



WEEK
THREE
FEBRUARY 2021

SMALL GROUP

2 YEAR
-OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me and
wants to help me.
THE CENTURION
MATTHEW 8:5-13

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.

Sand Helpers
Centurion
Sensory Container 

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.

Around the Heart
Going to See Jesus
Parachute Helpers
Sandbox Shovel

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
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.



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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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. SAND HELPERS

WHAT YOU NEED: Sand toys and toy box

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place the sand toys all around the activity area. Place the toy box at one end of the activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Invite the children to help you by gathering all of the sand toys and placing them in the toy box.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Our room is a mess! Someone left all of their sand toys on the floor!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's be good helpers and work together to pick up all of the sand toys and place them in the toy box!" (*Point and do activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Great job! You are great helpers! Today, we'll hear a Bible story about someone who was a great helper."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by allowing the children to tell you which way to go and help you as you move to the story area.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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MATTHEW 8:5-13

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15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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



2. CENTURION

WHAT YOU NEED: "Centurion" Activity Pages and cardstock

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Centurion" on cardstock, one set per small group. Each page is a puzzle piece.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me and wants to help me.

THE CENTURION
MATTHEW 8:5-13

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Sit with the children on the floor and help them use the Activity Pages as a floor puzzle. The puzzle is the Centurion.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about what a Centurion is.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Come sit with me. I have a puzzle that I need help putting together. Will you please help me? (Pause.) I can't wait to find out what is on our puzzle!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "WOW! It's a Centurion! A Centurion is in our Bible story today. A Centurion was a soldier who led a whole bunch of men! He was very important."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear a story from the Bible that tells us that Jesus loves us so much. He will help us and He give us people who will help us."

MEMORY VERSE

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

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by marching like the Centurion on the way to the story area.

KEY QUESTION

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15 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

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



3. SENSORY CONTAINER

Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" and post it at the door to your room.

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert," large, clear, snack container with lid; large bag of uncooked rice or beans; and a small preschool doctor's kit

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me and
wants to help me.

THE CENTURION
MATTHEW 8:5-13

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Fill the container a quarter full with rice or beans. Remove the items from the doctor's kit and place in the container on top of the rice. Pour more rice or beans into the container until everything is covered. Replace the lid.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to work together, shifting the container around to move the rice or beans so they can find the items from the doctor's kit.

MEMORY VERSE

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

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

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (*Hold up container.*) "There are items in here that someone uses to help us. Let's work together and move the container so that we can find the items. Then we can guess who uses them to help us! (*Do activity.*) We found them! Can you guess who uses these items to help us? (*Pause.*) YES! A doctor uses these items to help us feel better!"

KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We will hear a Bible story, today, about how Jesus helps us, too!"

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves me.

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by chanting this month's Bottom Line as you walk to the story area.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.



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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. AROUND THE HEART

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Floor tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Tape a large heart on the floor in the activity area.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Invite the children to walk around the heart and say the memory verse. When the children are finished saying the verse, challenge them to jump into the heart and say, "Jesus loves me." Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Look! A heart is on our floor! A heart reminds me of our memory verse and how much Jesus loves us!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's walk around the heart while we say our memory verse. (*Do activity.*) Nice job! Now, jump into the heart and say, 'JESUS LOVES ME' super-duper loud! (*Finish activity.*) Awesome! Let's do it again!" (*Repeat several times.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our memory verse tells us that Jesus wants to be our friend, and friends love each other all of the time! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!"**

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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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



2. GOING TO SEE JESUS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children around you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lead the children to march around the room as you sing the words written in "What You Say" to the tune of "Following the Leader" from Peter Pan.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how the man went to ask Jesus for help, and Jesus helped him!

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come here friends. I have something fun for us to do."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "In today's Bible story, a man went to see Jesus because he needed Jesus' help. Jesus helped him because Jesus wants to help us!

"Let's pretend we are the man in the story, and we're going to see Jesus. Follow me and sing along!"

(March around the room while singing the words below to the tune of "Following the Leader.")

"Going to see Jesus, Jesus, Jesus!
We're going to see Jesus,
because He loves us so.

"We're asking Him to help us, help us, help us.
We're asking Him to help us,
because He loves us so."

(Repeat as you march around the room.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus helped the man in the story, and He will help you, too. Because Jesus loves you! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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MATTHEW 8:5-13

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



3. PARACHUTE HELPERS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: A parachute or sheet

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay the parachute flat on the floor.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to stand around the parachute with you and invite them to each pick up a section of the parachute. Ask the children to help you move the parachute up and down. Repeat several times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's play with the parachute!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I need help moving the parachute up and down. Will you help me?" (*Pause and do activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Awesome job! You are such amazing helpers! Jesus loves us so much that He will always help us! **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"

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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. SANDBOX SHOVEL

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Shovel" Activity Page; cardstock; and foam or regular stickers;

Optional "Shovel Label (Optional)" Activity Page; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; small, plastic shovels; stickers; and a permanent marker

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me and
wants to help me.

THE CENTURION
MATTHEW 8:5-13

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Shovel" on cardstock, one per child.

Optional: Copy "Shovel Label (Optional)" Activity Page on label paper. You would use this option if you are giving children actual small, plastic shovels to decorate.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to add stickers all over the shovel.

Optional: Give each child a plastic shovel. Encourage children to add stickers and the "Shovel Label" Activity Page to their shovel. Leader writes child's name with a permanent marker.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how Jesus loves you.

MEMORY VERSE

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello friends. Come sit with me. We've been learning that Jesus loves me and you."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "What do you see on your paper? (Pause.) It's a sand shovel. It says Jesus loves me. Fill your shovel with stickers. (Pause.) Super!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus is such a good friend that when He heard someone needed His help, He helped them. Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever. **Who loves you? Jesus loves me.**"

KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

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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. SAND HELPERS

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Sand toys
- Toy box (can be a basket, blow-up pool, or empty sandbox)

2. CENTURION

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Centurion" Activity Pages
- Cardstock

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Centurion" Activity Pages on cardstock, one set per small group.

3. SENSORY CONTAINER

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Large, clear, snack container with lid (like pretzels or cheese balls)
- Large bag of uncooked rice or beans
- Small preschool doctor's kit

WHAT YOU DO:

- Fill the container half full of the rice or beans.

- Remove the items from the doctor's kits and place in the container on top of the rice/beans.
- Pour the rest of the rice or beans in the container until it's $\frac{3}{4}$ full.
- Replace lid

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. AROUND THE HEART

[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:

- Floor Tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape a large heart on the floor in the activity area.

2. GOING TO SEE JESUS

[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:

- No supplies needed.



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GETTING READY

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

3. PARACHUTE HELPERS

[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:

- Parachute or large sheet

4. SANDBOX SHOVEL

[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:

- "Shovel" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Foam or regular stickers
- Optional "Shovel Label (Optional)" Activity Page
- Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent
- Toy shovels, one per child
- Stickers
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Shovel" onto cardstock, one per child.
- Optional: Copy "Shovel Label (Optional)" on label paper, one per child.

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>