



WEEK
ONE
FEBRUARY 2021

SMALL GROUP

2 YEAR
-OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me.
JESUS AND THE CHILDREN
LUKE 18:15-16

MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves at all times."
PROVERBS 17:17, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves me.

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.

Stop and Go
Find the Children
Heart in the Sand

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Whole Lotta Bit"

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
Come to Me
Four Corners
Children Come to Jesus

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)
Parent Cue App



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

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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. STOP AND GO

WHAT YOU NEED: Red and green paper, scissors, craft stick, and clear tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Cut one medium-sized circle out of both the red and green paper. Tape the circles back to

back with the craft stick in between. Secure both cut outs to the stick with tape.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have the children stand in front of you. Hold the stick where the children can see it. When you show the children the green side of the stick, encourage the children to run around the room. When you show the children the red side of the stick, ask the children to stop and freeze. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to hear a story from the Bible about someone who said 'STOP' but Jesus said 'GO.'"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "When I show you the green circle (*hold up*) you may GO! Run around and be silly. Let's try it. (*Show the children the green circle and instruct them to GO.*) Great job! When I show you the red circle (*hold up*), you STOP and freeze. Are you ready?" (*Do activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Nice job! It is time to hear our TRUE story from the Bible. We'll hear a Bible story about how Jesus said 'GO' to children so they could come see Him."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story saying "GO" as you begin to walk and saying "STOP" after a few seconds. Repeat all the way to the story area.

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MADE TO PLAY

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

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2. FIND THE CHILDREN

WHAT YOU NEED: "People" Activity Page; copy paper; glue sticks; scissors; and paper plates

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "People" Activity Page on copy paper and cut out, one set for each small group. Glue each picture to a paper plate. Spread the plates out on the

floor, picture side down.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children flip over the plates to find the children. Repeat as long as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we'll hear a story about Jesus and the children.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's play a game with these plates on the floor."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Flip all the plates over. (Pause.) What do you see? (Pause.) Bring all the children to me. (Pause.) Super! Let's spread them out and do it again." (Repeat as long as desired.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear a story about some really important people who went to see Jesus."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story tory by pretending to be different people from the activity.



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PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts



3. HEART IN THE SAND

WHAT YOU NEED: "Heart Sand" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, gallon-sized zip-top bags, sand, and masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Heart Sand" onto the cardstock and cut on the dotted lines, one per three children. Tape the hearts to a table or the floor. Fill bags

1/3 – 1/2 full of sand, one per three children. Close the bags and tape them flat over the hearts. Use your hands to spread the sand in the bags so that it entirely covers the bags and the hearts.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to use their hands to move the sand in the bag to find the heart. Repeat the activity until each child has had a turn.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear a Bible story about how much Jesus loves us!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We have a sandbox in a bag! (*Point.*) How silly! Let's use our hands to move the sand and see what's underneath!" (*Do activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "It's a HEART! Hearts mean LOVE! We will hear a Bible story, today, about how much Jesus loves us!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by drawing a heart in the air with your finger as you walk to the story area.

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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



1. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Say the Memory Verse and do the following motions in front of the children.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me.
JESUS AND THE CHILDREN
LUKE 18:15-16

"A friend (*hook your pointer fingers together*) loves (*hug yourself*) at all times,' (*stretch your arms out and turn in a circle*) Proverbs 17:17." (*Open hands like a book.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Say the verse again with the motions and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves at all times."
PROVERBS 17:17, NIRV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "I'm going to say our new memory verse. Everyone, watch me! 'A friend (*hook your pointer fingers together*) loves (*hug yourself*) at all times,' (*stretch your arms out and turn in a circle*) Proverbs 17:17." (*Open hands like a book.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now, let's do it together! Are you ready? 'A friend (*hook your pointer fingers together*) loves (*hug yourself*) at all times,' (*stretch your arms out and turn in a circle*) Proverbs 17:17." (*Open hands like a book.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our memory verse tells us that Jesus is our friend forever and He ALWAYS loves us! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!"**

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

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an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



2. COME TO ME

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "My Friend Jesus" and "Come to Me" Activity Pages, cardstock

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Come to Me" on cardstock for the leader. Copy "My Friend Jesus" on

cardstock, one per child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children around you. Tell the children to stay in their spot while you sit across from them. Hold up the Jesus picture. Tell the children to run to the Jesus picture when they hear their name. Pause and make them wait to build the excitement. Say, "[Child's name], come to me!" When you say this, the child called out should hop up and run to the Jesus picture. When they get to the picture, cheer together and say, "Big and small, Jesus loves us all!" Once you have called every child's name, tell them to go back so you can play again!

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a "My Friend Jesus" page to take home. Talk about how Jesus loves children and He wants all of them to come to Him and be His friend forever."

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "I love seeing all my friends here today! Come sit with me."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to play a game. You sit right here while I go over here and sit. (Walk and sit across from them.) Can everyone see me? (Smile and wave.) Can everyone see this Jesus picture? (Hold up "Come to Me" page.) In our Bible story today, Jesus told His friends to let the children come to Him. Listen for your name. When you hear your name, hop up and run to Jesus! Here we go! (Each time a child runs to you, cheer) "Big and small, Jesus loves us all!" (Continue as long as time and attention allow.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "I have a picture of Jesus for each of you to take home so you can play this game with your family. Jesus loves all children, and He wants YOU to be His friend forever! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"

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3. FOUR CORNERS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Four Corners" Activity Page, copy paper, and wall tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Four Corners" on paper, one set per small group. Tape one page at preschooler level in each corner of the activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have the children stand in the middle of the activity area and call out one of pictures. Have the children go to the corner with the picture that you called out. The pictures are: grandpa, children, teacher, and doctor. Repeat the activity by calling out each picture and having the children visit each corner. Repeat as desired.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We have pictures around our room. There is a picture of a grandpa (*point*), children just like you (*point*), a teacher just like me (*point*), and a doctor (*point*). Jesus said, 'GO' in our story today. So, we're going to GO!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, stand in the middle. (*Point.*) Listen very carefully to what I say and GO to the picture that I'm talking about. Are you ready? (*Pause.*) CHILDREN. Everyone, go to the corner with the picture of the CHILDREN. (*Pause.*) Great job! Let's do it again!" (*Continue activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus loves us all so very much that He wants us to GO to Him. **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



4. CHILDREN COME TO JESUS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Jesus and the Children" and "Child Stickers" Activity Pages; cardstock; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; scissors; and a pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Jesus and the Children" on cardstock, one per child. Fold each "Jesus and the Children" into thirds. Copy "Child Stickers" on the label paper, six or more per child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to add the children stickers next to Jesus.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how children are important to Jesus.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our story, we heard about some really important people who came to hear Jesus teach. They were boys and girls, just like you!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look on your paper; it's Jesus! Jesus has his arms stretched out, waiting for the children to come to Him. Add your children stickers to Jesus' arms. (Pause.) Great job!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus was teaching to a crowd of people—lots of big people. There were moms and dads, aunts and uncles, teachers and doctors, and carpenters and fishermen. But some other people wanted to come and listen to Jesus. They were really important people . . . they were children. The disciples stopped them, but Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me.' Jesus stretched His arms wide open and the children came to Him. Jesus loves you and you and you. Jesus loves all the children because children are important to Him. **Who loves you? Jesus loves me.**"

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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as your 2-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room while another teacher greets parents and children at the door. At this age not all children will participate, but most will want to be part of the fun.

1. STOP AND GO

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Red and green paper
- Scissors
- Craft stick
- Clear tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Cut circles from the red and green paper.
- Tape circle back to back on the craft stick.

2. FIND THE CHILDREN

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "People" Activity Page
- Copy paper
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Paper plates, one for each picture

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "People" on paper and cut out.
- Glue one picture to each paper plate.

3. HEART IN THE SAND

Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Heart Sand" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Gallon-sized zip-top bags, one per three children
- Sand
- Masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Heart Sand" Activity Page on cardstock and cut out, one per three children.
- Tape hearts to table or floor.
- Fill bags ½ full of sand and tape flat over hearts.

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities after the Bible Story. Let one or two teachers lead small groups of children in activities throughout the room. At this age, not all children will participate, but most will want to be part of the fun.

1. MEMORY VERSE W/ MOTIONS [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

2. COME TO ME

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "My Friend Jesus" Activity Pages
- Cardstock



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WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Come to Me" on cardstock for the leader.
- Copy "My Friend Jesus" on cardstock, one per child.

3. FOUR CORNERS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Four Corners" Activity Pages
- Copy paper
- Wall tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Four Corners" Activity Pages on paper, one set per small group.
- Tape one of the four Activity Pages at preschooler level in each corner of the activity area.

4. CHILDREN COME TO JESUS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Jesus and the Children" Activity Page
- "Child Stickers" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent
- Scissors
- Pen

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Jesus and the Children" onto cardstock, one per child.
- Copy "Child Stickers" on the label paper, six or more per child.
- Fold each "Jesus and the Children" into thirds.

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang on the door where

Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.

- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue app**.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

- Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. <https://bit.ly/FirstLookPinterest>