



WEEK  
**THREE**  
MARCH 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS  
RUG

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### 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.

### 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**  
MIN

#### **SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction**

*Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.*

Follow the Leader  
Disciple Countdown  
Soapy Fun

### LARGE GROUP

**20**  
MIN

#### **WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God**

#### **STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways**

"Never Better"  
Bible Story  
Prayer

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN

#### **GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect**

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

My Friend Forever  
Sweatband Jesus  
Good Friend Like Jesus  
Balloon Paddle Ball  
Clean Feet  
Journal and Prayer

### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

## BIBLE STORY

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## LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

## WORSHIP

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible; instruments or music player; this month's worship song, "Never Better," included in your monthly files; *Optional: Dance Moves Video for "Never Better," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from [OrangeKidsMusic.com](https://www.OrangeKidsMusic.com)*

**LEADER:** "Friends, it's great to see you! My name is [your name]. I love being with you and worshipping our great, big, awesome God! God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to be our friend forever!

"When I ask, '**Who wants to be your friend forever?**' I want you to say, '**Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**' **Who wants to be your friend forever?**"

**CHILDREN AND LEADER:** "**Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

**LEADER:** "He does! Jesus wants to be our friend forever and always. Let's sing about our good, good friend.

*Lead children in singing "Never Better," this month's worship song.*

"Jesus is the BEST friend in the whole world! The Bible teaches us that Jesus said, '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.) Jesus says that to you and me! Let's say our Memory Verse together.

*Lead children to say the Memory Verse with the motions.*

"You've got it. Thanks for worshipping with me! **[Transition]** And now it's time to turn around, sit down, and shake the wiggles out (wiggle hands), so we can hear (cup hands behind ears) what the story's all about!"



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## STORY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bible; *Optional: Story Images and cardstock*

**LEADER:** "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible.

*Open Bible for children to see, then set it down.*

"Today's true story from the Bible begins with Jesus' friends, the disciples. The disciples were about to have a special dinner with Jesus. But there was a problem. The disciples' feet were super-dirty!

*(Option: Display Story Image W3 01)*

"Do you want to know why? Nod your head if you want to know why. *(Pause.)* Well, their feet were dirty because back then, they didn't have cars. They didn't have buses. So, if they wanted to go somewhere, how would they travel? They had to walk!

"And the roads were very dusty and dirty. After walking on dusty roads, the disciples' feet were very dirty. They needed to wash their feet before they ate dinner.

"But . . . guess what happened? Someone wanted to wash their feet for them! Can you guess who wanted to wash the disciples' feet? *(Pause.)* Jesus wanted to wash His friends' feet!

*(Option: Display Story Image W3 02)*

"Why would Jesus, God's Son, who is SO super-special, want to wash His friends' dirty feet?

"Jesus' friend Peter said, 'No Jesus, don't wash my feet!'

*(Option: Display Story Image W3 03)*

"Peter knew Jesus was SO special and didn't think Jesus should be doing a job like washing feet. But Jesus explained that if Peter was going to follow Him, he would have to let Jesus wash his feet. So, then Peter REALLY wanted Jesus to wash his feet.

"Jesus loved His friends and put them first. Jesus showed them how they could love others and be a friend like Him.

"Do you think Jesus is a good friend? *(Pause.)* YES! Jesus is such a good friend! And Jesus wanted to show us how to be a good friend too. So, Jesus washed the disciples' feet. Everyone, say: 'WOW!'"

**CHILDREN AND LEADER:** "WOW!"

**LEADER:** "Yes! Jesus is such a good friend. And we can be good friends too. Raise your hands if you could be a good friend by sharing your toys. *(Pause.)* Awesome. You can put your hands down.



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"Raise your hand if you could let someone else go first on the slide. *(Pause.)* That's a great way to be a good friend. You can put your hands down.

"Ooo, could you give someone else the biggest cookie? Raise those hands. *(Pause.)* That would be hard, but that's something a good friend would do.

"Raise your hand if you could help clean up, even if you didn't make the mess. *(Pause.)* Wow! You've got this good friend thing down! You can put your hands down.

"Every time we think of others, and when we put them 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?**"

**CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"**

**LEADER:** "Yes, **Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** **[Transition]** Our story time is over *(pick up and close Bible)*, but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"

## PRAYER

**LEADER:** "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to show us how to be a good friend! Help us to think of others and put them first this week so we can be a good friend like Jesus! In Jesus' name, we pray, amen.

**[Transition]** "And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

*Lead small group to first activity.*



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## GETTING READY

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

Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive worship and the Bible story. The Rug Script is written for those who pull their children to a rug (or area) to one side of their preschool space to tell the Bible story. If you gather your preschoolers together from multiple rooms and have a larger space on which to present the Bible story, you may benefit from using the Stage Script.

### WORSHIP: INVITING PEOPLE TO RESPOND TO GOD (10 MINUTES)

A leader and live instruments are recommended to sing along with the music tracks. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

### STORY: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS (10 MINUTES)

Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be "told" and not "read." Advanced preparation is necessary.

#### 1. WORSHIP

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Leader(s)
- Instruments or music player
- "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, placed in Bible at John 15:15

##### MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- This month's worship song, "Never Better," included in your monthly files

##### OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- Dance Moves Music Video for "Never Better," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from [OrangeKidsMusic.com](http://OrangeKidsMusic.com)

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Download song and have it ready to use.

#### 2. BIBLE STORY

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- *Optional: Story Images and cardstock*

##### LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Story Image W3 01
- Story Image W3 02
- Story Image W3 03

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- *Option: Copy the Story Images on cardstock or download them to display on a screen.*

#### SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

**WONDER, LOOK AT GOD'S STORY:** First Look offers weekly introductory sketches and Bible stories on the DVD titled "Wonder, Look at God's Story." This DVD is available for purchase at [OrangeStore.org](http://OrangeStore.org) or as part of your monthly Media Package.

#### FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. [bit.ly/FL\\_GoTeam](https://bit.ly/FL_GoTeam)