



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

We can celebrate Jesus.

PALM SUNDAY
MATTHEW 21:1-11;
JOHN 12:12-15

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive forever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive!

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.

- Coat Walk
- Make It Through the Path
- Leaf Rubbings

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- "Happy Day" and "You Are with Me"
- 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 Dance Line
- Palm Praise
- Brainstorm with Me
- Hosanna, Hosanna
- Stick Donkey
- Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

- Going Home
- Memory Verse Card
- Parent Cue Card (print or email)
- Parent Cue App



This symbol indicates an activity with potential allergens. Be sure to post allergy alert sign and inform parents at drop-off.



WEEK
TWO
APRIL 2025

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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. COAT WALK

WHAT YOU NEED: "Coat Walk" Activity Page, cardstock, and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Coat Walk" on cardstock, 15 per Small Group. Lay the coats on the floor in a path from

one side of the room to the other and tape to secure. Make sure the coats are laid out so that the preschoolers can easily hop from one coat to the other to make it to the other side. Gather the children on one side of your activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Point out the coats on the floor. Explain that the floor is covered in lava, so they must walk across the floor by only stepping on the coats to get from one side to the other. Encourage the children to take turns, with only one child moving along the path to hop from coat to coat at a time.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand here with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Do you see the coats along the floor? (*Point.*) We need to get from here to there (*point*) BUT let's pretend the floor is covered in lava! That means we can only make it to the other side by stepping on these coats. Let's take turns so only ONE friend will cross at a time. [*Child's name*], you can walk or hop from coat to coat, and we will cheer for you. (*Pause.*) Yay, [*child's name*], you did it! Stay on that side and help cheer for our next friend! (*Continue with each child. Repeat as desired.*) We all made it! Way to go, friends."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story, we'll hear how some people laid down their coats to make a path for Jesus! We'll hear all about it today. Come with me."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to walk carefully, as if continuing to hop from one imaginary coat to the next until you make it to your destination.

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive forever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive!

BASIC TRUTH

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

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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 DANCE LINE

[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

We can celebrate Jesus.

PALM SUNDAY
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JOHN 12:12-15

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children together in an open area and help them form two lines facing each other with some space to walk/dance between the two lines. Say the Memory Verse as you do the motions with the children.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to take turns dancing down the middle of the two lines as everyone else says the verse together. Continue with each child.

Option: Create fun ways of saying the verse to make the dance line even more fun.

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

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive forever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, I have a super fun way for us to say our verse today! But first we need to make two lines of friends. I need some friends to stand on this side and others on this side. (Help position children into two lines facing each other with enough space between them to walk/dance.) Great, now that we have our two lines, let's say our verse together as we do the motions. 'I am alive (jump with arms up) forever and ever!' (Twirl with arms up.) Revelation 1:18. (Open hands like a book.) Great job!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now it's time for the super fun part! [Child's name], come stand here with me. (Stand at the opening on one end.) We are going to say the Memory Verse while you dance or walk through this line of friends. Ready? Let's go! 'I am alive forever and ever!' Revelation 1:18. You did it! Join the line at that end and our next friend, [child's name], will get to dance through. (Continue with each child. Repeat as desired.) Wow, friends! What a fun way to say our Memory Verse! We can dance and be happy because **Jesus is alive!**

Option: Say the verse in different ways i.e. really slow, really fast, in a high voice, in a low voice, as each of the children take a turn dancing down the dance line. Repeat until every child has had an opportunity to participate.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story we heard how people lined up along the path to celebrate Jesus. We can dance and celebrate Jesus, too, because **Jesus is alive! Who is alive? Jesus is alive!**"

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive!

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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. HOSANNA, HOSANNA

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Two palm branches (*real or artificial*)

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children together in the open space of the activity area.

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DURING THE ACTIVITY: Hold one palm branch in each hand. Hold both palm branches high in the air and ask children to say, "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!" Put palm branches down by your side. Raise only one palm branch and encourage children to say, "**Jesus is alive!**" Put palm branches down by your side. When holding palm leaves to your chest, encourage the children to remain quiet. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive forever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come and stand with me over here. Look at these beautiful branches in my hands. (*Pause.*) These are called palm branches. When Jesus went to Jerusalem, all the people waved palm branches to celebrate Him."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Listen really closely, friends. When I hold up both palm branches like this (*hold both palm branches high in the air*), I want you all to say, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' (*Put both hands down by your side.*) Let's practice. (*Raise palm leaves in the air.*) Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! (*Put both hands down by your side.*) If I only hold one palm branch up like this (*demonstrate*), I want you to say, '**Jesus is alive!**' Let's practice. (*Hold one branch up.*) **Jesus is alive!** (*Put hands down by your side.*) And if I put my hands to my chest like this (*demonstrate*), I want everyone to be as quiet as can be. Let's practice. (*Palm leaves to chest.*) Shh. Wow! Super job! I think we are ready to play! (*Continue with the three positions. Repeat as desired.*) Whew, that was SO much fun! You guys were so good at that!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Just like the people in our Bible Story celebrated, so can we because **Jesus is alive! Who is alive? Jesus is alive!**"

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, 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

We can celebrate Jesus.

PALM SUNDAY
MATTHEW 21:1-11;
JOHN 12:12-15

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 Revelation 1:18. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

Lead the children to wave their arms in the air like tree branches as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive forever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions. Then encourage children to help you make a list in the journal of things they like to celebrate, such as birthdays, Christmas, winning a game, etc.

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

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today we are going to wave our arms in the air like tree branches while we walk to our Small Group spot. Put your arms in the air and follow me! (*Wave your arms in the air like tree branches as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) We made it! You can put your arms down now. It's time to sit and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive!

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story today, people cut tree branches and covered the road with them. Do you remember why they did that? (*Pause.*) Yes! They heard Jesus was coming so they made a special road for Jesus! Do you remember what the people shouted when they saw Jesus? (*Pause.*) You got it! They shouted, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' It was a very happy day! We can celebrate Jesus, too, because **Jesus is alive**, and Jesus wants to be our friend forever! Wow! **Jesus is alive! Who is alive? Jesus is alive! Yay! Jesus is alive!**"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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25 MINUTES

"The Bible verse we are learning will help us remember that Jesus said He will be alive forever and ever. It says, 'I am alive (*jump with arms up*) forever and ever!' (*Twirl with arms up.*) Revelation 1:18. (*Open hands like a book.*) Those are Jesus' words! Jesus said, 'I am alive (*jump with arms up*) forever and ever!' (*Twirl with arms up.*) Revelation 1:18. (*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! 'I am alive (*jump with arms up*) forever and ever!' (*Twirl with arms up.*) Revelation 1:18. (*Open hands like a book.*)

"Way to go! (*Clap hands.*) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) We celebrate all kinds of things. We celebrate birthdays and we celebrate Christmas, and we celebrate winning games. Celebrating is fun! So, when I say your name, tell me one thing you like to celebrate, and I will write it in our journal. Then we can use the list when we pray." (*Remember to print, as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Wow! Look at all the things we celebrate! (*Hold up journal.*) I am going to add "JESUS" because we can celebrate Jesus too! Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*)

"Dear God, we have so many things that we like to celebrate, like (*read the list the children made*). Celebrating is like a big 'thank you' to You. Today we want to celebrate that **Jesus is alive**. Jesus is amazing and we are so thankful Jesus wants to be our friend forever. We love You, God! In Jesus' name. Amen."