



PRELUDE SOCIAL **WORSHIP** STORY GROUPS HOME

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a good friend.

WASHING FEET
JOHN 13:3-17

MEMORY VERSE

"I have called you friends."

JOHN 15:15, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who wants to be your friend forever?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible; instruments or music player; this month's worship song, "Never Better," included in your monthly files; and "I Love You So Much," available on OrangeKidsMusic.com; Optional: Dance Moves Videos for "Never Better," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com, and "I Love You So Much," available from OrangeKidsMusic.com

Worship Leader enters.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Friends, it's great to see you! My name is [your name]. I love being with you and worshipping our great, big, awesome God! God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to be our friend forever!

"When I ask, '**Who wants to be your friend forever?**' I want you to say, '**Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**' **Who wants to be your friend forever?**"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "**Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

WORSHIP LEADER: "He does! Jesus wants to be our friend forever and always. Let's sing about our good, good friend.

Lead children in singing "Never Better," this month's worship song.

"Jesus is the BEST friend in the whole world! The Bible teaches us that Jesus said, 'I (*point up*) have called you (*two fingers on top of two fingers*) friends,' (*hook index fingers twice*) John 15:15. (*Open hands like a book.*) Jesus says that to you and me! Let's learn our Memory Verse together. Let's say it together.

Lead children to say the Memory Verse with the motions.

"You've got it. Jesus is a best friend we can trust. He loves (*point to children*) you and you and you and you and me so much!

Lead children in singing "I Love You So Much."

"Thanks for singing with me! **[Transition]** And now it's time to turn around, sit down, and shake the wiggles out (*wiggle hands*), so we can hear (*cup hands behind ears*) what the story's all about!"

Host enters as Worship Leader exits.



WEEK
THREE
MARCH 2024

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: a small table, clear bins, soapy water, clean water, a sponge, a hand towel, and dirty football cleats

Preset the beach towel and hand towel from Story in the center of your storytelling area. The beach towel should be spread out with the long side facing the audience, and the hand towel should be placed on the right side of the beach towel.

Set the small table to the side of the beach towel, and place the prepared bins, sponge, and towel for the Intro Sketch on the table.

Host enters carrying football cleats as Worship Leader exits.

HOST: "Hi, friends! Welcome to [your environment's name or story time]! My name is [your name]."

"I'm SO excited because I'm playing on a flag football team, and we start practice this week. I am so excited to be on the team! But before I go, I need to clean these shoes. They're REALLY dirty."

Set the cleats on the table.

"I want to get them all cleaned up! So, I have a tub of soapy water. Looks like I'll need a lot of soap for these! And I have a tub of clean water to rinse them off. And of course, a towel to dry."

"Let's get to work! First, into the soapy water."

Hold the cleats over the soapy water and scrub with the sponge.

"And scrub, scrub, scrub. That already looks better."

Rinse the cleats with the clean water.

"Whew! These shoes were really dirty. They definitely needed to be washed! Now I can dry them with a towel. In today's Bible Story, someone special cleans something really dirty too! See you later, friends!"

Storyteller enters as Host exits.

STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: clear bin, mud, flip-flops, beach towel, towel, and a Bible; Optional: chocolate pudding mix, brownies, and milk in place of mud; Optional: chair; Optional: Story Images and cardstock

Before the Intro Sketch, preset the beach towel and hand towel from Story in the center of your storytelling area. Consider placing a chair behind the towel so Storyteller can sit while putting feet in bins.

Storyteller enters wearing flip-flops and carrying a Bible and the bin of mud, as Host exits.



WEEK
THREE
MARCH 2024

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

STORYTELLER: "Hello, friends!

Set the bin of mud on the left side of the beach towel.

"I'm [your name], and I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible.

Open Bible for children to see, then set it down.

"Today's true story from the Bible begins with Jesus' friends, the disciples.

As you speak, set the bin of soapy water in the center of the towel and the bin of clean water on the right side of the towel, next to the towel.

"The disciples were about to have a special dinner with Jesus. But there was a problem. The disciples' feet were super-dirty!

(Option: Display Story Image W3 01)

"Do you want to know why? Nod your head if you want to know why. *(Pause.)* Well, their feet were dirty because back then, they didn't have cars. They didn't have buses. So, if they wanted to go somewhere, how would they travel? They had to walk!

Step into the bin with the mud mixture and begin to walk in place. Note: Because the disciples would have dirty feet while wearing shoes, we suggest keeping your flip-flops on.

"And the roads were very dusty and dirty. After walking on dusty roads, the disciples' feet were very dirty.

Lift one of your feet to show how dirty they are.

"Could you go to dinner with your feet looking like this? Would your mom or dad or grandma let you come to the table with dirty feet? *(Pause.)* No! That's why they had to wash their feet before they ate dinner.

"But . . . guess what happened? Someone wanted to wash their feet for them! Can you guess who wanted to wash the disciples' feet? *(Pause.)* Jesus wanted to wash His friends' feet!

(Option: Display Story Image W3 02)

Step into the bin of water and bend town to "rinse" them off.

"Why would Jesus, God's Son, who is SO super-special, want to wash His friends' dirty feet?

"Jesus' friend Peter said, 'No Jesus, don't wash my feet!'

(Option: Display Story Image W3 03)

"Peter knew Jesus was SO special and didn't think Jesus should be doing a job like washing feet.



WEEK
THREE
MARCH 2024

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

Step out the bin onto the end of the beach towel. Use the smaller towel to dry your feet.

"But Jesus explained that if Peter was going to follow Him, he would have to let Jesus wash his feet. So, then Peter REALLY wanted Jesus to wash his feet.

Once feet are clean, stand back up and step off the towel.

"Jesus loved His friends and put them first. Jesus showed them how they could love others and be a friend like Him.

"Do you think Jesus is a good friend? (Pause.) YES! Jesus is such a good friend! And Jesus wanted to show us how to be a good friend too. So, Jesus washed the disciples' feet. Everyone, say: 'WOW!'"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "WOW!"

STORYTELLER: "Yes! Jesus is such a good friend. And we can be good friends too. Raise your hands if you could be a good friend by sharing your toys. (Pause.) Awesome. You can put your hands down.

"Raise your hand if you could let someone else go first on the slide. (Pause.) That's a great way to be a good friend. You can put your hands down.

"Ooo, could you give someone else the biggest cookie? Raise those hands. (Pause.) That would be hard, but that's something a good friend would do.

"Raise your hand if you could help clean up, even if you didn't make the mess. (Pause.) Wow! You've got this good friend thing down! You can put your hands down.

"Every time we think of others, and when we put them first, we're being a good friend like Jesus. And Jesus is the best! I'm so glad Jesus wants to be our friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever?"**

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "**Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

STORYTELLER: "Yes, **Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** [Transition] Our story time is over (pick up and close Bible), but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to show us how to be a good friend! Help us to think of others and put them first this week so we can be a good friend like Jesus! In Jesus' name, we pray, amen.

"I'll see you next time. Bye!"

Host enters as Storyteller exits, carrying Bible.



WEEK
THREE
MARCH 2024

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: "Wow! Jesus washed His disciples' feet to show them how to be a good friend.

"I think I (*point to self*) got the story. Did you (*point to children*) get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?" (*Cup one hand behind ear.*)

CHILDREN AND HOST: "Got it!"

HOST: (*Give two thumbs-up.*) "Good! I'm going to go see if anyone needs me to clean their shoes before practice. I want to be a good friend—just like Jesus! **[Transition]** And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

Host dismisses small groups and exits.