# JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.

WEEK MARCH 2020 LARGE GROUP



# first look TM

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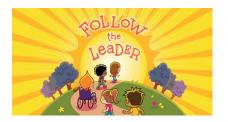
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WEEK
FIVE
MARCH 2020

RUG
3-5
YEAR-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME



#### BIBLE STORY

When I follow Jesus, I can love everyone.

LOVE ONE ANOTHER
JOHN 13:34-35

#### MEMORY VERSE

"'Come and follow me,'

Jesus said."

**MATTHEW 4:19, NIRV** 

#### KEY QUESTION

Who can you follow?

#### **BOTTOM LINE**

I can follow Jesus.

#### BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

# PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

For Leaders Only Monthly Overview Create the Environment

15 MIN

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

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.

Baskets of Love

Hello

Get Well Greetings

10 MIN **WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God** Follow On

10 MIN STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Bible Story Prayer

25 MIN

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

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

Heart Pass
How Can You Love?
Heart Cutout
Follow Me
Sensory Bottle

Journal and Prayer

#### **HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience**

Going Home Parent Cue



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

WEEK
FIVE
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RUG
3-5
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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

10 MINUTES 10 MINUTES

#### BIBLE STORY

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LOVE ONE ANOTHER JOHN 13:34-35

#### MEMORY VERSE

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#### WORSHIP

Use the full mix of the monthly song provided with the curriculum to lead your preschoolers in worship. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 4:19, NIrV. You will need a music player and this month's worship song, "Follow On," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves video for "Follow On" is available on the Orange Store or in your media package if you subscribe.

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.

**LEADER:** "Yay! So many friends are here today! This month we're learning how to follow Jesus. Who can you follow?"

#### CHILDREN AND LEADER: "I can follow Jesus!"

**LEADER:** "That's right! I can follow Jesus. Anywhere Jesus leads us, we are not alone. Let's sing and tell him we want to follow on.

(Lead children in singing "Follow On," this month's worship song.)

"Following Jesus is right where we belong. Who can you follow?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "I can follow Jesus."

**LEADER:** "Yes, I can follow Jesus. We have one more chance to say our memory verse together. "Come (motion toward yourself with hand) and follow me (march)," Jesus said (hands to mouth like yelling), Matthew 4:19. (Open hands like a book.) Say it with me and give it everything you've got!

(Say the verse and do the motions several times together.)

"Jesus is amazing! One more time, tell me: Who can you follow?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "I can follow Jesus."



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME	
		10 MINUTES	10 MINUTES			

#### **STORY**

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.

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 or as part of your monthly Media Package.

WHAT YOU NEED: A Bible

Optional Story Images can be found in the Large Group Images folder. (02\_LG35\_Rug\_Images) They can be used in conjunction with this script.

**LEADER:** "Hello, friends! I'm SO excited to be with you today. If you've been here this month, you know that we've been learning a LOT about how to follow Jesus. But today we are going to talk about the number one way we can follow Jesus! Everyone say, 'What is it?'"

CHILDREN: "What is it?"

(Option: Story Image W5 01)

**LEADER:** "Let's find out! Jesus and His friends were having dinner one night when Jesus said, 'I'm going to tell you a brand new rule to follow.' Do you want to know what it is? Drumroll, please.

(Lead children to pat their legs as a drumroll.)

"Jesus said, 'The most important thing you can do is to love others the way I have loved you.' Whoa! If we want to follow Jesus, the number one thing we can do is to love others! So let's practice.

(Option: Story Image W5 02)

"Let's say you and a friend are riding bikes and the friend falls down. What do you do? Do you stop and help? Or do you keep riding? (Pause.) You stop and help! That's loving others like Jesus!

(Option: Story Image W5 03)

"Okay, what if your friend is playing in the sandbox with you, but you've only got one shovel. Do you keep it for yourself or share it with your friend? (*Pause.*) Yes, you share! That's loving like Jesus.

(Option: Story Image W5 04)

"What if you find out your older brother accidentally broke your LEGO® creation? Do you stay angry with your brother? Or do you forgive your brother and work together to build a new one? (*Pause*.) You forgive your brother. That's right! That's loving like Jesus. That's the number one thing you can do!

PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME	
		10 MINUTES	10 MINUTES			

"If you want to follow Jesus, then the most important, number one thing you can do is to LOVE people the way Jesus does. The most important thing is LOVE. What is it? (*Pause.*) Love! Say it again! (*Pause.*) LOVE!

"Tell me: Who can you follow?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "I can follow Jesus."

LEADER: "Now, just this side: Who can you follow?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "I can follow Jesus."

LEADER: (Point to the right side of the room with your foam finger.) "And now this side: Who can you follow?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "I can follow Jesus."

**LEADER:** "That's right. I can follow Jesus. We can follow Jesus. But we definitely need God's help to love others well, so let's pray!"

#### **PRAYER**

**LEADER:** "Heavenly Father, You are an AWESOME God! Thanks for reminding us that LOVE is the number one thing we can do. Help us to love others this week remembering that I can follow Jesus. In His name we pray, amen."