



WEEK
THREE
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. FOLLOW THE LEADER

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to join you in an open area of your room to play "Follow the Leader."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Choose one child to be the leader first. Encourage that child to lead the line of children around the activity area. Then choose a different child to be the leader and repeat the activity until each child has a turn to be the leader.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come join me over here! Let's play 'Follow the Leader!'"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "[Child's name], will you be our first leader? We'll follow you around the room doing what you do. Ready? Let's follow and see where we go! Great job, friends! Now it's time for a new leader to take a turn! [Child's name], come be our leader and we will follow. *(Repeat with each child.)* Great job! You are all wonderful leaders!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about the most wonderful Leader of all!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by continuing the activity as you walk to the story area. You can lead or allow a child to lead.

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.



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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



5. CLEAN FEET
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: "Clean Feet" Activity Page, cardstock, crayons, snack-size resealable bags, blue gel, clear packing tape, and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Clean Feet" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Fill each child's snack bag with a few tablespoons of gel, seal, and tape shut.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color their paper. Help children tape the bag over the disciples' feet. Encourage children to use their fingers to move the gel back and forth to pretend to wash the disciples' feet.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

BIBLE STORY
Jesus is a good friend.

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come over and sit at the table with me, friends. Let's make a picture of today's Bible Story."

WASHING FEET
JOHN 13:3-17

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "On your paper is a picture of Jesus with His friends, the disciples. Color your picture. (Pause.) Great job! But we aren't done yet! What did Jesus do in our story to show His friends how much He cared about them? (Pause.) That's right, Jesus washed His friends' feet! Let's put this bag of gel on top of the disciples' feet and tape it down. (Help as needed.) Now use your fingers to move the gel around to wash their feet. (Pause.) Great job!"

MEMORY VERSE
"I have called you friends."

JOHN 15:15, NIV

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story, Jesus' friends, the disciples, were about to have a special dinner with Jesus. But their feet were super dirty! Jesus wanted to wash His friends' feet because He is a good friend and He wanted to show us how to be a good friend too. Every time we think of others 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? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

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.



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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



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.

6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a 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. Place one card in your Bible at John 15:15. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month.*

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Tell the children to do something fun with their feet as you lead them to your Small Group spot. They can tiptoe, hop, skip, waddle like a duck—whatever they want to do. 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 ways they can be a good friend.

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, I want you to do something fun with your feet while we walk to our Small Group spot. You can waddle like a duck (*demonstrate*) or tiptoe (*demonstrate*) or hop (*demonstrate*)—whatever you want to do with your feet! Come on, happy feet, follow me! (*Do something fun with your feet as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) And . . . stop your feet! That was fun! 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, Jesus did something with His friends' feet. What did Jesus do? (*Pause.*) Yes, Jesus washed His friends' feet. Jesus washed His friends' feet to show them how to be a good friend. And when we put others first and love people the way Jesus loves us, we are a good friend like Jesus! Jesus is the best because Jesus wants to be our friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!** Let's stand up and say the Bible verse we've been learning. 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.*) Now let's say that 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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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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STORY

GROUPS

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"I love knowing that Jesus is our friend! Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Since Jesus wants us to be a good friend like Him, we're going to make a list of ways we can be good friends. When I say your name, tell me one way you can be a good friend and I will write it in our journal. (*Suggestions: Pray for a friend; make a get-well card; let a friend go first in line; share food/toys; say kind words; give a hug; etc. Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Wow! (*Hold up journal.*) These are wonderful ways to be a good friend! 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 show us how to be a good friend. Help us to love others the way Jesus loves us and do things like (*read the list the children made*). We want to be a good friend, like Jesus. We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."