



WEEK  
**ONE**  
FEBRUARY 2025

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

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus says, "Follow Me."

**PETER, ANDREW,  
JAMES, AND JOHN  
MATTHEW 4:18-22**

### MEMORY VERSE

"Love each other in the same way I have loved you."

**JOHN 15:12, NLT**

### KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

### BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

### 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.*

Love Skate  
Go Fish  
Ride the Bus

### LARGE GROUP

**20**  
MIN

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

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

"Come On with Me" and "My Friend Forever"

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.*

Memory Verse with Motions  
It's a Match!  
Draw Me on the Bus  
Musical Heart Walk  
Jesus Loves Spinner  
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

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STORY

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

## MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



### 1. LOVE SKATE

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Heart-shaped paper plates or heart themed-paper plates

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Gather children in an open area.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Give each child a paper plate. Have them place the paper plate on the ground and place one foot on it. Ask them to move the plate by sliding that foot back and forth. Explain to them they will use their plate as a skateboard to go all kinds of places together. Demonstrate how to "skate" around the room by pushing with one foot while the other slides with the plate. Once they feel confident in the movement, pretend to travel to different locations in the room. Repeat as desired.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Have you ever been skating or skateboarding? (Pause.) Skating and skateboarding are a lot of fun! Today, we're going to use these neat plates (*hold up the heart plates*) to skate with!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Alright, take your paper plate and put it on the ground, friends. (Pause.) Place one of your feet on your plate. Now, slide it back and forth like this. (*Demonstrate*) Let's try using our plate as a skateboard. Push with this foot (*point to your foot that is not on the plate*) and let this foot slide on the plate like it is a skateboard. (Pause.) I think we're ready to move around the room now. Let's skate to the beach. Follow me! (Pause.) Look, there are some people fishing. Let's say, 'hello' to the fishermen! (*With children.*) Hello, fishermen! Let's skate over there to the park! Follow me! (Pause.) Great job! Now, let's skate to the grocery store over there! Follow me! (Pause.) You are great skaters! Where should we go now? (Pause.) Great! Let's go! (*Repeat as desired.*) That was fun skating with you today!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about some of the first people who followed Jesus—and they were fishermen!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to skate all the way there.

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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 says, "Follow Me."

**PETER, ANDREW,  
JAMES, AND JOHN  
MATTHEW 4:18-22**

#### 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 them with you several times.

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

### MEMORY VERSE

"Love each other in the same way I have loved you."

**JOHN 15:12, NLT**

#### 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. 'Love (cross arms over chest) each other in the same way (point to others) I have (point up) loved you,' (cross arms over chest) John 15:12." (Open hands like a book.)

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Now, let's learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: 'Love!' (Cross arms over chest.) Cross both arms over your chest like you're giving yourself a hug (cross arms over chest) and say, 'Love!' (With children.) 'Love!' (Cross arms over chest.) Great job!"

### KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

"The next part of our verse says: 'Each other in the same way.' (Point to others.) Pointer finger up and point to all your friends like this, (point to others) and say: 'Each other in the same way.' (With children.) 'Each other in the same way.' (Point to others.) Wonderful! Now let's put that together. 'Love (cross arms over chest) each other in the same way.' (Point to others.) Great job!"

### BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

"The next part says: 'I have.' (Point up) Pointer finger up, like this (point up) and say: 'I have.' (With children.) 'I have.' (Point up.) Can we do all three together? 'Love (cross arms over chest) each other in the same way (point to others) I have.' (Point up.) Nice job!"

### BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

"The next part says: 'Loved you.' (Cross arms over chest.) Cross both arms over your chest like you're giving yourself a hug (cross arms over chest) and say, 'Loved you.' (With children.) 'Loved you.' Now let's put it all together. (With children.) 'Love (cross arms over chest) each other in the same way (point to others) I have (point up) loved you.' (Cross arms over chest.) Super-duper!"



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25 MINUTES

"Now the last part is: 'John 15:12!' (*Open hands like a book.*) Put your hands together in front of you and open them like you're opening a book (*open hands like a book*) and say: 'John 15:12!' (*With children.*) John 15:12. (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job! I think we're ready to do it all together! Ready, friends? 'Love (*cross arms over chest*) each other in the same way (*point to others*) I have (*point up*) loved you!' (*cross arms over chest*) John 15:12. (*Open hands like a book.*) Nice job. Let's do it again!" (*Repeat several times.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Jesus said those words, and we can read them in the Bible. The Bible teaches us that Jesus loves everyone and that Jesus wants us to love others the way He loves us. **Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone.** Let's say that one more time, friends! **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone.**"



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## MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



### 3. DRAW ME ON THE BUS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Poster board or butcher paper, permanent marker, sticky notes, and washable markers or crayons

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Draw a large bus on the poster board/butcher paper with the permanent marker. On the side of the bus or above it, write "Jesus loves everyone" in large block letters.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Give each child a sticky note and ask them to draw a picture of themselves on the sticky note. Once they have finished, add their picture to the bus windows so it looks like they are riding the bus.

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

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come find a spot at the table."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "What do you see on the paper? (Pause.) Yes, a bus! But there aren't any passengers on the bus, so let's fix that! (Pass out a sticky note to each child.) I want you to draw a picture of yourself on this sticky note. (Pause.) Great! Now let's add you to the bus! Wow! Look at all the people on the bus. I see . . . (point to each sticky note as you name each child)! Everyone is on the bus!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "The words on our bus say **Jesus loves everyone**. It's true! **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

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, 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 says, "Follow Me."

**PETER, ANDREW,  
JAMES, AND JOHN  
MATTHEW 4:18-22**

**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 John 15:12. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*

Lead the children to swim like a fish to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

**MEMORY VERSE**

"Love each other in the same way I have loved you."

**JOHN 15:12, NLT**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions. Then, write: "JESUS LOVES . . ." in your journal. Say: "Jesus loves [child's name]" and write each child's name in the journal.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Use the journal as you pray with the children.

**KEY QUESTION**

Who does Jesus love?

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to pretend we're little fish, like the ones Peter, Andrew, James, and John caught in their nets! Follow me this way, little fish! (*Pretend to be fish as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Here we are, little fish! You can be children now so we can sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

**BOTTOM LINE**

Jesus loves everyone.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story today, Jesus told Peter, Andrew, James, and John to follow Him. What did Peter, Andrew, James, and John do? (*Pause.*) Yes! They followed Jesus! Jesus wanted Peter, Andrew, James, and John to follow Him because **Jesus loves everyone.** That's why every time I ask you, '**Who does Jesus love?**' I want you to say, **Jesus loves everyone!** Let's try it! **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!** One more time! **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"

**BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

"Yes! And Jesus wants us to love others the same way Jesus loves us. That's why the new Bible verse we're going to learn says: 'Love (*cross arms over chest*) each other in the same way (*point to others*) I have (*point up*) loved you,' (*cross arms over chest*) John 15:12. (*Open hands like a book.*) Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'Love (*cross arms over chest*) each other in the same way (*point to others*) I have (*point up*) loved you,' (*cross arms over chest*) John 15:12. (*Open hands like a book.*)"



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"You did it! (Give high fives.) I'm very proud of you! Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Open journal.) Today we learned that **Jesus loves everyone**. Jesus loved Peter, Andrew, James, and John, AND Jesus loves [child's name] and [child's name] and . . . (Say each child's name as you write it in the journal. Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Look! (Hold up journal.) I wrote everyone's name in our journal because **Jesus loves everyone!** Let's pray and thank God that **Jesus loves everyone**. 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 love everyone. Thank You that Jesus loves [child's name] and Jesus loves [child's name] and Jesus loves . . . (say this with each child's name). I pray that each of us will follow Jesus and love others the same way Jesus loves us. We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."