



WEEK  
**ONE**  
MARCH 2024

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. HOT OR COLD

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Hot or Cold" Activity Page, cardstock, clear packing tape, container, pom-poms or cotton balls, and painter's tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Hot or Cold" on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Tape pictures to the wall about three feet apart. Cut strips of packing tape to cover each picture with the sticky side facing out and adhere to the wall with painter's tape. Make a tape line on the floor a few feet away from the pictures and place the container of pom-poms or cotton balls next to the tape line.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Call out different things that describe a hot or cold place. One at a time, children will toss their pom-pom or cotton ball at that picture. Repeat as desired.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus wants to be friends with everyone, everywhere.

**WOMAN AT THE WELL**  
**JOHN 4:1-30**

## 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.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Hello, friends! I'm so happy to see you today! Come over and stand at this tape line with me."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "See these pictures on the wall? This is a picture of a hot place. (*Point.*) And this is a picture of a cold place. (*Point.*) Let's play a game! I'm going to describe a place, and then you toss your pom-pom at the picture you think I'm describing. [*Child's name*], are you ready? Pick up one pom-pom and listen. (*Pause.*) If you were in this place, you would need a big jacket. Which picture do you think that matches? (*Pause.*) Yes! The cold place! (*Pause.*) Good job! Next friend, grab a pom-pom and listen. If you were in this place, you would wear short sleeves. Which picture do you think that matches? (*Pause.*) Yes! The hot place! (*Continue with each child.*) That was a fun game!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "You did such a good job thinking about the places I was telling you about. Do we live in a hot place or a cold place? (*Pause.*) That's right! Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear how Jesus loves us no matter where we live!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by encouraging children to fan themselves when you call "hot," and shiver when you call "cold."



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



**BIBLE STORY**

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**WOMAN AT THE WELL**  
JOHN 4:1-30

**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.

**5. EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Everyone, Everywhere" and "Woman" Activity Pages, cardstock, crayons, craft sticks, scissors, glue sticks, and a permanent marker

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Everyone, Everywhere" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Copy "Woman" on cardstock and cut, one per child.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to color their paper and the woman. Ask children to glue the woman to the top of a craft stick. Use the craft to review the Bible Story.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible Story.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Hello, friends! Come sit at the table with me. I have something for you to make that will help us review today's Bible Story."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Who is this? (*Hold up the cutout of the woman.*) This is the woman from our Bible Story. Color your cutout. (*Pause.*) Now look at your paper and tell me what you see. (*Pause.*) Yes! There are lots and lots of people on your paper. What else do you see on your paper? There is a big sun in the sky and some tall and small buildings. Color all the things on your paper. (*Pause.*) Now that you've colored everything, let's make the woman a puppet and glue her to a craft stick. (*Help as needed.*) Hold your puppet in the air, and let's get ready to review."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today in our Bible Story, Jesus told the woman at the well that He is God's Son and He wanted to be her friend forever! The woman was so excited, she left her bucket at the well and went and told EVERYONE. Move your puppet around your paper to all the different people. (*Pause.*) She told all the people in town to come see Jesus because she knew Jesus wanted to be their friend forever too! And that means Jesus wants to be my friend forever and your friend forever and your neighbor's friend forever . . . Jesus wants to be EVERYONE'S friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"



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



**BIBLE STORY**  
  
Jesus wants to be friends with everyone, everywhere.

**WOMAN AT THE WELL**  
JOHN 4:1-30

**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.

**6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER**  
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]  
**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

**WHAT YOU DO:**  
**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at John 15:15. Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Lead the children to pretend they're carrying buckets of water to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the Memory Verse and motions, then encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of different places within your community and all over the world.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**  
**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to pretend we're carrying buckets of water to our Small Group spot. Okay, everyone! Pick up your bucket of water, and follow me! (*Pretend you are carrying a bucket of water as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Whew! We made it! You can put your buckets down. Now we can sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story today, a woman carried a bucket to a well to get water. Who was waiting at the well when she got there? (*Pause.*) Yes! Jesus! Jesus wanted the woman to know that He is God's Son, and He came to be her friend forever. What did the woman do when she heard the good news about Jesus? (*Pause.*) You're right! She ran and told everyone to come and see Jesus so He could be their friend forever too, because Jesus wants everyone to be His friend forever! And that means YOU! Jesus wants to be YOUR friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**

"And we are going to learn a new Bible verse that will help us remember that Jesus wants to call everyone His friend. In this Bible verse, Jesus says, '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.*) Stand up with me and let's say Jesus' words together! Just say what I say and do what I do. '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.*)



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## (6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

“Wow! (*Clap.*) That was really good! I love saying Jesus’ words together! Now let’s sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Today, we’re going to make a list of places. It can be somewhere close by—like your grandparents’ house or your favorite place to eat—or it can be somewhere far, far away in the world! It can be anywhere because Jesus wants to be friends with people everywhere! So when I say your name, tell me the name of one place and I will write it in our journal. (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** “Look at all of these places! Let’s use our list when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be friends with everyone, everywhere, like the people in/at (*read the list the children made*). Help us remember that Jesus wants everyone on His team, no matter where they live! We love You, God. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”