"

"In our Bible story today, we heard a story about a woman who was very sick. She believed Jesus was so powerful that just touching His clothes would make her all better. The woman got closer and closer and closer until finally, she touched Jesus' clothes!"

"What happened when the woman touched Jesus' clothes? (*Pause.*) Yes! Jesus' power made her all better! Was Jesus mad at the woman? (*Pause.*) No, Jesus wasn't mad. Jesus loved the woman and was kind and gentle to her."

"And because Jesus is kind and gentle, that means we can be kind and gentle, too! We can love like Jesus! **Who can love like Jesus?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "I can love like Jesus!"

SGL: "That's right! We're learning a new Bible verse that tells us when we can love like Jesus. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'A friend loves at all times,' Proverbs 17:17. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)"

"Let's stand up and say those words together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

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(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

CHILDREN AND SGL: "‘A friend (hook pointer fingers together) loves (hug yourself) at all times (arms out and twirl),’ Proverbs 17:17." (Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "You sound wonderful! Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.) Since our Bible story was about how Jesus loved the woman by being kind to her, we'll make a list in our journal of ways we can be kind. When I say your name, tell me one way we can be kind, and I'll write it in our journal. (Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"I love this list! And when we do the things on this list, we will love like Jesus! Would anyone like to pray before I pray?" (Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, there is no one more powerful than You. You have the power to help us and always be with us. Please help us be kind and gentle, like Jesus, so we can love like Jesus. Help us do things like . . . (read the list the children made). You're the best, God, and we love You. In Jesus' name, amen."