



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
MARCH 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      **GROUPS**      HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO THINK**  
an advanced activity specifically  
designed for older preschoolers



**3. I SPY JESUS!**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "I Spy Jesus!" Activity Page, cardstock, and washable markers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "I Spy Jesus!" on cardstock, one per child.

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus is alive!

**EASTER**  
**MATTHEW 26:26-28:10**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage the children to search their pages to find Jesus hidden in the picture. Encourage children to circle Jesus when they find Him.

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

**MEMORY VERSE**

"I have called you friends."

**JOHN 15:15, NIV**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come find a spot at the table!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "There are lots and lots of things on your paper! But somewhere, hidden among all these pictures, is a picture of Jesus! Can you find Jesus? When you find Jesus, circle Him with the marker. (Pause.) Hooray! You found Jesus in the picture! Way to go, friends!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "When Jesus' friends went to the tomb, the stone had been rolled away and Jesus wasn't there. Jesus came back, just like He said He would! Jesus is alive. He came 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.



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. CUP TROPHY**  
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]  
**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Cup Trophy Sticker" Activity Page, Avery® Labels #5294 or equivalent, yellow cups, yellow cardstock, stickers, glue sticks, hot glue gun, scissors, and permanent marker

Note: Use the hot glue gun before children arrive, and store it in another room, out of reach.

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus is alive!

**EASTER**  
**MATTHEW 26:26-28:10**

**WHAT YOU DO:**  
**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Cup Trophy Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child. For each child, hot glue the bottom of two cups together. Cut cardstock into 1"x 10" strips, two per child. Write each child's name on their cup.

**MEMORY VERSE**

"I have called you friends."

**JOHN 15:15, NIV**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to decorate their trophy and add their sticker. Glue one end of the cardstock strip to the top cup and the other end to the bottom cup for the handle. Repeat with the other strip on the other side.

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

**KEY QUESTION**

Who wants to be your friend forever?

**WHAT YOU SAY:**  
**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Come sit down at the table with me, friends. Look at these cups—they remind me of a trophy. Trophies are rewards you get sometimes for doing the best in sports."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Decorate your trophies with the stickers. (Pause.) Great! Add this special sticker! The words written on the sticker say: 'Jesus wants to be my friend forever!' Now take one of the paper strips and glue one end to the top cup and the other end to the bottom cup. (Pause.) Great job! Take the other strip and glue it the same way on the other side. (Pause.) Super-duper!"

**BOTTOM LINE**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Happy Easter, everyone! God loved us so much that He gave us His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. Jesus was having dinner with His friends, the disciples, when He told them He would have to go away, but He promised He would come back. After dinner, Jesus went to pray in a garden when some angry people came and took Jesus away. They hurt Jesus, and He died. All of Jesus' friends were so sad. They put Jesus' body in a tomb with a big stone in front of it. Three sad days went by, and on the third day, Jesus' friends went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been rolled away. Jesus was not there! JESUS came back just like He said He would!! Jesus is alive! Jesus came to be our friend forever. That's what we celebrate on Easter! Jesus is alive and He wants to be our friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

**BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a journal, a fun-shaped pen, and reward stickers or handstamp

**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.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Lead the children to count their steps, "one, two, three," and on every third step, jump. Continue this all the way to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the Memory Verse and motions. Then encourage children to help you make a list in the journal of people we can tell the good news that Jesus is alive and He wants to be their friend forever.

**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 count to three while we walk, and then jump every time we say 'three.' Just count with me and walk this way! (*Count 'one, two, three,' and on every third step, jump as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Here we are! Now I just need to count to three one more time. 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, something very sad happened and then something very happy happened. What sad thing happened? (*Pause.*) You're right. Jesus died. And what happy thing happened? (*Pause.*) Yes! Jesus came back, just like He said He would! Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**

"Jesus wants to call [child's name] His friend and [child's name] His friend and . . . (*continue with each child's name*)! And the Bible verse that we have learned will help us remember that Jesus wants to call us His friend. In this 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.*) Let's stand up and 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.*)

**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus is alive!

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## (6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"I think you're ready to try and say it by yourself. Let's sit down and take turns doing that. I have my stickers ready! *(Give each child the opportunity to try and say the Bible verse.)* Everyone, clap for [child's name]! Here is your sticker! *(Say this with each child as they try to say the Bible verse.)* I am very proud of you for trying to say that Bible verse! When I count to three, I want everyone to stand up and show me your sticker/handstamp. One, two, three! *(Pause to look.)* Yay!" *(Clap.)*

"Now let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. *(Open journal.)*

Today, we're going to make a list of people we can tell the good news that Jesus is alive AND He wants to be their friend forever! So when I say your name, tell me the name of one person you can tell the good news to, 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:** *(Hold up the journal.)* "Look at all these people! 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, we want everyone to hear the good news that Jesus is alive and He wants to be their friend forever. Please help [child's name] tell *(person they listed)* and [child's name] tell *(person they listed)* and . . . *(continue with each child and the person they listed)*. Thank You for giving us Jesus. We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."