

**MADE TO PLAY**

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

**TAKE A SNAPSHOT**  
[EARLY ARRIVAL ACTIVITY]**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Paper
- Pencils

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Gather the group around you.
- Ask kids to give examples of "choosing rhymes." If they don't know what choosing rhymes are, explain that choosing rhymes are songs that kids use to choose who will be "it," or they're songs kids use when choosing teams on the playground or sports field.
  - Some examples of choosing songs are: "Eeny, Meeny, Miny Moe," "Bubble gum, Bubble gum in a Dish," "One Potato, Two Potatoes," "Engine Engine Number 9," "Coconut Crack"
  - If kids don't know any choosing rhymes, use your phone to do an internet search for one of the titles above.
- Sing or play a few rounds of whichever choosing rhyme is most familiar to your group.
- Instruct the kids to get into pairs or groups of three.
- Challenge them to come up with a new "choosing" rhyme. (Bonus points if it includes words that fit the week's theme or confidence life app!)
- Give the kids the option to come up with their own rhythmic rhyme or use the rhythm of an existing one and change the words.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**  
The Calling of the Disciples  
Luke 5:1-11, 27-32**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

I can have confidence because I belong.

**MEMORY VERSE**

"My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."  
John 15:12, NIV

**LIFE APP**

Confidence—Learning to see yourself as God sees you.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

Ask:

- Think about your friend group at school, on a team, or in your neighborhood. How do you decide who is in and who is out?
- When have you felt "in" in a group? How did you know you were in? How did you feel about people who were "out?"
- Have you ever felt "out" of a group? What made you feel that way? How did you feel about the people who were "in"?

**MADE TO MOVE**

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

**ALL TOGETHER**

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Bibles
- Prepared craft sticks
- Upbeat music

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**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Invite a volunteer to open the Bible to John 15.
- Read the verse out loud. Explain that since Jesus loves us, He wants us to love others too.
- Guide kids to spread out around your environment.
- Give each kid a craft stick. Have them pay attention to the word written on their stick.
- If you have less than 14 participants, give some kids multiple sticks.
- Begin the music and lead kids to mingle around the environment.
- When you stop the music, direct the kids to work together to line up in verse order with the craft sticks displayed in front of them. If you give a participant more than one word, consider giving him/her adjacent words from the verse, or make it random and have them figure out how to put their words in order once you line them up.
- Lead "reading" the verse aloud together.
- Collect all the sticks and then pass them out again, mixing up who gets what words.
- Begin the music again, cuing kids to mingle.
- Repeat the game as time allows, challenging kids to get in order more quickly each time.
- Add variety by guiding kids to move different ways—slow-mo, reverse, or pause/play.

*Note: If you have more than 14 kids in your group, involve more kids by inviting one to be your helper, one to stand and mark the "START" of the line, or any other way that kids can belong!*

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Jesus welcomed EVERYONE! He welcomed fishermen, tax collectors, and other people who sometimes didn't have many friends. Since Jesus welcomed everyone, He wants us to welcome everyone too. It's like our verse says—'love each other as I have loved you' (John 15:12 NIV). "What are some ways you can welcome others, even if they aren't exactly like you? (*I can invite them to play with me. I can sit with them. I can be nice to them.*) Great ideas! So be like Jesus and be welcoming and kind to others, even if they aren't exactly like you. Because when you love others like Jesus loves you, you'll help make the world look a little bit more like the world God wants for us."

“Here

is

my

command.

Love

one

another,

just

as

I have

loved

you.”

John

15:12 (NirV)

## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space  
for personal processing  
and application



## PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Index cards
- Pencils

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Hand out index cards
- Invite kids to respond to these questions on their card
  - Where do I feel like I belong?
  - How do I feel when I am where I belong?
- Allow a few minutes for kids to share any additional thoughts or questions about today's topic.
- Close in prayer.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

“Dear God, thank You for showing us that we belong with You by sending Jesus. Thank You that Jesus kept showing us that we belong by loving us and inviting us to follow Him. Please help us to make sure everyone knows that they can belong with You too. Please give us confidence to share the Good News of Your great love with people who need it. We love You and we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

### TRAVEL TIME:

As you travel to the next track, use the following questions to keep the conversation going, and to keep kids thinking about what they're learning.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

- If you could belong to any group in any movie, story, or TV show, what would it be? Why?
- What would be a cool name for our group's band

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## LIFE APP

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