



WEEK
TWO
MAY 2023

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



1. HELPING HANDS

WHAT YOU NEED: Dish towel and small stuffed friend or Little People® figure

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Choose four children to go first. Place the towel on the floor and place the stuffed friend or

figure on the towel.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Position the children around the towel and encourage them to pick up a corner of the towel and carry the friend across the activity area. Repeat the activity several times, each time with different children carrying the towel.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how today's Bible story is about some friends who worked together to help someone else.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! I'm so happy to see you today! I have a helping activity for us to do. We have a friend on the towel who needs help. I need four friends to help me with the activity. [Children's names], come stand around the towel."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's give our friend a lift. We can use the towel to carry him. Each of you can pick up a corner of the towel and pick up our friend. (Pause.) Great job! Now be really careful and carry our friend to that side of the room. (Point.) Nice job! You were awesome helpers! Now gently lay him down. (Pause.) Perfect! Who would like to help next? (Pause.) Awesome! I love it when we have so many friends who want to help. (Choose four more children and repeat until everyone has had a turn.) Great job, friends. Thank you for helping our friend today."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible story, we'll hear about four friends who helped a person who couldn't walk. Let's get ready to hear all about it!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to carry a friend to Bible story time.

BIBLE STORY

God made me to help my friends.

THE FOUR FRIENDS
MARK 2:1-12

MEMORY VERSE

"We have the Lord our God to help us."

2 CHRONICLES 32:8, NLT

KEY QUESTION

Who made you to help others?

BOTTOM LINE

God made me to help others.

BASIC TRUTH

God made me.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



2. LET'S HELP

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "The Four Friends Maze" Activity Page, cardstock, and crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "The Four Friends Maze" on cardstock, one per child.

BIBLE STORY

God made me to help my friends.

THE FOUR FRIENDS
MARK 2:1-12

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Use the story pictures on the maze to review the Bible story as you assist the children in completing the maze. When the maze is done, encourage the children to color the story pictures.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how God made the four friends to help and God made us to help, too!

MEMORY VERSE

"We have the Lord our God to help us."

2 CHRONICLES 32:8, NLT

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hi, friends! Come sit with me. We're going to help these friends get to Jesus." (*Hold up an activity page.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible story today, four friends had another friend who couldn't walk. (*Point to bottom left picture of friends.*) Use your finger and count the friends who are standing on your paper. One, two, three, four! Now point to the friend lying on the ground who can't walk.

KEY QUESTION

Who made you to help others?

"The four friends knew Jesus could help their friend, so they carried him all the way to Jesus. (*Point to middle picture of the four friends carrying their friend.*) Point to the picture of the four friends carrying their friend to Jesus. When the friends got to the house Jesus was in, there were so many people that they couldn't get to Him. So they lifted their friend to the roof of the house, dug a hole in the roof, and lowered their friend down to Jesus. When Jesus saw how much the man and his friends believed that He could help, Jesus did something amazing. Jesus made his legs all better, and he could walk! Point to the picture of Jesus after He made the man all better. Let's use a crayon to draw a line that will help these four friends go through the maze, all the way to Jesus. (*Assist when needed.*) Now that you helped the friends get to Jesus, you can color the pictures."

BOTTOM LINE

God made me to help others.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The four friends did what God made them to do. They helped their friend! God made us to help, too. That's why when I ask you, 'Who made you to help others?' I want you to say, 'God made me to help others.' Ready? Who made you to help others? God made me to help others."

BASIC TRUTH

God made me.



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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



1. FRIENDS MEMORY VERSE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Painter's tape and cardstock

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Tape several large squares on the floor. Inside each square, tape four pieces of cardstock to the floor. You'll need one piece of cardstock per child.

BIBLE STORY

God made me to help my friends.

THE FOUR FRIENDS
MARK 2:1-12

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Review the verse with the motions. Point out the squares and paper on the floor. Count down "Three, two, one, GO!" On "Go," encourage the children to find friends to stand together inside each square. Once everyone is in place, point out how there are four friends inside each square. Lead the children to say the verse with the motions together. Then call on the children to jump out of the square. Call out "Three, two, one, go" and repeat, encouraging the children to step into a new square. Repeat as desired.

MEMORY VERSE

"We have the Lord our God to help us."

2 CHRONICLES 32:8, NLT

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, gather here with me! Let's say our memory verse together. 'We have (*bent hands to chest*) the Lord our God (*point up*) to help us,' (*thumb up on palm*) 2 Chronicles 32:8." (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job!"

KEY QUESTION

Who made you to help others?

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Do you see the squares on the floor? Let's get four friends together inside each square. I'll count down, and when I say, 'GO,' I want you to jump on a piece of paper inside a square. Then we'll say our memory verse together. Ready? Three, two, one, go! Everyone, get to a piece of paper in a square! (*Pause.*) 'We have (*bent hands to chest*) the Lord our God (*point up*) to help us,' (*thumb up on palm*) 2 Chronicles 32:8." (*Open hands like a book.*) Ready? Three, two, one, go! (*Pause.*) Find a square! (*Pause.*) 'We have (*bent hands to chest*) the Lord our God (*point up*) to help us,' (*thumb up on palm*) 2 Chronicles 32:8." (*Open hands like a book. Repeat as desired.*) That was fun!"

BOTTOM LINE

God made me to help others.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "You're learning your memory verse. Great job! I'm SO glad we have the Lord our God to help us! **God made me to help others. Who made you to help others? God made me to help others!**"

BASIC TRUTH

God made me.



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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



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 2 Chronicles 32:8. 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 count to four as we walk to our Small Group spot. Every time we take a step, count with me! (*Count with each step, "One, two, three four, one, two, three, four . . ."* as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.) Here we are! 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.*)

"God made us to help our friends, and that's what the four friends (*count on your fingers*) one, two, three, four, did in our Bible story. They helped their friend by carrying him all the way to see Jesus! We were made to help our friends, too. That's why when I ask you, '**Who made you to help others?**', we all say, '**God made me to help others!**' Let me hear you say it! **Who made you to help others?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "God made me to help others!"

SGL: "Yes, God made us to help others! And the Bible verse we're learning will help us remember that we have someone to help us, too. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'We have the Lord our God to help us,' 2 Chronicles 32:8. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"Did you hear that? We have GOD to help us! Let's stand up, and you can help me say that verse with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'We have (*bent hands to chest*) the Lord our God (*point up*) to help us,' (*thumb up on palm*) 2 Chronicles 32:8." (*Open hands like a book.*)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

BIBLE STORY

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25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

SGL: "Thank you for saying that verse with me! Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*)

"Some men helped their friend in our Bible story today, so we'll make a list of our friends in our prayer journal. When I say your name, tell me the name of one of your friends. (*Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*) Look at all our friends' names! Let's pray and ask God to help us look for ways we can help our friends. 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 friends. Please help [child's name] look for ways [he/she] can help [friend's name they listed]. Please help [child's name] look for ways . . . (*Continue with each child.*) We want to help our friends the way You made us to help. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."