

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong.

ZACCHAEUS LUKE 19:1-10

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



SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.

Coin Collecting

House Building

Food Truck Rodeo

LARGE GROUP



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

"I Love You So Much," "Important Things" 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.

French Fry Verse
Move This Way
Jump to See
Zacchaeus to Jesus
Z in the Tree
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



SMALL GROUP

S-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



1. COIN COLLECTING

WHAT YOU NEED: Plastic gold coins or yellow paper or foam circles, and paper cups

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Scatter the coins/circles on the floor around your activity area.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong.

ZACCHAEUS LUKE 19:1-10

around the room. Encourage children to pick up coins and place them in their cup until all coins have been collected. Then, gather at the table and lead the children to count how much money they collected.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a cup. Point out scattered coins

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce Zacchaeus from today's Bible Story and explain that his job was to collect money from people.

MEMORY VERSE

"Be kind and loving to each other."

EPHESIANS 4:32, NCV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Come over here and stand with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all the coins on the floor! (*Pause.*) I'm going to give you a cup so you can put some coins in it. Let's go collect! (*Pause.*) Keep collecting until all the coins have been picked up! (*Pause.*) You collected all the coins! Great job, friends. Come to the table and let's count how many coins are in your cup. (*Pause.*) Wow! You collected a lot of coins!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, we'll hear about a man named Zacchaeus. Zacchaeus' job was to collect money from people, and a lot of people didn't like him very much. Let's go hear the story and find out why!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by calling out a number between one and ten and leading the children to count up to that number aloud.

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



SMALL GROUP

3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

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

BIBLE STORY

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ZACCHAEUS LUKE 19:1-10

MEMORY VERSE

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2. HOUSE BUILDING

WHAT YOU NEED: Popsicle sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather children around the table

popsicle sticks to make a triangle. Ask children to make a square with four popsicle sticks. Then, ask children to move the triangle to the top of their square. Encourage them to build their own house with popsicle sticks.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce today's Bible story as you talk about how Jesus came to someone's house.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come gather here around the table. We're going to build some shapes with these popsicle sticks today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, take three popsicle sticks. Let's count together—one, two, three! Now, let's make a triangle. (*Demonstrate.*) Great job! Now, take four popsicle sticks. Let's count together—one, two, three, four! Now, let's make a square. (*Demonstrate.*) Super-duper! Now, what can you make if you put the triangle and the square together? (*Pause.*) You made a house! Great job! Make a different house with the popsicle sticks, any shape you want! (*Pause.*) You made some amazing houses!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, we'll hear about how Jesus went to someone's house. Let's go hear more about it! Come with me."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to travel different ways to a friend's house.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

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

BIBLE STORY

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ZACCHAEUS LUKE 19:1-10

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3. FOOD TRUCK RODEO

WHAT YOU NEED: "Food Truck Rodeo" and "Food Truck Food" Activity Pages, cardstock, paper food baskets, scissors, two tables, blanket, and painter's tape. Optional: foam trays in place of paper food baskets; Optional: toy food in place of the "Food Truck Food" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Food Truck Rodeo" on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Copy "Food Truck Food" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group. Push the tables against the wall and tape the food trucks to the wall above the tables, three trucks per table. Place one basket in front of each food truck and put the corresponding food cutouts inside. Spread blanket on the floor in an open area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a paper food basket and encourage children to visit the food trucks Tell them to put only one food cutout in their basket and then sit on the floor for a pretend picnic. Talk about the foods everyone chose as you pretend to eat. Put cutouts back and repeat.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce that Jesus went to someone's house for a meal in today's Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Come join me on this blanket. We're going to pretend to visit the food trucks today to get something to eat."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We have several different food trucks we can visit! There is a taco truck, a hamburger truck, an ice cream truck, a noodle truck, a cupcake truck, and a pizza truck! Let's pretend to have a picnic! You can go visit the food trucks, and I want you to choose just one piece of food to put in your basket. Then come back to the blanket. Ready? Let's go! (Pause.) Meet me back at the blanket once you have your food. What food did everyone choose? If you chose a hamburger, raise your burger. (Pause.) If you chose a slice of pizza, raise your slice. (Pause.) If you chose ice cream, raise your cone. (Pause.) If you chose a cupcake, raise your cupcake. (Pause.) If you chose a taco, raise your taco. (Pause.) If you chose a bowl of noodles, raise your bowl. (Pause.) All the different foods look so yummy! (Put the food cutouts back.) Let's play again—this time choose a different food. (Pause.) Meet me back at the blanket once you get your food! (Repeat as desired.) Friends! That was so fun visiting the food trucks and picking different foods to eat."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today we're going to hear a story about a time when Jesus went to someone's house to eat a meal."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to eat one of the fun foods from the food trucks.



SMALL GROUP

SHAR YEAR -OLDS

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

Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong.

ZACCHAEUS LUKE 19:1-10

MEMORY VERSE

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1. FRENCH FRY VERSE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "French Fries" and "French Fry Sticker" Activity Pages, yellow cardstock, Avery® Labels #5294 or equivalent, french fry bags, light blue cardstock, glue sticks, scissors, and a permanent marker; Option: paper food baskets in place of french fry bags, light blue cardstock, and glue sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "French Fries" on yellow cardstock and cut, one set per child. Copy "French Fry Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child. Write each child's name on a piece of blue cardstock. Say and do the motions to the Memory Verse. Option: Write each child's name on their paper food baskets.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to add a sticker to their french fry bag, then glue the bag to their paper. Pass out one fry at a time and have children put them in their bag as you say the Memory Verse. *Option: Ask children to add the french fries to the paper food basket as you say the verse.*

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Do the motions as you say the verse one more time, then review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, come join me over here near the table. Before we sit down, let's say our Memory Verse and do the motions together. Ready? '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: "Okay, everyone sit down at the table. I have a fun way for us to work on our Memory Verse! Look! French fries! How fun! Put this sticker on your french fry bag. (Pause.) Now glue your bag to your paper. (Pause.) Okay. These french fries have the words to our Memory Verse on them. Let's say our verse together and I'll pass you a fry to put in your fry bag. 'Be kind (pass a fry to each child) and loving (pass a fry to each child) to each other,' (pass a fry to each child) Ephesians 4:32. (Pass a fry to each child.) Look how fun! Great job, friends!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Let's say and do the motions to our verse one more time. Ready, everyone? 'Be kind and loving (cross hands over chest) to each other,' (spread arms out) Ephesians 4:32. (Open hands like a book.) Super-duper, friends! Jesus loves each and every one of us! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"



SMALL GROUP

S-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

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



2. MOVE THIS WAY

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather with children in an open area of the room.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong.

ZACCHAEUS LUKE 19:1-10

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lead the children in doing specific movements as you review the Bible Story together.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Repeat the Bottom Line together.

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WHAT YOU SAY.

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come stand with me! We're going to move to the story together!"

MEMORY VERSE

"Be kind and loving to each other."

EPHESIANS 4:32, NCV

and show you how to move while I say them. Just watch me and I'll tell you what to say and do.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I'm going to say some words that tell the Bible Story

"Zacchaeus was a tax collector. (Make a pulling motion with both hands.) His job was to take money from people. But sometimes he took more money than he was supposed to.

"This was very wrong to do. (Shake head and hands no.) So no one was friends with him.

"Then Jesus came to town one day. (Look up. Make a climbing motion with arms and legs.) Zacchaeus climbed a tree to see!

"Jesus told Zacchaeus to come down. (*Pretend you are eating.*) He was going to his house to eat!

"Zacchaeus was so happy that day! (*Jump up and down with happy faces.*) Jesus was his friend! He gave back to the people the money he had taken from them!

"It's amazing how people can change (hug yourself) when we show some love to

be (Repeat as desired.) "That was great, friends!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus loved Zacchaeus even though he had done something wrong, because Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone! And that means Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong too. Jesus will never stop loving us!"

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



SMALL GROUP

S-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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong.

ZACCHAEUS LUKE 19:1-10

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.



3. JUMP TO SEE [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Blanket or flat sheet, Ollie plush or other plush friend, and an additional leader

WHAT YOU DO:

blanket perpendicular to the floor so it extends from the floor to a foot or so above the height of your preschoolers. The blanket can puddle on the floor. Help children line up facing the blanket. Place the Ollie plush on the floor behind the blanket.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Let each child in line walk up to the blanket and attempt to jump up to try to see the plush friend on the other side. Repeat so each child has a turn.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story as you talk about how Zacchaeus tried to see over the people and couldn't.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come line up here, one friend behind the other. [Leader's name] and I are going to stand here holding this blanket."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "One at a time, I want you to walk up to the blanket and jump up to try to see what's on the other side. Listen for your name! [Child's name], walk up to the blanket. Jump up and see if you can see anything over the blanket. (Pause.) Wow! Good jump! Could you see anything? (Pause.) Go back to the line and let's have [child's name] come try. (Continue with each child.) Everyone did a great job. It's hard to see over things or people who are taller than you, isn't it? (Pause.) Our activity reminds me of Zacchaeus!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story, Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus. But he was too short to see over all the people. What did he do? (*Pause.*) He climbed a tree to see Jesus! And when Jesus saw Zacchaeus, He said, 'Come down right away. I want to go to your house today.' Jesus loved Zacchaeus and wanted to be his friend! That made Zacchaeus so happy! Jesus was kind and loving to Zacchaeus. Jesus is kind and loving to everyone! Tell me: Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone! That's right! Let's say it one more time. Who does Jesus love? Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"



SMALL GROUP

S-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong.

ZACCHAEUS LUKE 19:1-10

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.



4. ZACCHAEUS TO JESUS [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Zacchaeus to Jesus" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, laminate pouch, pool noodle, and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Zacchaeus to Jesus" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group. Laminate each picture. Tape the picture of Zacchaeus to the end of the pool noodle. Tape the picture of Jesus to the wall at preschooler's eye level.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have the children line up. Hold the pool noodle with Zacchaeus slightly above the first child's head. Let the child jump to grab Zacchaeus and run to take Zacchaeus over to Jesus. Say the Bottom Line together. Ask the child to bring Zacchaeus back to you, and place the Zacchaeus picture on the pool noodle for the next friend. Continue with each child. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here with me! Tell me who climbed the tree in our Bible Story to see Jesus? (*Pause.*) Yes! Zacchaeus did!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's line up right here and take turns getting Zacchaeus (point) to Jesus (point)! When it's your turn, you can jump up to grab Zacchaeus and then run him over to Jesus. Ready to play? [Child's name], come get Zacchaeus! (Pause.) Awesome! Now run Zacchaeus to Jesus and put him on the wall next to Jesus. (Pause.) Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone. Hooray! Bring Zacchaeus back to me. (Stick Zacchaeus back on the pool noodle.) Next friend! [Child's name], come get Zacchaeus! (Continue with each child.) That was SO fun! Zacchaeus was so happy to know that Jesus loved him and wanted to be his friend forever."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Zacchaeus was so happy Jesus wanted to be his friend that he gave back to the people the money he had taken from them. Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong because Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"



SMALL GROUP

S-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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

Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong.

ZACCHAEUS LUKE 19:1-10

MEMORY VERSE

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EPHESIANS 4:32, NCV

KEY QUESTION

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BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

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5. Z IN THE TREE [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Z in the Tree," "Jesus at the Tree," "Zacchaeus Sticker" Activity Pages; cardstock; Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent; brown paper cups; clear disposable plastic gloves; green tissue squares; paper bowls; clear tape; double-sided tape; plastic or paper straws; scissors; and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Z in the Tree" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Copy "Jesus at the Tree" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Copy "Zacchaeus Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child. Write each child's name on their cup. Punch a small hole near the bottom of each cup. Place green tissue squares in several bowls.

to the three middle fingers of the glove with double-sided tape. Encourage children to place a handful of green tissue in their cup. Place a glove on top of each child's cup and secure with clear tape around the edge. Ask children to tape Jesus to the side of their cup, then add their sticker. Tuck the glove into the cup and help children insert the straw into the hole. Ask children to blow gently into their straw to make Zacchaeus appear.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to know that Jesus loves each and every one of us! Come sit at the table with me, and let's make a fun craft to help us remember our Bible Story today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I'm going to put a piece of tape on the three middle fingers of this glove. I want you to put this picture of Zacchaeus on top of the tape. (Pause.) Now take a handful of green tissue paper and put it in your cup. (Place glove on top of the cup and tape to secure.) Look! Zacchaeus is in the tree! Now let's add Jesus on the side of your tree. Rub some glue on this tab (point) and press on the side of the cup. (Help as needed.) Add this sticker to your cup—it tells you where you can look in the Bible to find today's story. (Pause.) You are almost finished! We'll push Zacchaeus into the cup and add the straw to the hole on the side. Blow into the straw and watch what happens. (Pause.) Wow! That was so cool! You can take these home with you today and tell the story of Zacchaeus!"





PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Zacchaeus had climbed a tree to see Jesus. When Jesus saw him, He called him down from the tree and they went to Zacchaeus' house. Jesus loved Zacchaeus even though he had made bad choices. Jesus was so kind and loving to Zacchaeus that it made him want to be kind and loving to other people. Zacchaeus was so happy that Jesus was his friend, he gave back to the people the money he had taken from them! There isn't anything we can do to make Jesus stop loving us. Even if we make a bad choice, Jesus will still love us. Jesus loves us no matter what. Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!"



SMALL GROUP

S-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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 loves us even when we do something wrong.

ZACCHAEUS LUKE 19:1-10

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.



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 Ephesians 4:32. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to pretend to climb 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 of things that we know are wrong to do.

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 climbing a tree, like this (*demonstrate*), while we walk to our Small Group spot. Follow me! (*Pretend to climb as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Okay, little climbers, let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

"In our Bible Story today, Zacchaeus wanted to see Jesus, but he was too short and could not see over all of the people. What did Zacchaeus do so he could see Jesus? (Pause.) Yes, he climbed a tree! And then Jesus told Zacchaeus to come down because He wanted to go to his house! Jesus was kind and loving to Zacchaeus because Jesus loves everyone, even when we do something wrong, like Zacchaeus. Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!

"The Bible verse we're learning tells us how to love everyone. It says: 'Be kind and loving (cross hands over chest) to each other,' (spread arms out) Ephesians 4:32. (Open hands like a book.) Stand up with me, and let's say that together! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'Be kind and loving (cross hands over chest) to each other,' (spread arms out) Ephesians 4:32. (Open hands like a book.)





PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"You are so smart! I'm proud of you! (Give fist bumps.) Let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Open journal.) It's a good thing Jesus loves us even when we do something wrong because everyone has done something wrong. We all need Jesus to forgive us, right? Let's make a list of things we know are wrong. Then we can use our list when we pray. (Suggestions: Not obeying parents, not sharing, arguing with a sibling/friend, taking something that does not belong to us, etc.) I'll go first. (Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We've all done something wrong, just like Zacchaeus. That's what makes Jesus so special. **Jesus loves everyone**, and He will always forgive us. Let's pray and talk to God about what we wrote in our prayer journal. 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 love us no matter what and to show us how to love others. Please forgive us when we do things like (*read the list*). And help us forgive others too. You're the best, God. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

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. COIN COLLECTING

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Plastic gold coins or yellow paper or foam circles
- · Paper cups, one per child

2. HOUSE BUILDING

Made to Play: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

Popsicle sticks

3. FOOD TRUCK RODEO

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

- "Food Truck Rodeo" Activity Page
- "Food Truck Food" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Paper food baskets
- Scissors
- Two tables
- Blanket
- · Painter's tape
- Optional 1: foam trays in place of paper food baskets
- Optional 2: toy food in place of the "Food Truck Food" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

• Copy "Food Truck Rodeo" on cardstock, one set per ©2023 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com

- Small Group.
- Copy "Food Truck Food" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Push the tables against the wall and tape the food trucks to the wall above the tables, three trucks per table.
- Place one basket in front of each food truck and put the corresponding food cutouts inside.
- Spread blanket on the floor in an open area.

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. FRENCH FRY VERSE [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing **WHAT YOU NEED:**

- "French Fries" Activity Page
- · "French Fry Sticker" Activity Page
- Yellow cardstock
- Avery® Labels #5294 or equivalent
- French fry bags, such as https://a.co/d/8HBzOv3
- · Light blue cardstock
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Permanent marker
- Optional: paper food baskets in place of french fry bags, light blue cardstock, and glue sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

 Copy "French Fries" on yellow cardstock and cut, one set per child.



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- Copy "French Fry Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child.
- Write each child's name on a piece of blue cardstock.
- Option: Write each child's name on their paper food baskets.

2. MOVE THIS WAY

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

No supplies needed

3. JUMP TO SEE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

WHAT YOU NEED:

- · Blanket or flat sheet
- Ollie plush or other plush friend
- Additional leader

4. ZACCHAEUS TO JESUS

[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:

- "Zacchaeus to Jesus" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Laminate pouch
- Pool noodle
- Painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Zacchaeus to Jesus" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Laminate each picture.
- Tape the picture of Zacchaeus to the end of the pool noodle.
- Tape the picture of Jesus to the wall at preschooler's eye level.

5. Z IN THE TREE [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing **WHAT YOU NEED:**

- "Z in the Tree" Activity Page
- "Jesus at the Tree" Activity Page
- "Zacchaeus Sticker" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Avery® Labels # 5160 or equivalent
- Brown paper cups, one per child
- · Clear disposable plastic gloves, one per child
- Green tissue squares
- Paper bowls
- Clear tape
- · Double-sided tape
- · Plastic or paper straws, one per child
- Scissors
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Z in the Tree" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Copy "Jesus at the Tree" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Copy "Zacchaeus Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child.
- Write each child's name on their cup.
- Punch a small hole near the bottom of each cup.
- Place green tissue squares in several bowls.





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6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible
- Journal (Check out the new Ollie journal at bit.ly/3B4Z71j.)
- Fun-shaped pen (Check out the new Ollie Pen at bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh.)

WHAT YOU DO:

- If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group.
- Place the card in the Bible at Ephesians 4:32. NOTE: Keep the Memory Verse Card in your Bible all month.

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>