



WEEK
TWO
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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. PLACES

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Places" Activity Page, cardstock, carpet circle, and painter's tape; Option: Use a piece of butcher paper cut into a circle and taped to the floor in place of the carpet circle.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Places" on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Tape the pictures around the room where they can be easily seen by the children. Put a carpet circle in the center of the room as a visual for the children to run to during the game.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Walk around the room with the children and name the places in each picture, so the children have an idea of where to go when you play the game. Instruct the children to stand on the carpet circle in the middle of the room. Tell the children to listen and go to the place you call out. When they get to the place, ask them to say, "Jesus wants to be your friend forever!" and then run back to the carpet circle. Play as long as time and interest allow.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Follow me. everyone! I want to show you some pictures we have in the room today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "This is a [playground]. This is a [grocery store]. This is . . . (continue naming each place you have a picture of on the wall). Now, follow me to the carpet circle. (Lead the children to the carpet circle.) We're going to play a game with all the places we just walked to. If I say, 'Go and tell at the playground,' run to the playground picture and say, 'Jesus wants to be your friend forever!' Then come back to the carpet circle. Got it? Let's play! Go and tell at the grocery store. (Pause.) All together. Jesus wants to be your friend forever. Run back! (Continue with different places and repeat as desired.) That was so much fun, friends. Come stand around the carpet circle with me."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, Jesus told His friends, the disciples, to go and tell everyone, everywhere that Jesus is alive and that Jesus wants to be their friend forever! We can do that, too, because we can do what Jesus says! Right? Right! So tell me: **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!** Yay! **I can do what Jesus says!**"

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION
MATTHEW 28:18-20

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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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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GREAT COMMISSION
MATTHEW 28:18-20



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BASIC TRUTH

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5. IMPORTANT JOB

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Important Job" and "Important Job Person" Activity Pages, cardstock, washable markers, metal brads, and permanent marker;

WHAT YOU DO:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color their world with blue and green markers and decorate the person to look like themselves. Option: Ask children to glue the picture of themselves to cover the gingerbread person. Attach the person cutout to the back of the world with a brad. Demonstrate how the person cutout can move around the world telling everyone, everywhere that Jesus is alive and He wants to be their friend forever.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit at the table with me. Let's make a craft to help us remember today's Bible Story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus gave His friends, the disciples, a very important job to do. Jesus wanted them to go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. Decorate the person cutout to look like you. (Pause.) Amazing! Now look at the dots on the world. Where you see green dots, color green. Where you see blue dots, color blue. (Pause.) Great job coloring the world! Now let's add you to the world so YOU can go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus wants to be their friend forever!" (Attach the person cutout to the back of the world cutout with the brad. Demonstrate how the "person" can move around the world.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, Jesus gave His friends, the disciples, an important job to do. Jesus told His friends to go and tell everyone, everywhere that Jesus is alive and Jesus wants to be their friend forever. Jesus told them to GO and TELL. And we can do that important job, too, because we can do what Jesus says. **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.**"



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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, 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 Matthew 5:16. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to skip as you lead them 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 people we can go and tell about Jesus.

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 skip like this (*demonstrate*) to our Small Group spot. Just do the best you can and follow me! (*Skip as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) That was a fun way to get to our Small Group spot! Now let's 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 said to go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus is alive and Jesus wants to be their friend forever. You can skip to go and tell. You can run to go and tell. You can even hop to go and tell! The important thing is to do what Jesus says. And: **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!** That's right!"

"And when we do what Jesus says, we shine our light, which is what Jesus says for us to do in the Bible verse we are learning. It says: 'Let (*move flat hands forward from hip*) your light (*palms facing forward*) shine,' (*twinkling hands moving out*) Matthew 5:16. (*Open hands like a book.*) Stand up and say Jesus' words with me! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'Let (*move flat hands forward from hip*) your light (*palms facing forward*) shine,' (*twinkling hands moving out*) Matthew 5:16. (*Open hands like a book.*)

"Yay! (*Clap.*) Now it's time to write in our prayer journal and talk to God, so let's sit down. (*Open journal.*) Today, we're going to make a list of people we can go and tell about Jesus. When I say your name, tell me the name of one person, 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.*)"

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION
MATTHEW 28:18-20

MEMORY VERSE

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(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all of these people! (*Hold up journal.*) 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, You are the BEST! Thank You for giving us Jesus to be our friend forever. Help us to go and tell (*read the list the children made*) that Jesus is alive and He wants to be their friend forever. We want to do what Jesus says and shine our light! We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."