



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive.

EASTER

MATTHEW 26:36, 47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

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.

- Working Together
- Celebration Treats
- Heavy or Light

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

- "Happy Day" and "Nothing You Can't Do"
- 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.

- Who Has the Sticker?
- Story Sorting
- Read and Rhyme
- Messy Confetti
- Oh Happy Day!
- 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
THREE
APRIL 2025

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



2. CELEBRATION TREATS*

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert Poster," cardstock, and Play-Doh®

Note: Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (in the Prelude folder) and post it at the door to your room.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list Play-Doh®, and post at the door.

EASTER

MATTHEW 26:36, 47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to use the Play-Doh® to make fun treats for a celebration.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive forever and ever!"

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, can everyone find a seat at the table?"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Today is a happy day, and we're getting ready to celebrate! What are some of your favorite treats to eat at a celebration? (*Pause for answers.*) Oh, yummy! Let's make some of those yummy treats with Play-Doh®. We can't eat these, but we can make such fun things! (*Pause.*) Wow! These look so good and are perfect for a celebration!"

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about a celebration. Let's go hear all about it!"

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive!

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by encouraging children to say: "Let's go celebrate!" as you walk to the designated area.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY
an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



1. WHO HAS THE STICKER?
[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]
WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page, Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent, and scissors

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 alive.

EASTER
MATTHEW 26:36,
47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child. Remove the border of the label paper, and cut individual stickers. Say the verse as you do the motions together.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask children to sit on the floor in a circle. Select one child to sit in the middle of the circle and close their eyes. Give the sticker to a friend in the circle, and ask them to put it behind them on the floor. Encourage all the children in the circle to be quiet as a mouse as you ask the friend in the middle of the circle to open their eyes and guess who has the sticker. Allow the child three guesses. Celebrate when they find the sticker. Lead the children to repeat the Memory Verse. Then, select a new child to sit in the center. Continue until each child has a turn.

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive forever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

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

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come gather here with me! And let's say our verse together as we do the motions. Ready? 'I am alive (*jump with arms up*) forever and ever!' (*Twirl with arms up.*) Revelation 1:18. (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job!"

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive!

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, come sit in a circle on the floor. We're going to play a game, and I need [child's name] to come sit in the center of the circle and close your eyes. While your eyes are closed, I'm going to choose a friend to hide this sticker. (*Give the sticker to a child to hide behind them.*) Okay [child's name], you can open your eyes and guess who has the sticker. (*Allow for three guesses.*) Yay! You found the sticker! Let's say our verse together. 'I am alive forever and ever!' Revelation 1:18. Now [child's name], you come join the circle and [child's name] you sit in the middle. (*Continue with each child.*) That was so fun! Now I have a sticker for everyone!" (*Give each child a sticker.*)

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our Memory Verse reminds us that **Jesus is alive** forever and ever! That's why Easter is a happy day—the happiest day—because **Jesus is alive**, and He wants to be our friend forever. **Who is alive? Jesus is alive!**"



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



2. STORY SORTING

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Story Picture Cards" and "Happy and Sad" Activity Pages, cardstock, scissors, sandwich-sized resealable bags, and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Story Picture Cards" on cardstock and cut, one set of cards per child and leader. Copy "Happy and Sad" on cardstock and cut, one set per child and leader. Write each child's name on their bag.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a set of story cards, a happy face, and a sad face. As you review the Bible Story, you and the children will sort your cards and place them on the happy face (*happy day*) or sad face (*sad day*).

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive.

EASTER

MATTHEW 26:36, 47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come sit with me! We're going to play a sorting game to help us review today's Bible Story!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "First, everyone gets a set of story cards. (*Pass out story cards.*) Now you'll need a happy face card and a sad face card. (*Pass out happy and sad cards.*) Put your happy face and sad face cards in front of you. When we talk about our story cards, if the picture is a sad card, you will put it on your sad face. If the picture is a happy card, you will put it on your happy face. Let's sort this story!"

"One day, Jesus told His friends He was going away. Look at your cards and find the one with Jesus and His friends, the disciples. Do you think it was a happy day or a sad day when Jesus told His friends He was going away? (*Pause for answers.*) You're right. It was a sad day. Put that story card on your sad face card. (*Pause.*)

"Later, people took Jesus away. They hurt Jesus, and He died. After Jesus died, they put Jesus' body in a tomb and rolled a big stone in front of it. Look at your cards and find the one with a tomb that has a big stone in front of it. Do you think it was a happy day or a sad day when Jesus was buried? (*Pause for answers.*) Yes, it was a very, very sad day. Put that story card with your sad cards. (*Pause.*)

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"But then, something AMAZING happened! On the third day, the stone rolled away! Jesus came back just like He said He would. **Jesus is alive!** Look at your cards and find the one with Jesus next to the empty tomb. Do you think it was a happy day or a sad day when Jesus came back? *(Pause for answers.)* You're right! It was a happy day! Put that story card on your happy face. *(Pause.)*

"Jesus is alive forever and ever! And Jesus wants to be our friend forever! Look at your cards and find the one with the heart. Do you think it's a happy day or a sad day that Jesus wants to be our friend forever? *(Pause for answers.)* Right again! It's a happy day! Put that story card with your happy cards. *(Pause.)*

"You did a wonderful job sorting the story! Let's pick up our cards and play again!" *(Repeat as long as time and interest allow. Send the story cards home with each child in their bag.)*

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "It was a very sad day when Jesus died. But now every day can be a happy day because Jesus came back—just like He said He would! **Jesus is alive! Who is alive? Jesus is alive!**"



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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, a fun-shaped pen, and smiley-face stickers

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 alive.

EASTER

MATTHEW 26:36, 47-50; 27:1-2, 11-66; 28:1-8

folder and on Pinterest.

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.

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive forever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

Lead the children as you repeat counting to three together. Each time you say "three," take a big step toward your Small Group spot. Continue doing this until you get to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

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 that make them feel happy.

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today, every time we say 'three,' let's take a big step towards our Small Group spot. Listen for three! One . . . two . . . THREE! (Take a big step.) One . . . two . . . THREE! (Take a big step. Continue doing this all the way to your Small Group spot.) Here we are! Let's sit down so we can 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.) "Do you remember what amazing thing happened on the third day after Jesus died? One . . . two . . . three . . . (Pause.) **Jesus is alive! Who is alive? Jesus is alive!** That's right! Jesus came back—just like He said He would. It was the happiest of happy days! And now every day can be a happy day because **Jesus is alive** forever and ever!"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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"The Bible verse we're learning will help us remember that **Jesus is 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.*)

"Yay! (*Clap.*) Yay for Jesus! **Jesus is alive!** Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Jesus came back—just like He said he would, and that is why we celebrate Easter! **Jesus is alive!** Easter is a very happy day because **Jesus is alive!**"

"Since **Jesus wants to be my friend forever** and your friend forever, I'm going to write our names in our journal, and when I say your name, you can put a smiley-face sticker next to your name because Jesus wants to be your friend forever." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal so the children can recognize their names and the letters. Give each child a smiley-face sticker to put next to their name.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "**Jesus wants to be my friend forever** and Jesus wants to be YOUR friend forever! (*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 that **Jesus is alive!** Jesus is Your Son, and we are so thankful Jesus wants to be friends forever with (*read the list of names in the journal*). We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."