

3-5s | W3

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Tic-Tac-Toe with Martha and Mary

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Lacing Heart

Jesus Loves

Journal and Prayer



Bible Story

Mary and Martha • Luke 10:38-42
Jesus wants to spend time with me.

Key Question

Who loves you?

Bottom Line

Jesus loves me.

Memory Verse

Jesus said, "Let the children come to me." •
Matthew 19:14 NLT

5 min

Social

5 min

Martha and Mary Tic-Tac-Toe | Made to Play

What You Need

	"Martha and Marcy Tic Tac Toe" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Chart paper	Several
	Scissors	1
	Washable markers	Several

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Mary and Martha Tic-Tac-Toe" on cardstock and cut, one set for every two children. On chart paper, draw a tic-tac-toe grid for each pair of children. Divide the cards into Marys and Marthas, then place the Mary cards on one side of the grid and the Martha cards on the other.

During the Activity: Group children in pairs and invite them to play tic-tac-toe using the Mary and Martha cards in place of X's and O's. Demonstrate how to take turns placing a card and encourage them to get three of their cards in a row.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

15 min

Groups

5 min

Lacing Hearts | Made to Play

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come play tic-tac-toe! But instead of Xs and Os, we'll use these pictures of Martha (*hold up a Martha card*) and Mary! (*Hold up a Mary card.*) We'll hear more about them in our Bible Story today."

During the Activity: "In Tic-Tac-Toe, you take turns placing a card and you are trying to be the first to get three of your cards in a row. Let's play! (*Help direct play if needed.*) You placed a Mary! Who will go next? (*Pause for responses.*) That's a Martha! Great! Let's keep going and see who gets three in a row first! (*Pause.*) Hooray! In this game the [name] cards won! And in this game the [name] cards won! (*Continue with each game.*) Take all your cards off the game board and we'll play again! (*Repeat as desired.*) That was fun playing Mary and Martha with you today!"

After the Activity: "Mary and Martha were sisters, and they were friends with someone really special. Let's go find out who their special friend is!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by walking in pairs like Martha and Mary.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come join me over here and let's do the motions as we say our Memory Verse together. Ready? It goes like this. 'Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) "Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,"' (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14. (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job everyone! I have something special for us to do with our time today that will help us practice our verse."

What You Need

 "Lacing Heart" Activity Page	1
 Red cardstock	1
 Yarn	Several
 Clear tape	1
 Hole punch	1
 Optional EveryChild Supplies: Lacing needles	1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Lacing Heart" on red cardstock and cut, one per child. Hole punch around each card at the marked spots. Cut yarn into 28-inch lengths, one per child. Tightly wrap clear tape around both ends of each length of yarn. Review the Memory Verse motions.

During the Activity: Give each child a heart. Show how to lace the string in and out of the holes around the edge. As children lace their heart, lead them in saying the Memory Verse. Pause a few times, letting the children echo you.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- Show a finished example so children can see what their heart will look like.
- Tie the end of the yarn to a lacing needle for additional lacing support.

5 min

Jesus Loves | Made to Create**What You Need**

 "Jesus Loves" Activity Page	1
 Copy paper	1
 Crayons	Several
 Scissors	1
 Permanent marker	1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Jesus Loves" on copy paper and cut, one per child. Fold each child's

During the Activity: (Hold up a lacing heart.) "What shape is this? (Pause for responses.) That's right! It's a heart! Hearts make us think of love!

Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves you! That's right! Jesus loves you and wants you to come to Him. We are going to practice saying the words of our Memory Verse together as you weave the yarn in and out of the holes of your heart. Ready? 'Jesus said: "Let the children come to me"' (Matthew 19:14 NIV). Keep lacing and saying it with me! (Repeat as desired.) Look at all these beautiful hearts! They remind us that Jesus loves us and wants us to be close to Him."

After the Activity: "The Bible teaches us that Jesus loves us and wants us to be near Him. 'Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."' That means you, and you, and you, and you! (Point to each child.) **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me!**"

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come sit at the table with me. I have a super cool picture for you to make today!"

During the Activity: "Your paper has lots of sections on it, some of the sections have letters on them, pick one color crayon and color only the sections/folds (point) with the letters on them. (Pause.) Nice job! Now pick another color crayon and color on the outside (point) of the curved lines on the other sections/folds. (Pause.) Pick one more color crayon and color inside (point) the curved lines. (Pause.) Fantastic! Fold your paper like this. (Demonstrate.) Now watch! (Turn the paper to the side so it reveals the heart.) Look at the big, beautiful heart! Those curved lines made a heart! Hearts make us think of love! (Turn the paper to reveal the written message.) These words say **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.** Whoa! That's super cool how it changes from a heart to a message!"

paper, accordion-style the flatten, and write their name on their paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color the sections with the letters in one color. Then ask children to use a different color for inside and outside on the curved lines in the other sections. Help children refold their paper and show how when the paper is turned, you see a different picture.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- Provide adaptive crayons.

5 min

Journal and Prayer | Made to Reflect

What You Need

- 👤 "Memory Verse Card" from Week One 1
- 👤 Journal 1
- 👤 Fun-shaped Pen 1

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 Matthew 19:14. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*

Encourage children to act like they are sweeping and cooking as you walk to your Small Group spot. Freeze and put your hand to your ear then sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity: Review the Memory Verse and hand motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of places we can spend time with Jesus.

After the Activity: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

After the Activity: "In today's true story from the Bible, Jesus told Martha that spending time WITH Him was more important than doing things for Him. Jesus loved Martha and wanted her to spend time with Him. Jesus wants us to spend time with Him too, because Jesus loves you and **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves me. Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.**"

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to pretend to cook and clean as we walk to our Small Group spot. Follow me and pretend to sweep and pretend to hold a bowl and stir the ingredients all the way to our Small Group spot! (*Pretend to hold a broom and sweep, then pretend to hold a big bowl with one arm and stir with the other as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Everybody freeze and sit where you are and listen. (*Put your hand up to your ear.*) One, two, three, sit down with me and let's talk about today's Bible Story."

During the Activity: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story today, we learned that Jesus wants us to spend time with Him! Jesus loves us, and He likes it when we talk to Him, read our Bibles, sing songs to Him, and even dance with joy! Jesus wants us to spend time with Him because Jesus loves you and **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves me. Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.**

"Hey! That reminds me of the new Bible verse we are learning today! It says, 'Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) "Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,"' (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14." (*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! Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) "Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,"' (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14." (*Open hands like a book.*) Yay! (*Clap.*)

"Let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Mary spent time with Jesus in the home she lived in with her sister, Martha. I like to spend time with Jesus outside. We can spend time with Jesus anywhere, because He always wants to spend time with us. Let's make a list of our favorite places to spend time with Jesus. It can be your bedroom, your yard, a park, your car . . . ANYWHERE! When I say your name, tell me your favorite place to spend time with Jesus, and I will write it in our prayer journal. Get ready and listen for your name!" (*Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print as*

you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

After the Activity: (Hold up journal.) "This is a wonderful list! Let's use this list when we talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?" (Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

"Dear God, it is an amazing feeling knowing that Jesus loves us and wants to spend time with us. Jesus really is the best friend we could ever have. Thank You that we can spend time with Jesus anywhere, like ... (read the list the children made). I pray we will remember that wherever we are, we can stop and spend time with Jesus. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Supplies

Martha and Mary Tic-Tac-Toe Made to Play		Quantity
1.	"Martha and Marcy Tic Tac Toe" Activity Page	1
2.	Cardstock	1
3.	Chart paper	Several
4.	Scissors	1
5.	Washable markers	Several

Lacing Hearts Made to Play		Quantity
1.	"Lacing Heart" Activity Page	1
2.	Red cardstock	1
3.	Yarn	Several
4.	Clear tape	1
5.	Hole punch	1
6.	Optional EveryChild Supplies: Lacing needles	1

Jesus Loves Made to Create		Quantity
1.	"Jesus Loves" Activity Page	1
2.	Copy paper	1
3.	Crayons	Several
4.	Scissors	1
5.	Permanent marker	1

Journal and Prayer Made to Reflect		Quantity
1.	"Memory Verse Card" from Week One	1
2.	Journal	1
3.	Fun-shaped Pen	1