

SMALL GROUP

2 YEAR
-OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me.

JESUS AND THE CHILDREN LUKE 18:15-16

MEMORY VERSE

"Be kind and loving to each other."

EPHESIANS 4:32, NCV

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.

Come to Me

Love People

I Heart Pasta 🔕

LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"I Love You So Much" Bible Story Prayer

SMALL GROUP



GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.

Love One Another Jesus and Me Go! Sun Love

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home Memory Verse Card Parent Cue Card (print or email) Parent Cue App



This symbol indicates an activity with potential allergens. Be sure to post allergy alert sign and inform parents at drop-off.





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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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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



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1. COME TO ME

WHAT YOU NEED: Pop-up tunnel

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Set the tunnel in an open area of the room.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Call each child by name and encourage them to crawl through the tunnel to you. Continue with each child. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hey friends, look at this tunnel. You stand at this end, and I'm going to stand at the other end. (*Peek through the tunnel*.) Can you see me? Awesome!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "When you hear your name, crawl through the tunnel, and come to me. Ready? [Child's name], come to me! (*Pause.*) [Child's name], come to me! (*Continue with each child.*) Wow, look! All you children came to me! I sure do like having you around me! Thank you. Let's do it again! I will go to the other side and call you. (*Repeat as desired.*) That was so fun playing with the tunnel!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to hear a story today about Jesus. Jesus was excited to see children, just like I was excited to see you! Jesus wanted all the children to come to Him."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by saying: "[Child's name], come to me, and let's go to Worship!" Repeat with each child.



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PRELUDE

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HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



on their page.

2. LOVE PEOPLE

WHAT YOU NEED: "Love People" Activity Page, cardstock, and heart stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Love People" on cardstock, one per child.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me.

JESUS AND THE CHILDREN LUKE 18:15-16 **AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come and sit with me. I have a fun activity for us to do. Everyone gets one of these papers and some heart stickers."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to place a sticker on each person

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at your paper. I see so many different people. I see so many different people. Do you see the children? Put a heart sticker on each child. (Pause.) What other people do you see? Let's give these people some love. Put a heart sticker on each of these people. (Pause.) You did it! You put a heart sticker on each and every person on your page. The people on your paper are covered with love!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In today's story, we're going to hear more about how Jesus loves everyone, and that includes little children like you! That's right—Jesus loves you!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by chanting, "Jesus loves me."

MEMORY VERSE

"Be kind and loving to each other."

EPHESIANS 4:32, NCV

KEY QUESTION

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FEBRUARY 2024

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HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning



3. I HEART PASTA

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert Poster," cardstock, plastic bin, foam hearts, preschool tongs or tweezers, pot, water, Fettuccine noodles (*gluten-free pasta can be used, but avoid chickpea pasta*), and baby wipes: Option: Use thick yarn in place of pasta. Optional: Aprons and chef hats

Note: Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me.

JESUS AND THE CHILDREN LUKE 18:15-16

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list pasta, and post at the door. Boil pasta and slightly undercook by several minutes. Rinse pasta in cool water and add to the sensory bin. Toss in multiple foam hearts of different sizes. Add small pasta tongs.

"Allergy Alert Poster" (in the Prelude folder) and post it at the door to your room.

MEMORY VERSE

"Be kind and loving to each other."

EPHESIANS 4:32, NCV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to touch (or use preschool tongs or tweezers) and explore the pasta to find the hearts.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Ohhhh, I heart pasta! It is so yummy. Today you get to pretend to be a chef and play with this fun pasta! Friends, this pasta is not for eating, just playing."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I need your help! When I was making the pasta, I dropped a lot of hearts in it, and I need your help to find them. You can use your hands and feel how the pasta feels. Or you can use these tongs/tweezers. (Pause.) Hey, little chefs, did you find all the hearts? (Pause.) Hooray! You found all the hearts! I know hearts don't belong in pasta, so thank you for helping me." (Clean hands.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Do you know what hearts make me think of? Love! It makes me remember that Jesus loves you and me and all of us. In our story today, we'll learn how Jesus loves children just like you!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to eat a bowl of pasta.

BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

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HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

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1. LOVE ONE ANOTHER

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page, and Avery® Labels #5294 or equivalent

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child. Review the Memory Verse

as you do the hand motions together.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Say the verse with the children and then encourage them to high-five each other for all doing a good job. Say the Memory Verse again, and this time encourage the children to give each other fist bumps after they've finished. Lastly, say the Memory Verse a third time and encourage the children to hug each other after the verse is said.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Say and do the motions to the Memory Verse one more time. Then give each child a sticker. Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand with me over here. Let's do the motions as we say our Memory Verse together. 'Be kind and loving (*cross hands over chest*) to each other,' (*spread arms out*) Ephesians 4:32. (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "This time, let's say our verse together, then find a friend to high five. Let's do it! 'Be kind and loving to each other.' Ephesians 4:32. Find a friend to high five. (Pause.) Let's say our verse again, and this time we can find a friend to do a gentle fist bump. Here we go. 'Be kind and loving to each other.' Ephesians 4:32. Find a friend to fist bump. (Pause.) Fantastic! This time after you say the verse, find a friend and give them a hug. Ready? 'Be kind and loving to each other.' Ephesians 4:32. Find a friend to hug. (Pause.) Way to go, friends! I love to see everyone being so kind to each other and showing love."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our Memory Verse tells us that Jesus wants us to be kind and loving to everyone. We can love everyone just like Jesus! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"



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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



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2. JESUS AND ME [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Jesus and Me" Activity Page, cardstock, crayons, glue sticks, camera, and photo paper

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Jesus and Me" on cardstock, one per child. Take each child's picture as they

arrive and print.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to color their picture. Then help as needed to glue their picture to the designated space.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "I am so excited! We're going to make something very special for you to take home today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, Jesus was teaching, and a lot of different people wanted to get close to Him—even children! The children tried to get close to Jesus, but the disciples—Jesus' friends—told the children to go away. But Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me.' Jesus loves children, because **Jesus loves everyone!** That means Jesus loves you! Color your picture of Jesus. (*Pause.*) Great! Now you get to put your picture next to Jesus because Jesus loves you! (*Help as needed.*) I want everyone to hold up your pictures. When I count to three, I want us to say, 'Jesus loves me!' Ready? One, two, three! Jesus loves me! Great job!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That's right, friends! Jesus loves you, because Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"



FOUR
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HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



desired.

3. GO!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to join you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Walk to the opposite of the

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me.

JESUS AND THE CHILDREN LUKE 18:15-16

MEMORY VERSE

"Be kind and loving to each other."

EPHESIANS 4:32, NCV

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand here with me! Let's play a game together."

activity area. Encourage children to run or walk fast to you when you say, "Go," and freeze when you say, "Stop." Continue until the children reach you. Repeat as

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I'm going to walk to this side of the room. When I say, 'go,' I want you to run/walk fast to me. But when I say, 'stop,' you need to freeze where you are. Are you ready to play? Let's GO! (Pause.) Stop! Wow! Look how close you got to me. Ready, set, GO! (Pause.) Stop! (Continue until every child gets to you.) That was so much fun! Let's do it again. Stay where you are, and I'll go to the other side." (Repeat as desired.)

KEY QUESTION AFTER

Who does Jesus love?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "This game reminds me of our Bible Story today when the disciples said, 'STOP' and Jesus said, 'GO!' Remember in our story, we heard how the children wanted to get close to Jesus, but the disciples said no. Jesus told the disciples to let the children come to Him because He loves children.

Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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KEY QUESTION

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BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



4. SUN LOVE [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Sun Love" Activity Page, red cardstock, clear contact paper, tissue paper squares, paper bowls, scissors, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Sun Love" on red cardstock and cut out the inside of the heart as indicated, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Cut contact paper slightly larger than each heart. Peel apart the backing paper, adhere the heart with the writing facing up, and then replace the backing. Turn over and trim the excess for each child's heart. Place tissue squares in several bowls.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Remove the backing paper and encourage children to fill the inside of their hearts with the tissue squares.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit at the table. Let's create a heart suncatcher!" (*Peel off the backing of each heart*.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone has a heart that has sticky on the inside of it. Fill your heart with the tissue squares. (*Pause.*) Wow! Hold your hearts up to the light. (*Pause.*) Look how pretty the colors of your heart are! You can put this in a window and watch how the sun shines through the colors."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we heard a story about Jesus! One day when Jesus was teaching, lots and lots of people wanted to meet and get close to Him. Moms and dads and aunts and uncles. Teachers and doctors and carpenters and fishermen. And there were children who wanted to go see Jesus too. But Jesus' disciples stopped the children from getting near Jesus. But Jesus was kind and loving, and called the children to Him and said: 'Let the little children come to me.' Jesus opened His arms wide, and the children came. Jesus told the crowd to never stop children from coming to see Him because children are very important to Him. Every one of you is important to Jesus. Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever. Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"



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HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age-appropriate and handson fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and children at the door.

1. COME TO ME

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

Pop up tunnel

WHAT YOU DO:

• Set the tunnel in an open area of the room.

2. LOVE PEOPLE

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Love People" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- · Heart stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Love People" on cardstock, one per child.
- Peel the backing off the sheets of heart stickers to make it easier for little fingers.

3. I HEART PASTA*

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role-play to enhance their learning **WHAT YOU NEED:**

- "Allergy Alert Poster"
- Cardstock
- Plastic bin
- Foam hearts
- Preschool tongs or tweezers

- Pot
- Water
- Fettuccine noodles (gluten-free pasta can be used, but avoid chickpea pasta)
- Baby wipes
- Optional: thick yarn in place of pasta
- Optional: Aprons and chef hats, one per child

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list pasta, and post at the door.
- Boil pasta and slightly undercook by several minutes.
- Rinse pasta in cool water and add to the sensory bin.
- Toss in multiple foam hearts of different sizes.
- · Add small pasta tongs.

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

1. LOVE ONE ANOTHER [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page
- Avery® Labels #5294 or equivalent

WHAT YOU DO:

• Copy "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child.



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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

2. JESUS AND ME

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Jesus and Me" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Crayons
- · Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Camera
- · Photo paper

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Jesus and Me" on cardstock, one per child.
- Take each child's picture as they arrive and print.

3. GO!

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

No supplies needed

4. SUN LOVE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Sun Love" Activity Page
- Red cardstock
- Clear contact paper
- Tissue paper squares
- Paper bowls
- Scissors
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Sun Love" on red cardstock and cut, one per child
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Cut contact paper slightly larger than each heart.
- Peel apart the backing paper, adhere the heart with the writing facing up, and then replace the backing.
- Turn the heart over and trim excess.
- Place tissue squares in several bowls.

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the Parent Cue app.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

 Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. <u>bit.ly/FL_FoodTrucks</u>