



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



2. LIGHT BRIGHT HEARTS

WHAT YOU NEED: "Light Bright Hearts" Activity Page, cardstock, 1" neon circle stickers, 1" black circle stickers, painter's tape, and permanent marker; *Optional: scissors*

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Light Bright Hearts" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their

paper. *Optional: Cut the sheets of stickers into strips of the same color, and place around the table.*

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to add a brightly colored sticker to the circles on their papers with the "x" inside. Ask children to fill the remaining circles with the black circle stickers. Talk about what they created. Display on the wall at the door.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come find a spot at the table. I have something super-fun for you to do today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "There are a lot of circles on your paper! Do you see the circles that have a little 'x' mark in them? (*Point.*) Those circles are really important, so I need you to put a brightly colored circle sticker in only those circles. You can use all of the same color, or you can use all the different colors. I'm so excited to see what it makes! Let's get started. (*Pause.*)"

"Wow! Look how pretty all the colors are! Can you tell what it is? (*Pause.*) Yes! It's a beautiful heart! Hearts make us think of LOVE! But we aren't finished yet! See all the other circles that are blank? I want you to put one of these black circle stickers on those circles and watch what happens. (*Pause.*) WOW! Look how bright your heart shines! That's amazing! Let's hang all of our hearts at the door so everyone can see how bright our hearts are!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "There is so much BRIGHT love! In our Bible Story today, we'll hear how Jesus loves everyone and is a very bright light! Come with me and let's hear all about it."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by calling each child by name and instructing them to shine their love by making a heart with their hands as you travel. Continue with each child. Then, ask the children to do it together.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a light for everyone.

THE MAN AT THE POOL
JOHN 5:1-9

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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. SING IT!

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather children around you in your activity area.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a light for everyone.

THE MAN AT THE POOL JOHN 5:1-9

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lead children in singing the Bible Story song to the tune of "The Wheels on the Bus."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, come stand with me. I have a new song for us to learn today, and it's all about today's Bible Story!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Today we heard a story about how Jesus helped the man by the pool because Jesus loved him. Jesus loves EVERYONE. I made a song for us to sing that tells the story! Here it goes!

(Sing to the tune of "The Wheels on the Bus.")

"One day Jesus saw a man by the water,
By the water, by the water,
One day Jesus saw a man by the water,
He couldn't walk.

"Jesus said, 'Get up and walk!'
'Get up and walk!' 'Get up and walk!'
Jesus said, 'Get up and walk!'
And that is what he did!

"Jesus came to love everyone!
Everyone, everyone.
Jesus came to love EVERYONE!
We can love everyone too!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus loved the man in our story and wanted to help him. Jesus loves all the people in the world! And we can too! We can love everyone like Jesus. **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!"**

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

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

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is a light for everyone.

THE MAN AT THE POOL
JOHN 5:1-9

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 5:14. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

Lead the children to link arms with one another as you go to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list of people in the journal.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to link arms and walk all the way to our Small Group spot together. Everyone, link arms like this (*demonstrate*) and walk with me! (*Link arms and lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Yay! Everyone made it! Now, let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story today, we heard how Jesus helped a man by a pool of water. The man could not walk, and Jesus made him walk! Jesus helped the man at the pool because Jesus loves everyone. We can love everyone, too. That's why when I ask you: '**Who can love like Jesus?**' you can say, '**I can love like Jesus!**' Let me hear you! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

"You sure can! And when you love like Jesus: 'You (*point to others*) are the light (*twinkle fingers*) of the world,' (*make a circle with your arms*) Matthew 5:14. (*Open hands like a book.*) That's what Jesus says in the Bible verse we're learning. Stand up with me, and let's say that together. Just say what I say and do what I do. 'You (*point to others*) are the light (*twinkle fingers*) of the world,' (*make a circle with your arms*) Matthew 5:14.'" (*Open hands like a book.*)



WEEK
TWO
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"Wow! We are the light of the world when we love like Jesus! Let's sit down and make a list of people we can love in our prayer journal, and then we can use it when we talk to God. (*Open journal.*) When I say your name, tell me the name of one person you love. It can be anyone in the whole wide world!" (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all these people! (*Hold up journal.*) Jesus is a light to all these people because Jesus loves everyone. And when we love like Jesus, we love everyone too. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You that Jesus loves (*say each child's name*). Thank You that Jesus loves (*read the list the children made*). Thank You that Jesus loves everyone! Help us love like Jesus and love everyone too. Then we can be the light of the world, like Jesus! We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."