



WEEK
FOUR
FEBRUARY 2025

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus wants everyone
to follow Him.

THE TWELVE DISCIPLES
MATTHEW 4:18-22,
9:9-10, 10:2-4; JOHN 1:43-49

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.

Jesus Loves You
Counting Twelve
To Jesus

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Come On with Me" and "I Love You So Much"

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.

The Wheels on the Bus Verse
Jesus Loves Me
No Matter What
Jesus Loves, Jesus Loves . . .
Everyone on the Bus
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

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

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. JESUS LOVES YOU

WHAT YOU NEED: "Love People" Activity Page, cardstock, construction paper in a variety of colors, scissors, painters' tape, and preschool push-cars

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Love People" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group. Cut four large heart shapes out of construction paper and tape one picture in the center of each. Secure each heart on the floor with tape.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to ride or drive the push-cars to different hearts on the floor and tell the people inside the heart: "Jesus loves you."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, we have some very special friends inside the hearts on the floor. Will you all help me give them a very special message? (Pause.) Yay! Thank you!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, come and find a car and drive to one of the hearts on the floor. (Pause.) When you get there, tell the person in the heart our very special message. Tell our friends: 'Jesus loves you!' (Pause.) Then drive to another heart and tell another friend." (Repeat as desired.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, we're learning that **Jesus loves everyone.** No matter who they are or where they come from! Let's go hear a true story from the Bible about how Jesus loves everyone."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by chanting: "**Jesus loves everyone!**"

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

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



1. THE WHEELS ON THE BUS VERSE
[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]
WHAT YOU NEED: "The Wheels on the Bus Verse" Activity Page, cardstock, happy-face stickers, and permanent marker

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 wants everyone to follow Him.

THE TWELVE DISCIPLES
MATTHEW 4:18-22,
9:9-10, 10:2-4; JOHN 1:43-49

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "The Wheels on the Bus Verse" on cardstock, one per child. Set an Activity Page at each spot at the table with the happy-face stickers nearby. Lead the children to repeat the Memory Verse together with the motions.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Invite children to find a spot at the table. Point out the Memory Verse on the paper and repeat it together. Encourage them to add happy-face stickers to the bus. Write each child's name on their paper, and set the paper aside for pick up.

MEMORY VERSE

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

JOHN 15:12, NLT

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, we've been learning an awesome Memory Verse! Let's do the motions as we say it together. '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.) Great job, friends!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now come find a spot at the table. What do you see on the page in front of you? (Pause.) A bus! That's right. And here on the bus, it says our Memory Verse: 'Love each other in the same way I have loved you.' John 15:12! Jesus loves us and that makes me SO happy! Let's add some happy-face stickers to the windows of our bus. (Pause.) Super-duper!"

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus loved the disciples, and Jesus loves us, too, because **Jesus loves everyone**. Tell me: **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone**. One more time! **Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"

BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO THINK
an advanced activity specifically
designed for older preschoolers



3. NO MATTER WHAT
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: Butcher paper and washable markers

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay a piece of butcher paper on the table. Gather the children around it.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus wants everyone
to follow Him.

THE TWELVE DISCIPLES
MATTHEW 4:18-22,
9:9-10, 10:2-4; JOHN 1:43-49

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to list different jobs. As they call out their answers, write them down in large block letters or draw simple pictures to illustrate them on the butcher paper. Then, select a different-colored marker and call on the children to list different places to live. As they call out their answers, write them down in large block letters or draw simple pictures to illustrate them on the butcher paper. Once you've listed jobs and places, use a red marker to draw hearts around their answers as you remind the children that **Jesus loves everyone**, no matter where they live or what they do!

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review 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 find a spot at table."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Can you name some jobs for me? Who has an idea for me? *(Help brainstorm ideas as needed.)* Those are great jobs! *(Write/draw each job given.)* Now, let's name some places we live. List some answers for me. *(Write/draw each place to live given.)* Wow! What a great list! Let's draw a heart around each of our answers because hearts remind us of love. *(Draw hearts around each child's answer.)* Look at all the love on our paper!"

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, no matter what we do and no matter where we live, the same thing is true! **Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves everyone.

BASIC TRUTH

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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



4. JESUS LOVES, JESUS LOVES . . . [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children to sit on the floor in a circle.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus wants everyone to follow Him.

THE TWELVE DISCIPLES
MATTHEW 4:18-22,
9:9-10, 10:2-4; JOHN 1:43-49

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Play a game similar to Duck, Duck, Goose. Walk around the circle and tap the heads of each child as you say, "Jesus loves" until you get to the child you choose by tapping their head and saying the child's name. That child will stand up and follow you around the circle and back to their seat. Repeat until every child's name has been called.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit in a circle here on the floor. I have a really fun game for us to play!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I'm going to walk around the circle and tap the tops of your heads. If I say your name, I want you to jump up and run around the circle and back to your seat. Are you ready? Here we go! Jesus loves, Jesus loves, Jesus loves, Jesus loves, Jesus loves . . . [child's name]! Run, run, run! Great job, [child's name]! Okay, here I go again! (Continue until each child has a turn.) That was really fun playing with you today and learning that **Jesus loves everyone!**"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus loves us because **Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!**"

MEMORY VERSE

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

JOHN 15:12, NLT

KEY QUESTION

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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 from Week One in Bible, journal, fun-shaped pen, reward stickers or a handstamp, and a timer

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 wants everyone to follow Him.

THE TWELVE DISCIPLES
MATTHEW 4:18-22,
9:9-10, 10:2-4; JOHN 1:43-49

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 John 15:12.

Lead the children to do what you do as you lead them 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. Next, set the timer on your phone (or an actual timer) for one minute and encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of as many people they know before the timer goes off.

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

KEY QUESTION

Who does Jesus love?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to play a game where you have to copy me all the way to our Small Group spot. That means you have to do everything I do. Are you ready? Follow me! (Encourage the children to copy you as you do fun movements and sounds all the way to your Small Group spot.) Ha! That was fun! You did a great job doing everything I did! Now it's time to 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, we learned about Jesus' twelve friends, the disciples. The disciples all came from different places, had different families, and had different jobs. Some of them were fishermen, and some of them collected money. They were all different, but there was something that was the same—that Jesus loved every one of them. **Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? Jesus loves everyone!** That's right! And Jesus wants us to love everyone too! That's why Jesus told us: '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.)

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"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.) You sound wonderful! (Clap.) I think you're ready to try and say that verse by yourself! I want everyone to sit down, and we'll take turns saying that Bible verse. Who wants to go first? I have my stickers/handstamp ready! Yay, [child's name]! (Give two thumbs-up.) Here is a sticker/stamp for you! (Say and do this with each child as they try and say the Bible verse.) I am very proud of you for trying to say that Bible verse. When I count to three, I want everyone to stand up and show me your sticker/stamp. One, two, three! (Pause to look.) Yay! (Clap.)

"Now let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Open journal.) We've talked a lot about how **Jesus loves everyone** so let's see how many people we can name before this timer goes off! It can be any person we think of because **Jesus loves everyone!** You don't have to wait for me to call your name. Just say all the people you can think of, and I'll write down as many as I can. On your mark. Get set. Go!" (Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Whew! I wrote as many names as I could! Look! (Hold up journal.) This is a lot of names! Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.) Dear God, we know **Jesus loves everyone**. I pray (say each child's name) will know how much Jesus loves them and that they will follow Jesus one day. We also pray that (read the list the children made) will know how much Jesus loves them and will follow Jesus too. You're the best, God! In Jesus' name. Amen."