



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. ONE, TWO, THREE, ROLL!

WHAT YOU NEED: Table, crepe paper streamers, tape, scissors, and a ball

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Cut streamers in lengths that match the height of the table. Tape streamers to both long

sides of the table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Divide the children into two groups. Ask the groups to sit on opposite sides of the table from each other. Hand the ball to a child. Lead the group with the ball to count to three with their voices and fingers then roll the ball under the table to the other side. Encourage the children to wait to catch the ball. When the second group gets the ball, lead them to count to three with their voices and fingers then roll the ball back to the first group. Continue playing until every child gets a turn to roll and catch the ball.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how today's Bible story is about Jesus going away and coming back.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, we need to make two groups. I want one group to come over here to this side of the table and the other group to come to this side. Now everyone, sit down, crisscross applesauce."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to play a game by counting to three and rolling the ball back and forth under the table. The streamers make it a surprise when the ball comes out, so you need to pay attention. Are you ready?"

(Give the ball to one side.) I want the group that has the ball to count with me. One (Hold up one finger.), two (Hold up two fingers.), three (Hold up three fingers.), now roll the ball. (Pause.) Wait for it to come out on the other side. There it is!

"Okay, this side count with me. One (Hold up one finger.), two (Hold up two fingers.), three (Hold up three fingers.), roll the ball. (Repeat as desired or until each child has a turn.) You did a great job of waiting for the ball! The ball went away and came back."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear a story about when Jesus went away and came back, one (Hold up one finger.), two (Hold up two fingers.), three (Hold up three fingers.) days later just like He said He would."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by continuing to lead the children to count off "One, two, three" and then call a child's name and ask, "Who is alive?" That child answers, "Jesus is alive."

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive!

EASTER

**MATTHEW 26:20-50;
27:1-2; 28:1-7 AND
JOHN 13:33; 14:1-3, 28**

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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. ONE TWO THREE MEMORY VERSE!

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Large mylar balloons (#1, #2, and #3) and painter's tape; Optional "One, Two, Three Memory Verse" Activity Page and cardstock

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Inflate the balloons and tape them to the walls around the room. Option: Copy "One, Two, Three Memory Verse" Activity Page on cardstock, one set per small group. Tape to the wall around the room at preschooler level.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Point out the numbers around the room. Lead the children to run to the One and repeat the verse with the motions together. Repeat in the same way, running to the Two and the Three to repeat the verse together. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Count to three together and say, "Jesus is alive."

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, look around the room. Do you see any big numbers on the wall? (Pause.) Yes! There they are! Let's say our memory verse with the numbers today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Find the number one. Let's run to the 'one' and say the verse together. (Run to the number one with the children.) 'I am alive (point up) for ever and ever,' (twirl around) Revelation 1:18. (Open hands like a book.) Now, let's find the number two. (Repeat with each number then as desired.) You did a great job of finding all of the numbers and saying the memory verse together."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story, we heard how Jesus went away, and three sad days went by. Let's count together. One (Hold up one finger.), two (Hold up two fingers.), three! (Hold up three fingers.) Three days went by then Jesus came back, just like He said He would! **Jesus is alive** for ever and ever. **Who is alive? Jesus is alive!**"

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive!

EASTER

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27:1-2; 28:1-7 AND
JOHN 13:33; 14:1-3, 28**

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



3. WHAT DO YOU HEAR?

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Plastic refillable eggs; empty egg carton; and eleven small objects that make a noise (*rock, bouncy ball, large paperclip, plastic toy, die, pen cap, eraser, etc.*)

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive!

EASTER

**MATTHEW 26:20-50;
27:1-2; 28:1-7 AND
JOHN 13:33; 14:1-3, 28**

Note: If you choose to include a food item, make sure you display an "Allergy Alert" page. Make sure an adult is always supervising and remove all filled eggs when finished, especially if you choose any items that are possible choking hazards.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Fill eleven of the eggs with different small objects. Make sure one egg is empty. Place all twelve eggs in a spot in the egg carton and place the carton on the table.

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children around the table. Point out the eggs inside the carton. Call on a child to select an egg and have them shake it to see if there is an item inside. Explain that ONE egg is empty. Challenge them to take turns finding the empty egg.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how the one egg was empty just like the tomb after Jesus came back.

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, gather around the table with me!"

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I have some eggs. All of the eggs but one has an item inside. When I call on you, I want you to choose one egg and shake it to see if you found the empty egg. How many eggs are empty? (Pause.) Yes! Just one. Are you ready? Everyone, make sure you have your listening ears ready! Let's take turns. [Child's name], select an egg. Shake it, and let's see if you've found the empty egg. (Pause.) Did you hear anything? (Pause.) That one made a noise. Let's keep going. (Continue with each child until you find the empty egg.) That was so fun! You are such good listeners."

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "When Jesus' friends came to the tomb on the third day, the stone was rolled away and the tomb was what? It was EMPTY! Just like this egg is empty. Jesus was NOT in the tomb. Jesus came back, just like He said He would. **Jesus is alive!** We celebrate Easter because **Jesus is alive.**"



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

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 1 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 Revelation 1:18. 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, every time we take three steps, we're going to stop and say, '**Jesus is alive!**' Here we go! Count with me!" (Count out loud with each step and when you say, "three," stop and say, "**Jesus is alive!**" Continue as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

CHILDREN AND SGL: "One . . . two . . . three! **Jesus is alive!** One . . . two . . . three! **Jesus is alive!** (Repeat as you go to your Small Group spot.)

SGL: "Here's our spot! 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.) In our Bible story today, Jesus came back, just like He said He would! **Jesus is alive!** Yay! **Jesus is alive! Who is alive?"**

CHILDREN AND SGL: "**Jesus is alive!**"

SGL: "And the Bible verse we're learning will help us remember that **Jesus is alive.** In this Bible verse, Jesus says . . . (Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.) 'I am alive for ever and ever,' Revelation 1:18. (Close Bible and lay it down.)

"Let's stand up and say what Jesus said with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'I am alive (point up) for ever and ever,' (twirl around) Revelation 1:18." (Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "You sound great!"

BIBLE STORY

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(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

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

“Since **Jesus is alive** and He wants to be our friend forever, we’ll do something special in our prayer journal. When I say your name, stand up. *(Each time you say a child’s name, print it in your journal.)*”

“[Child’s name], stand up! Everyone, say, ‘Jesus wants to be [child’s name]’s friend forever’ with me.”

CHILDREN AND SGL: “Jesus wants to be [child’s name]’s friend forever!”

SGL: “Yay! Okay, you can sit down, [child’s name]. Now I need [child’s name] to stand up! Everyone, say it with me.”

CHILDREN AND SGL: “Jesus wants to be [child’s name]’s friend forever!” *(Continue with each child.)*

SGL: “Easter is such a special time to remember that **Jesus is alive** and wants to be our friend forever. Let’s pray and thank God for 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, thank You so much for giving us Jesus. Thank You that **Jesus is alive!** Thank You that Jesus loves us. Thank You that Jesus wants to be our friend forever. You are the best, God, and we love You very much. In Jesus’ name, amen.”