



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



**1. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS**

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

*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 the Light of the World.

**JESUS IS THE LIGHT**  
**JOHN 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5**

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Teach the Memory Verse motions. Invite the children to do it with you several times.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

**MEMORY VERSE**

"You are the light of the world."

**MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come stand with me and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. '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.)

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Now let's learn the motions. The first part of our verse says, 'You.' (Point to others.) Point to all of our friends like this (demonstrate) and say, 'you' with me. (With children.) You. (Point to others.)

"The next part of our verse says, 'are the light!' (Twinkle fingers.) Put your hands in the air, make fists, and then open and shut them like this (demonstrate) and say, 'are the light!' (With children.) 'Are the light!' (Twinkle fingers.)

"Wonderful! Now, let's put that together. 'You (point to others) are the light!' (Twinkle fingers.) Great job!

"The next part says, 'of the world!' Make a circle in front of you with your arms like this. (Make a circle with your arms.) Then say, 'of the world!' (With children.) Of the world. (Make a circle with your arms.)

"Can we do all three together? 'You (point to others) are the light (twinkle fingers) of the world!' (Make a circle with your arms.)

"Now the last part is, 'Matthew 5:14!' (Open hands like a book.) Put your hands together in front of you, and open them like you are opening a book. (Demonstrate.) Then say, 'Matthew 5:14!' (With children.) Matthew 5:14. (Open hands like a book.) Great job!

**KEY QUESTION**

Who can love like Jesus?

**BOTTOM LINE**

I can love like Jesus.

**BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



WEEK  
**ONE**  
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

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"I think we're ready to do it all together! Ready, friends? '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.*) Nice job. Let's do it again." (*Repeat several times.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "The Bible teaches us that God sent His Son, Jesus, to be the Light of the World and to show us how to love others. Jesus is a bright light who helps us see how amazing God is. We can love like Jesus and be a bright light too. **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus.** Let's say that one more time, friends. **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus.**"



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**MADE TO CREATE**  
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Story, Bottom Line, or Memory Verse by creating a craft



**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus is the  
Light of the World.

**JESUS IS THE LIGHT**  
**JOHN 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5**

**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.

**2. LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Light Circle," and "World Circle" Activity Pages; white cardstock; light yellow cardstock; scissors; crayons; and metal brads

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Light Circle" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Copy "World Circle" on light yellow cardstock and cut, one per child. Make a small cut where indicated in the center of "Light Circle" for the brad.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Give each child a "Light Circle" and "World Circle" cutout. Encourage children to color their papers. Help each child put their papers together ("Light Circle" on top of the "World Circle"), and attach with the brad. Demonstrate how to turn the light. Review the Bible Story.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Come sit with me! We're going to make something special for you to take home today."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "I'm going to give you a light circle (*hold up 'Light Circle'*) and a world circle (*hold up 'World Circle'*) for you to color. (*Pause.*) Great job! In our Bible Story, we learned that Jesus (*hold up 'Light Circle'*) is the Light of the World. (*Hold up 'World Circle.'*) I want you to put your light circle on top of your world circle. I will come around and help you make them stay together. (*Help assemble the two circles together, and secure them with the brad.*) Now you can turn your light circle like this, (*demonstrate*) to show that Jesus is the Light for everyone in the whole world! Turn your light. See those people? Jesus loves those people. We can love those people too. Turn your light again. (*Repeat as desired.*) Jesus is a light who helps us see how amazing God is. Jesus is a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Jesus came to be the Light for every person in the world. That means Jesus came to show me that **I can love like Jesus** and Jesus came to show you that you can love like Jesus. So, tell me: **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"



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**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, cardstock, scissors, Bible, 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 the  
Light of the World.

**JESUS IS THE LIGHT**  
**JOHN 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5**

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Matthew 5:14. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*

Lead the children to make a circle with their arms for the world as you walk 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 in the journal of different places around the world.

**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 make a big circle for the world with our hands, like this. *(Hold up your arms in a circle.)* Everyone, make a world with me! Okay, now let's walk to our Small Group spot with our world high in the air. Follow me! *(Hold your arms in a circle as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)* We did it! We walked the world to our Small Group spot! Way to go! 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 learned that God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World and show us how to love others. We can all love like Jesus. Can [child's name] love like Jesus? Yes! *(Repeat with each child.)* That means not just us, but EVERYONE in the WORLD can love like Jesus! So, every time I ask: '**Who can love like Jesus?**' I want everyone to say, '**I can love like Jesus!**' Let's try it! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!** Yay! That was awesome!"

**BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be  
my friend forever.



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"Now in our Bible Story, we learned that Jesus is the Light of the World. Right? Right! (*Two thumbs up.*) In the Bible verse we're going to learn, Jesus said, '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.*) Wow! When we love like Jesus, we are the light of the world too! Let's stand up and say that Bible verse 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.*) Yay! (*Clap.*) When we love like Jesus, we are a light, like Him! I love that!

"Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Who shows us how to love? (*Give examples as needed, such as Jesus, parents, aunts, teachers, etc. 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 we wrote down! (*Hold up journal.*) Jesus is the Light of the World, and we can all be bright lights like the people in our list. 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 be the Light of the World to show everyone in the world how to love like Him. Thank you for the people who are bright lights to us like (*read the list the children made*). Thank You for sending Jesus to be the Light Please help (*say each child's name*) love like Jesus. We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."