



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. WHEN WE LOVE LIKE JESUS . . . [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 said to love one another.

**JESUS GIVES
A NEW COMMAND**
JOHN 4:1-30, 13:34-35;
LUKE 18:15-16, 19:1-10

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Ask children to stand in a circle with you. Review the Memory Verse and motions together.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Select a child to stand in the center of the circle. Lead the children in a version of "Ring Around the Rosie" with the words of the Memory Verse. Include the child's name who is standing in the center. Continue with each child.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Say the Memory Verse with the motions one more time, and then review 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 in a circle with me. We've been learning a great verse from the Bible this month. Let's say it together. '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.) Great job!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now, I have a fun game for us to play while we say our verse. [Child's name], come stand in the center of the circle. Okay, everyone in the circle, hold hands and walk this way.

(Start walking slowly and sing the following to the tune of "Ring Around the Rosie.")

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

"When [child's name] loves like Jesus,
When [child's name] loves like Jesus,
she/he is, she/he is,
the light of the world.

"Great job! Everyone, freeze and drop hands. Now, [child's name] come join the circle and [child's name] go stand in the center. (Continue with each child.) That was so fun!"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Let's say our verse one more time with the motions. '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.) Super-duper! Friends, you are a bright light when you love like Jesus. Jesus loves everyone and we can too! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!"**



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4. LOVING LIKE JESUS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Loving Like Jesus" Activity Page, cardstock, painter's tape, and heart stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Loving Like Jesus" on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Tape each picture to

different areas of the room at child's height.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child three heart stickers. Encourage them to love like Jesus by going to the different parts of the story and placing a heart sticker on each of the images.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a heart sticker, and review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand with me! I have an activity for us to spread some love today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I'm going to give you three heart stickers. What do hearts make us think of? (Pause.) LOVE! That's right! These heart stickers are the love that we are going to spread to the pictures from our Bible Story today.

"First, we heard how Jesus LOVES children. Jesus told the disciples to let the children to come to Him. Let's go find the picture of Jesus and the children. (Pause.) Yay, you found it! Put one of your stickers on the picture to add some love. (Pause.) Jesus loves children, Jesus loves everyone, and we can too!"

"We also heard about Zacchaeus in our Bible Story. Jesus loved Zacchaeus even though he had made bad choices. Let's go find the picture of Jesus and Zacchaeus and put some love on that picture. (Pause.) Jesus loves people even when they make bad choices, and we can too!"

"Then we heard about the woman at the well. She lived in a different town than Jesus and the people in her town didn't get along with the people from Jesus' town. But Jesus loved her no matter where she lived. Put some love on the picture of Jesus and the woman at the well. (Pause.) Jesus loved the woman! Jesus loves everyone—no matter where they live, and we can too!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Wow! Look at all the love you spread to each of the pictures from our story! You did a great job loving like Jesus! I want to spread some love too! I have a heart sticker for each of you to wear home today. (Give each child a sticker.) Tell me friends: **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!** One more time! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!** Great job!"

BIBLE STORY

Jesus said to love one another.

**JESUS GIVES
A NEW COMMAND
JOHN 4:1-30, 13:34-35;
LUKE 18:15-16, 19:1-10**

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.



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 said to love one another.

**JESUS GIVES
A NEW COMMAND**
JOHN 4:1-30, 13:34-35;
LUKE 18:15-16, 19:1-10

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.

Tell the children to give themselves a big hug as you lead them 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 how Jesus shows that He loves us.

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 give ourselves a big hug, while we walk to our Small Group spot. Give yourself a big hug and follow me! (*Hug yourself as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Here we are! 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 something very important that Jesus wants us to do. Jesus said He wants us to love (*hug yourself*) people the way He loves (*hug yourself*) us! That means **I can love like Jesus**, and YOU can love like Jesus! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!** And when we love like Jesus, we are a bright light that helps everyone see Jesus! That's why we are learning the verse where 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.*) Let's stand up and say Jesus' words 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.*)

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



WEEK
THREE
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

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25 MINUTES

"You sound so good! Way to go! *(Give children high fives.)* Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. *(Open journal.)* Today, we're going to make a list of how Jesus shows that He loves us. When I say your name, tell me one way Jesus showed that He loves people, and I will write it by your name." *(Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters. Be ready to help children think of things like prays for us, listens to us, is a good friend, forgives us, helps us, died for us, lives for us, is kind, is patient, etc.)*

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Wow! Jesus loves us in so many ways! *(Hold up 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 show us how to love others by first loving us. Thank You for how Jesus *(read the list the children made)*. Jesus loves us no matter what! Please help *(say each child's name)* and me to love others the way Jesus loves us. We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."