

WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2025

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Love like Jesus.

**JESUS SHOWS HIS
DISCIPLES HOW TO LOVE**
MATTHEW 8:5-13;
MARK 5:24-34,
10:13-16; PHILIPPIANS 2:5

MEMORY VERSE

"Think and act as Jesus did."

PHILIPPIANS 2:5, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who shows you
how to love others?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus shows me
how to love others.

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.

Follow Me
Follow
Small Town and Big Town Adventure

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Live It Out" and "My Friend Forever"
Bible Story
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

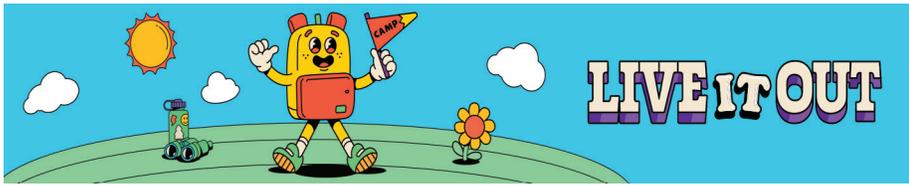
GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.

Memory Verse with Motions
Story Path
Show Us How . . .
Love Like Jesus Freeze Dance
Compass
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. FOLLOW ME

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to line up in a straight line behind you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to follow you as you walk around the room incorporating different fun big and small movements.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's take a walk! I will be the leader. Everyone, line up behind me."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Are you ready to play a Follow Me game? Awesome! Walk behind me and do what I do! Let's get going! (*Start walking normally around the room.*) Everyone, watch and do what I do. I'm going to walk slowly and take great big steps. (*Start walking slower with big steps.*) Watch and do what I do! I'm going to crawl on my hands and knees. (*Start crawling.*) Wow! Good job, everyone! (*Continue with different moves like hopping, dancing, wiggling, tiptoeing, flying like a bird, swimming like a fish, etc. Repeat as desired.*) Great job playing the Follow Me Game!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today we're going to hear a story from the Bible about Someone super-special who we should always follow! Let's go hear our story."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by continuing the Follow Me activity as you walk to story area.

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MEMORY VERSE

"Think and act as Jesus did."

PHILIPPIANS 2:5, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

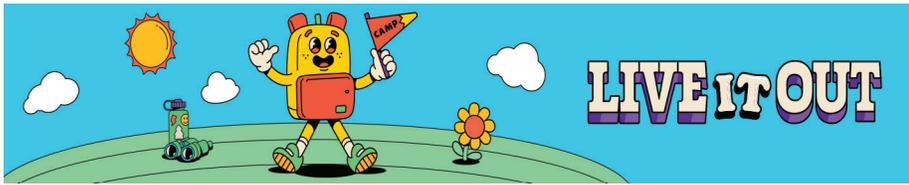
Who shows you how to love others?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus shows me how to love others.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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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

Love like Jesus.

JESUS SHOWS HIS DISCIPLES HOW TO LOVE
MATTHEW 8:5-13;
MARK 5:24-34,
10:13-16; PHILIPPIANS 2:5

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

"Think and act as Jesus did."

PHILIPPIANS 2:5, NIRV

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. 'Think (point to head) and act (walk in place) as Jesus did,'" (tap finger to middle of each palm) Philippians 2:5." (Open hands like a book.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now, let's learn the motions. The first part of our verse says: 'Think!' (Point to head.) Put your pointer finger up in the air, then gently touch the side of your forehead like this, (touch temple with fingertip) and say: 'Think!' (Repeat with children.) Great job!

"The next part of our verse says: 'And act.' (Walk in place.) Move your legs like you are walking, but stay right where you are like this, (walk in place) and say: 'And act.' (Repeat with children.) Wonderful! Now, let's put that together. 'Think (point to head) and act.' (Walk in place.) Great job!

KEY QUESTION

Who shows you how to love others?

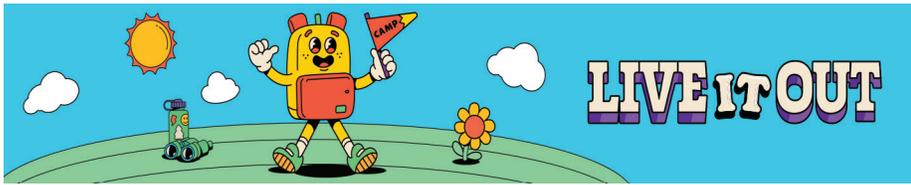
"The next part of our verse says: 'As Jesus did.' (Tap finger to middle of each palm.) Put one hand out straight in front of you with your palm up, like this, (extend one arm in front of you, palm up) and touch the center of your palm with the middle finger of the opposite hand. Then, switch hands, put the other hand straight in front of you, and tap the center of that palm with the middle finger of the opposite hand like this, (tap middle finger in the center of the outstretched palm, then repeat with the other hand) and say: 'As Jesus did.' (Repeat with children.) Super-duper! Now, let's put that together. 'Think (point to head) and act (walk in place) as Jesus did.'" (Tap finger to middle of each palm.) Great job!

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus shows me how to love others.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

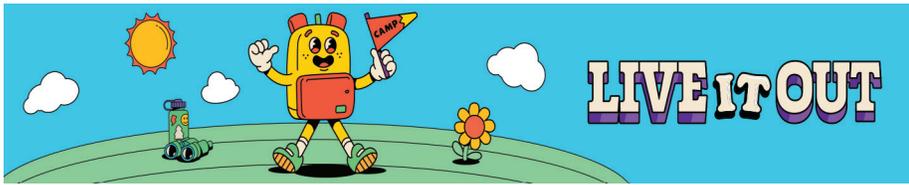
GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"Now the last part is: 'Philippians 2:5' (*Open hands like a book.*) Put your hands together in front of you, open them like you are opening a book, (*open hands like a book*) and say: Philippians 2:5. (*Repeat with children.*) Great job! I think we are ready to do it all together! Ready, friends? 'Think (*point to head*) and act (*walk in place*) as Jesus did,' (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) Philippians 2:5. (*Open hands like a book.*) Nice job. Let's do it again!" (*Repeat several times.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The Bible teaches us to "think and act" like Jesus, and **Jesus shows me how to love others. Who shows you how to love others? Jesus shows me how to love others."**



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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



2. STORY PATH

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Story Path" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, and glue sticks; *Optional: 1" circle punch; Optional: Preschool safety scissors*

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Story Path" on cardstock and cut, one per child. *Optional: Use the 1" circle punch to cut each child's circle shape. Optional: Allow children to cut their shapes.*

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a paper and the three shapes. Show children how to use their fingers to walk down the path. Each time you get to a shape on the path, stop and tell the children to look at their shape cutouts, find the matching shape, and glue the shape cutout onto the shape on the path.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come sit with me! We're going to do something fun while we talk about the Bible Story we heard today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "First, let me show you some of the shapes we'll see on our story path. (*Hold up each shape as you say it.*) There is a circle, a square, and a triangle. Now that we have our path pieces, we're going to walk on the path with our fingers like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Put your fingers at the beginning of the path, and listen carefully so you know what to do.

"Jesus' friends, the disciples, followed Jesus everywhere He went, so Jesus could show them how to love others. Walk your fingers to the first shape on the path. Stop and look at the picture. That's Jesus and a soldier. One day, a soldier asked Jesus to help someone who was sick, so Jesus stopped and helped. Find your matching circle and glue it on the circle on your path. (*Pause.*) Looks good!

"Now, walk your fingers to the next shape on the path. Stop and look at the picture. That's Jesus and some children. Another time, Jesus saw some children who wanted to meet Him, so Jesus stopped to spend time with the children. Find your matching square and glue it on the square on your path. (*Pause.*)

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10:13-16; PHILIPPIANS 2:5

MEMORY VERSE

"Think and act as Jesus did."

PHILIPPIANS 2:5, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

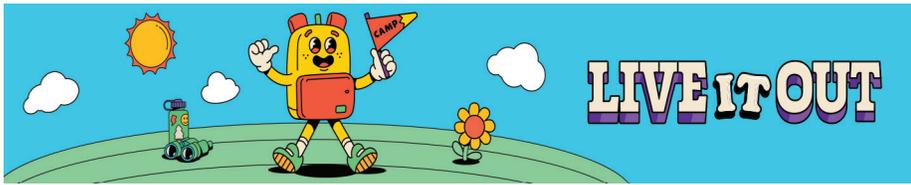
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BOTTOM LINE

Jesus shows me how to love others.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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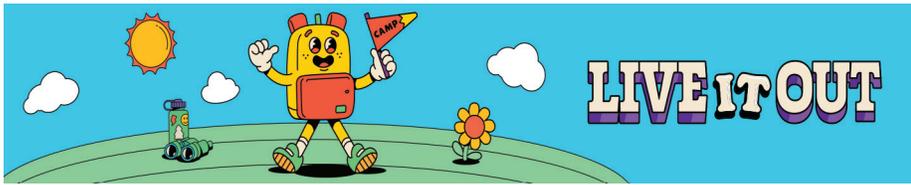
GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"We have one more shape! Walk your fingers to the next shape. Stop and look at the picture. That's Jesus and a woman who was sick. While Jesus and His disciples were surrounded by people, the woman touched Jesus' clothes because she needed help. When the woman touched Jesus' clothes, she was all better! Jesus stopped and looked at the woman and was kind to her. Find your matching triangle and glue it on the triangle on your path. (Pause.) Look! You matched all the shapes along the path! Way to go! Now you can take this home to remind you that Jesus shows us how to love others!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus stopped because Jesus loves everyone and wants to show everyone how to love others! We can stop and love others like Jesus too. **Who shows you how to love others? Jesus shows me how to love others!** Again, **who shows you how to love others? Jesus shows me how to love others!**"



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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. LOVE LIKE JESUS FREEZE DANCE [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Fun, upbeat preschool music; and a music player

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather in an open area and encourage the children to spread out, so they have some room between them and the friend next to them. Explain the actions they'll use during the activity: high five, hug, fist bump, thumbs-up, and smile. Practice each action with the group so everyone knows what to do when the music stops.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Play the music, and encourage the children to dance and move around the room. Stop the music randomly, and call out one of the actions. As the children perform the action, say: "Love like Jesus!" Repeat several times, ensuring the children get a chance to do all the actions.

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

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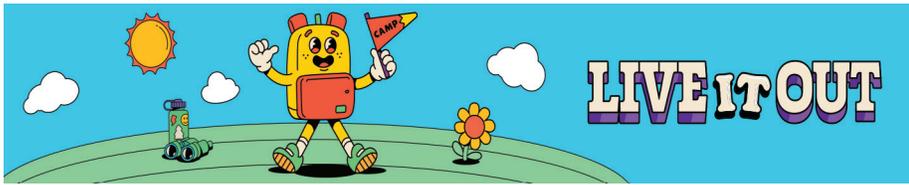
Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we're going to play a fun game while we move and dance! When the music stops, I'll tell you to do something to show love—like give a high five or a hug. Let's practice first. Can everyone give a friend a high five? *(Pause.)* Great! How about a thumbs-up? *(Pause.)* Awesome! Now, let's dance and show love like Jesus!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: *(Start the music.)* "Dance, dance, dance! Move around and have fun! *(Pause music.)* Freeze! Everyone, give a fist bump to a friend nearby. *(Pause.)* Love like Jesus! Awesome! *(Start music.)* Dance and move around! *(Pause music.)* Freeze! Everyone, show me thumbs-up! *(Pause.)* Love like Jesus! Awesome! *(Continue with each movement. Repeat as desired.)* That was so much fun! You danced, froze, and showed love in so many ways."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story today, Jesus stopped and loved the children. Jesus stopped and helped the sick person. He stopped and was kind to the woman who touched His clothes. Jesus showed us how to love others—just like you stopped and showed love. **Who shows you how to love others? Jesus shows me how to love others!**"



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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: Bible, "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, 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

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MARK 5:24-34,
10:13-16; PHILIPPIANS 2:5

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 Philippians 2:5. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*

Encourage the children to pretend they're riding horses 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 the children to help you make a list in the journal of ways we can love others.

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

MEMORY VERSE

"Think and act as Jesus did."

PHILIPPIANS 2:5, NIRV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! In our Bible Story today, Jesus and His disciples walked to a lot of places. Instead of walking to our Small Group spot, let's pretend we're riding horses! (Pretend you're riding a horse as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.) Whoa, horsey! Here we are! Let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.) "In our Bible Story today, Jesus stopped to help a soldier, Jesus stopped to spend time with some children, and Jesus stopped to be kind to a woman who was sick. Every time Jesus stopped, He was showing His disciples how to love others. And Jesus shows us how to love others too! **Who shows you how to love others? Jesus shows me how to love others!**

KEY QUESTION

Who shows you how to love others?

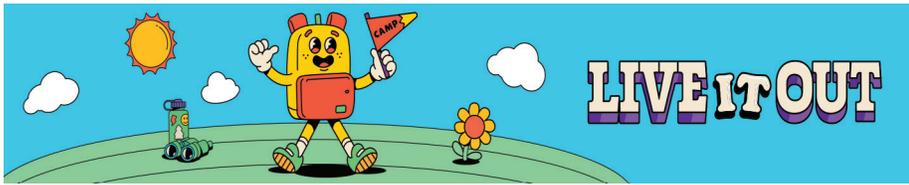
"We're going to learn a new Bible verse about learning to love like Jesus. It says: 'Think (point to head) and act (walk in place) as Jesus did,' (tap finger to middle of each palm) Philippians 2:5. (Open hands like a book.) When we 'think (point to head) and act (walk in place) as Jesus did,' we stop and love others the way Jesus shows us how to love others.

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus shows me how to love others.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

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! 'Think (*point to head*) and act (*walk in place*) as Jesus did,' (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) Philippians 2:5. (*Open hands like a book.*) Wow! You sound fantastic! (*Give two thumbs-up.*) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*)

"Jesus showed us some ways we can love others in our Bible Story today. We can love others by helping them. We can love others by spending time with them. And we can love others by being kind to them. Let's make a list of ways we can love others, and then we can use the list when we pray. When I say your name, tell me one way you can love others, and I will write it in our journal." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "This is a great list! (*Hold up the 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 for sending Jesus to show us how to love others. Please help (*say each child's name*) think and act as Jesus did and do things like (*read the list*). We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."