





TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

NOTE: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and preschoolers. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your preschoolers for both Large and Small Group time.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that God loves us, no matter what.

PRODIGAL SON LUKE 15:11-24

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

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



SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive. Party Sensory Bottles

LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"My Forever Friend" Bible Story Prayer

SMALL GROUP



GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

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

Traveling Son Prodigal Son Maze Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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





PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that God loves us, no matter what.

PRODIGAL SON LUKE 15:11-24

MEMORY VERSE

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KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



PARTY SENSORY BOTTLES

WHAT YOU NEED: Large mouth plastic bottles with lids; Little People® boys; sprinkles; confetti; mini gift bows; party horns; small plastic pigs; play money; toy food; and doll clothes

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Fill bottles with all the items and secure lids. Shake to mix all the items around.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to move and roll the bottles to find the different items you name. Repeat as many times as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we'll hear a story about how much a dad loved his son.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Look at these cool bottles we have to play with today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "There are lots of different things in the bottles. See if you can find the boy. (*Pause.*) Did everyone find the boy? (*Pause.*) Great! There's a boy in our story today. Move your bottles around and see if you can find the money. (*Pause.*) Lots of money! Do you see any clothes? (*Pause.*) What about food? (*Pause.*) What food did you find? (*Pause.*) Do you see any animals? (*Pause.*) What animal did you find? (*Pause.*) What else do you see in the bottle? (*Pause.*) When do you use a party horn, confetti, or sprinkles? (*Pause.*) That's right! When you celebrate."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear how all of the things we found in the bottle fit in our story of a dad and son."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by weaving through the bottles placed across the floor like moving through cones. Leader can call out different ways to move through.





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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that God loves us, no matter what.

PRODIGAL SON LUKE 15:11-24

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

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TRAVELING SON

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Traveling Son" and "Traveling Son Places" Activity Pages; copy paper; clear plastic punch cups; scissors; crayons; glue sticks; and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

and cut out, one per child. Copy "Traveling Son" on paper and cut out, one set per child. Write child's name on the bottom of both of their cups.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: If using the black and white copies, have children color them. Help children glue the places to the inside of one of the cups, in order and facing out. Then help children glue the picture of the son to the inside of the second cup, facing out. Put the places cup inside the son cup and show how to move the cups around while reviewing the story.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about the important things Jesus teaches us.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, Jesus told us a story of a dad and his son to teach us that God loves us, no matter what. I'm so glad we have Jesus to teach us important things."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to make story cups to help remember our story. First, you need to color your pictures. (*Pause.*) Now find the picture of the dad. (*Pause.*) He goes in first. Run your glue stick over the front of the picture and glue him to the inside of your cup. (*Pause.*) Now find the picture of the money. (*Pause.*) Glue the front and stick it on the inside next to the dad. (*Pause.*)

"Next picture is the one of clothes and food. Glue it to the inside of your cup next to the money. (*Pause.*) Last is the party picture. Glue it to the inside of your cup. (*Pause.*) Great!

"Put that cup aside and grab your other cup. Glue the son to the inside. (Pause.) Now stack your cups with the son on the outside. (Pause.) Turn the cups until you line up the son and the dad. (Demonstrate.) See how the cups turn? Turn your cup to the right picture as I review our Bible story."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The dad had saved a lot of money for his son to have when he was older. But the son wanted his money right then. So, the dad gave his son the money. Move the son to the money. (*Pause.*) The son took the money and went far, far away. He spent his dad's money on everything! Move the son to the next picture. (*Pause.*) He bought fancy clothes, ate really good





PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

(TRAVELING SON, CONTINUED)

food, and spent money with his friends. He spent and spent until all his money was gone.

"The son didn't have a bed to sleep in or any food to eat. He was so hungry that he thought about eating the pig food. The son knew he had made a lot of bad choices. He was so sorry and just wanted to go home. When his dad saw him coming home, he ran to him and hugged him. Then he threw him a big party to celebrate. Move the son to the celebration. (*Pause.*)

"The dad was so glad that his son had come back home. He loved his son, even though he had made bad decisions and spent all the money. Jesus wants us to know that God loves us even more than that! God loves us, no matter what. He won't get mad at us if we mess up. He wants to forgive us and help us. Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things."





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



PRODIGAL SON MAZE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: Painter's tape and confetti

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Make a maze on the floor with painter's tape or various furniture in the room.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that God loves us, no matter what.

PRODIGAL SON LUKE 15:11-24

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how God loves us, no matter what.

WHAT YOU SAY:

with each child.

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Come join me over here. To help us review our story, I've set up a maze for you to walk through."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to be the son and walk through the maze one at a time. Pretend to spend money on clothes and food through

the maze then come out. Everyone celebrates that person with a party. Repeat

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "As you walk through, you can pretend to be the son. First to go through is [child's name]. The son took the money from his dad and went far away. He spent money with his friends on food and fancy clothes. He spent and spent until he had no money left for a place to sleep or food to eat. So, the son decided to go home. When his dad saw him coming, he was so excited! (Celebrate the child coming through the maze at the end.) The dad was so happy that he threw a party. (Throw a small bit of confetti in the air over the child.) Everyone shout, 'Welcome home! Welcome home!' Great job! (Repeat with each child.) Everyone sit down where you are."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus told us this story to teach us that like the dad and son in this story, God loves us, no matter what. Isn't that amazing? I'm so glad we have Jesus to teach us amazing things. Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things."

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.





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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that God loves us, no matter what.

PRODIGAL SON LUKE 15:11-24

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, journal, fun-shaped pen, and heart stickers

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll give ourselves a great . . . big . . . HUG while we walk to our small group spot. Wrap your arms around

yourself like this (demonstrate) and follow me! (Continue to hug yourself as you lead the children to your small group spot.)

"Give yourself one last big squeeze then sit down so we can talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)

"Our Bible story, today, was about something very important that Jesus teaches us. Jesus teaches us that God loves you (point to child) and you (point to child) and you . . . (continue and point to each child) . . . no matter what! That's why we gave ourselves a great, big hug. Because God loves us!

"Jesus told a story about a father and his son to teach us that God loves us, no matter what. Do you remember what the son did with all of the money his father had saved for him? (Pause.) Yes, the son went far away and spent all of the money on food, clothes, and parties. After the money was all gone, the son didn't have any money to buy food, and he was very hungry. That's when the son decided to go back home to his father. What did the father do when he saw his son? (Pause.) That's right! The father gave his son a great, big hug and threw a party! The father was SO happy his son was back! Even though the son had made some bad choices, the father still loved him.

"Jesus told this story so we can know that God loves us, no matter what. Where can we read the stories Jesus told? (Pause.) Yes, the Bible! (Hold up the Bible.) Jesus teaches us lots of important things in the Bible. Who teaches you important things?"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus teaches me important things."

sgl: "He sure does! And the new Bible verse we're going to learn will help us remember that Jesus is an amazing teacher! It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'The crowds were amazed at his teaching,' Matthew 7:28. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"Let's stand up and say that together with these motions I'll teach you. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed





PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

(hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth),' Matthew 7:28." (Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "You sound great! (*Give two thumbs-up.*) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*)

"Because Jesus teaches us that God loves us, no matter what, we'll put heart stickers by our names in our prayer journal. I'll write your name in our journal. Then, you will put a heart sticker by your name and say, 'God loves me!' Okay, listen for your name and get ready to say, 'God loves me!' (Say each child's name, write it down, give them a heart sticker, and prompt them to say, 'God loves me!' Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"Yay! Now let's pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, Thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever and teach us important things. I pray we will listen to what Jesus says and remember that You love us, no matter what. You are so good, God. In Jesus' name, amen."





PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

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 3-, 4-, or 5-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

PARTY SENSORY BOTTLES

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Large mouth plastic bottles with lids
- Little People® boys
- Sprinkles
- Confetti
- Mini gift bows
- Party horns
- Small plastic pigs
- Play money
- Toy food
- Doll clothes

WHAT YOU DO:

- Fill bottles with the items and secure lids.
- Shake bottles to mix the items.

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.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

TRAVELING SON

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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:

- "Traveling Son" Activity Page
- "Traveling Son Places" Activity Page
- Copy paper
- Clear plastic punch cups—two per child
- Scissors
- Crayons
- Glue sticks
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Traveling Son" on copy paper and cut out; one per child.
- Copy "Traveling Son Places" on copy paper and cut out; one set per child.
- Write child's name on the bottom of both of their cups.

PRODIGAL SON MAZE

[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:

- Painter's tape
- Confetti

WHAT YOU DO:

 Make a maze on the floor with painter's tape or furniture in the room.

JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 7:28, NIV.
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen
- Heart stickers—one per child





PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

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

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

Today's Suggested Schedule—January 2022, Week 1

Today's Bible Story: Jesus teaches us that God loves us, no matter what.

Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

Memory Verse: "The crowds were amazed at his teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

Key Question: Who teaches you important things? **Bottom Line:** Jesus teaches me important things. **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

LARGE GROUP (20 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

VIDEO: "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

VIDEO: "Prodigal Son" from Wonder

LARGE GROUP: Worship (10 minutes) • Story (10 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Today's Bible Story: Jesus teaches us that God loves us, no matter what.

Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

Memory Verse: "The crowds were amazed at his teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

Key Question: Who teaches you important things? **Bottom Line:** Jesus teaches me important things. **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

WORSHIP

What You Need: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 7:28, NIV.

LEADER: "Hello, everyone! It's my favorite time—WORSHIP time! This is when we sing and dance and praise God together! God sent Jesus to teach us important things. When I ask, 'Who teaches you important things?', I want you to say, [Bottom Line] 'Jesus teaches me important things.' Who teaches you important things?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "That's right! *[Basic Truth]* **Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Stand up and sing this out with me!

VIDEO: "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video

LEADER: "So fun! Jesus is a good, good friend! He teaches us so many important things. Great job, friends. **Who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "That's right! *[Bottom Line]* Jesus teaches me important things! The Bible teaches us that 'The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed (hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth),' Matthew 7:28. (Open hands like a book.) Let's learn our memory verse together. Are you ready? Listen to me say it and watch me do the motions, then you can do it with me!" (Repeat.)

CHILDREN and LEADER: "The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed (hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth), Matthew 7:28." (Open hands like a book.)

LEADER: "We can be like Jesus when we listen to what He teaches us! All month long, we will learn about the important things Jesus teaches us. I can't wait! Thanks for worshipping with me, friends."

First Look
Story Time
January 2022 • Week 1
Large Group
Facilitator Script

STORY

What You Need: Bible

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and you know what? I LOVE to read this book. Do you know what it is?

Hold up the Bible.

"Yes! It's the Bible. Today, I want to look at a story from the Bible that Jesus told that teaches us about God's love! He loves us, no matter what. So, are you ready to hear it? If you are, say, 'I'm ready!"

CHILDREN: "I'm ready!"

LEADER: "Great! Here we go!

VIDEO: "Prodigal Son" from Wonder

LEADER: "I'm so glad we have a friend like Jesus to teach us important things. He teaches us that God loves us, no matter what, just like the father loved his son in this story. When I ask, 'Who teaches you important things?', you say, [Bottom Line] 'Jesus teaches me important things!' Ready? Who teaches you important things?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things!"

LEADER: "Who teaches you important things?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "That's right! Okay friends, it's time to pray. Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."

PRAYER

LEADER: "God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. We know that Jesus teaches us important things. Thank You for loving us, no matter what. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."









important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

Jesus teaches me important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

important things.

Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24



Jesus teaches me important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24



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Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24



Jesus teaches me important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24



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Jesus teaches me important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24



Jesus teaches me important things.

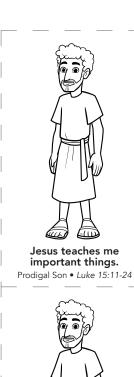


Jesus teaches me important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

Jesus teaches me important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

Traveling Son • Color • Traveling Son • January Week 1 Copy on copy paper and cut on dotted lines. One cutout per child.





important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24



Jesus teaches me important things.



important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

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Jesus teaches me important things.

Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24



Jesus teaches me important things.

Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24



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Jesus teaches me important things.

Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24



Jesus teaches me important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

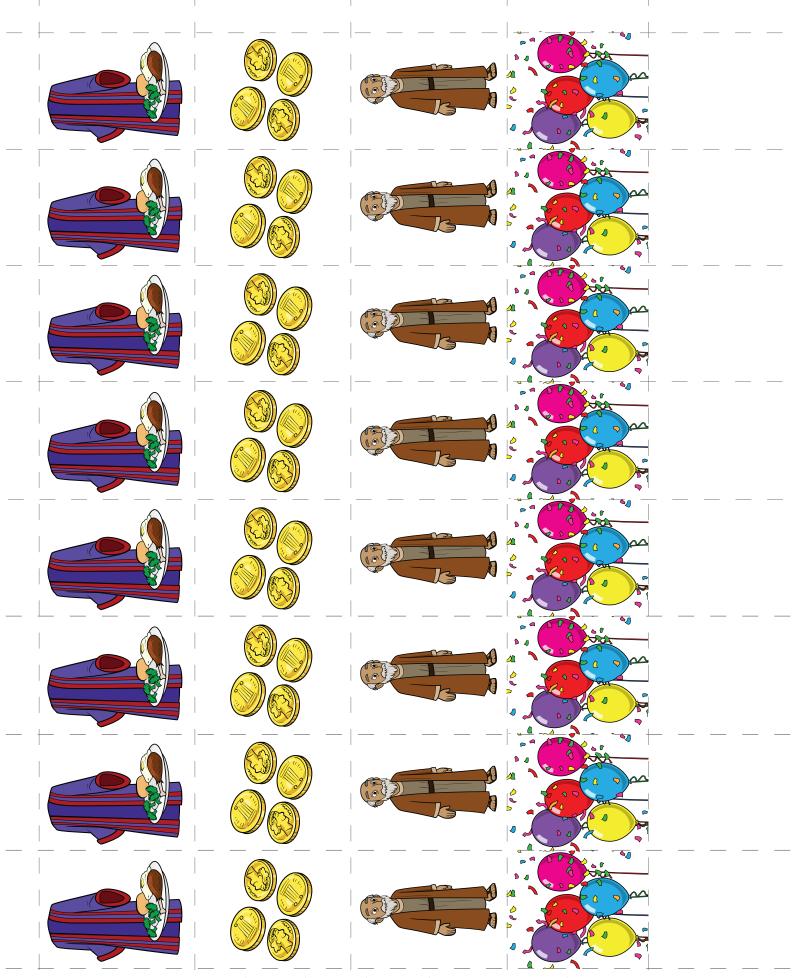
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Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

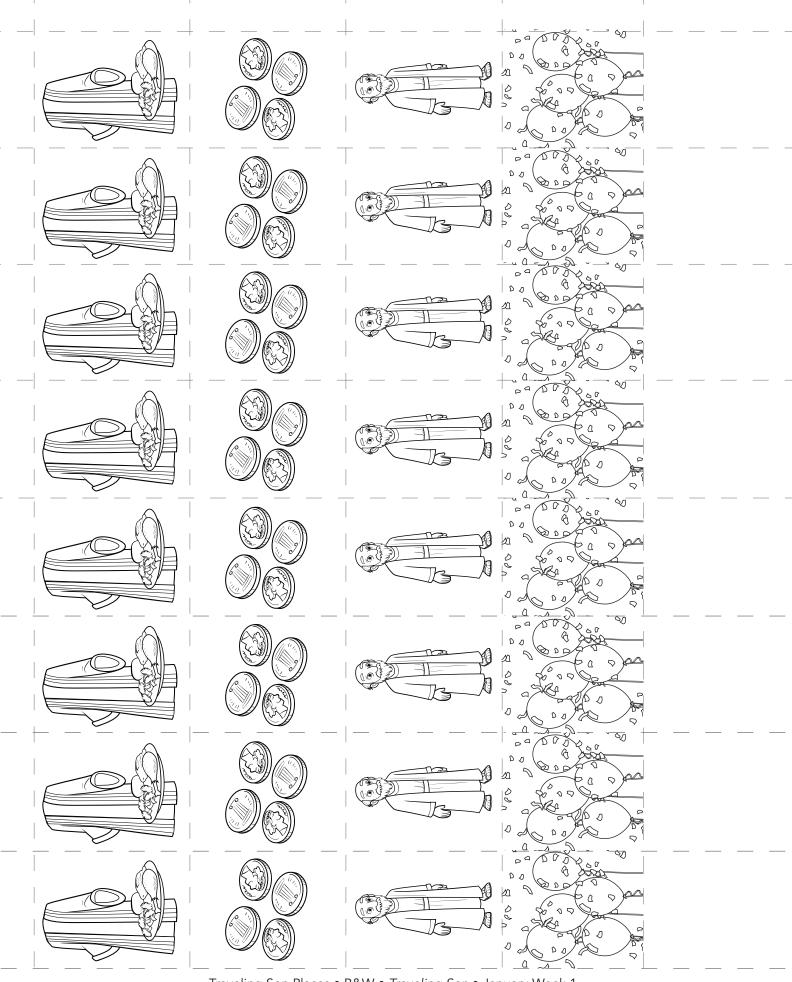


Jesus teaches me important things. Prodigal Son • Luke 15:11-24

Traveling Son • B&W • Traveling Son • January Week 1



Traveling Son Places • Color • *Traveling Son* • January Week 1
Copy on copy paper and cut on dotted lines. One set of cutouts per child.
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Traveling Son Places • B&W • *Traveling Son* • January Week 1

Copy on copy paper and cut on dotted lines. One set of cutouts per child.

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Memory Verse January 2022

"The crowds were amazed at His teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

"The crowds

(Arms out and around.)

were amazed

(Hold hands like binoculars, open and shut.)

at His teaching.

(Hands to mouth.)

Matthew 7:28

(Open hands like a book.)

Memory Verse January 2022

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TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

NOTE: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and preschoolers. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your preschoolers for both Large and Small Group time.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that we are important to God.

THE LOST SHEEP LUKE 15:3-7

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

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



SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive. Find My Sheep

LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"My Forever Friend" Bible Story Prayer

SMALL GROUP



GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

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

Sweet Sheep How Many? Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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





PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

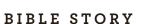
GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



Jesus teaches us that we are important to God.

THE LOST SHEEP LUKE 15:3-7

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

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KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



FIND MY SHEEP

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather children in an open area of the room

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Pick one child to be the sheep and hide. The other children will be shepherds and try to find the sheep. Repeat with each child.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we'll hear a story about a lost sheep.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come stand with me. I have a game for us to play."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to play a game like hide and seek, but the one hiding will pretend to be a sheep. Let me hear your best sheep sounds. (*Pause.*) Those are great sheep sounds! [Child's name] will be the first sheep we look for. The rest of us will be shepherds looking for our sheep. Shepherds, close your eyes while our sheep hides. (*Help child find a place to hide.*)

"Okay shepherds keep your eyes closed. When we say, 'Where is my important sheep?', our sheep will make a sound. When you hear the sheep, we'll move to find it. Let's go! Shepherds say, 'Where is my important sheep?' (Repeat.) Sheep make a sound. (Pause.) Okay, shepherds, move to find the sheep. (Pause.) Yay! We found the important sheep! (Repeat with each child as the sheep.) That was fun! Everybody sit down where you are."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we'll hear how a shepherd found his missing sheep."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by acting like sheep. Leader counts the sheep as they move.





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



SWEET SHEEP

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Sweet Sheep" Activity Page; light blue cardstock; white cupcake liners; black construction paper; googly eye stickers; green crayons; scissors; glue sticks; and a permanent marker

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that we are important to God.

THE LOST SHEEP LUKE 15:3-7

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Sweet Sheep" on light blue cardstock, one per child. Write child's name on their paper. Cut black construction paper into strips, ½" x 3"; four per child. Cut two-inch egg shapes from black construction paper; one per child. Cut black construction paper in ½" x 1" ovals; two per child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children color the bottom of their paper with the green crayon. Encourage children to glue their flattened cupcake liner to the middle of their paper. Have them glue the four legs at the bottom of the liner. Then glue on the egg-shaped head and oval ears. Add the googly eyes.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, Jesus told a story of a shepherd who watched his sheep out in the field and realized one was missing. Let's make a picture of the lost sheep from our story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Sheep like to eat grass. Draw some green grass at the bottom of your paper. (*Pause.*) Now take your cupcake liner and spread it out flat. (*Pause.*) Rub your glue stick over it. (*Pause.*) Now press to the middle of your paper. (*Pause.*) This is your sheep's body. (*Hold up the strips of black paper.*) These are the legs to your sheep. Glue them to the bottom of your sheep. (*Pause.*)

"Now let's give your sheep a face. Use this egg shape for the head. Glue it to the cupcake liner. (Pause.) Give your sheep some ears. (Hold up the ovals.) These will be great ears. Glue them to your sheep's head. (Pause.) Last thing is to give your sheep some eyes. (Pause.) Look at all the cute little sheep!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus said that the shepherd loved all of his sheep; each one mattered to him. He left the other sheep to find the one missing sheep. Jesus told us this story to teach us something very important: we are important to God. He tells us that if we were lost, God would find us then celebrate. You are important to God. I'm glad we have Jesus to teach us important things. Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things."





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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that we are important to God.

THE LOST SHEEP LUKE 15:3-7

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



HOW MANY?

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Butcher paper; cotton balls, pom poms, or white mini cupcake liners; masking tape; and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

a sheep body (as simple as an oval) on the butcher paper. Give the sheep four legs and a round head. Make tape loops and add all over the sheep body.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to cover the tape loops with cotton balls, pom poms, or cupcake liners. The last child to add a cotton ball is the one lost sheep.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we are all important to God.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Come look what I have. (*Pause.*) It's a sheep! But it's missing its wool!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Help me cover the sheep with these cotton balls. (Pause.) Our sheep is getting wooly! Let's keep adding and make him even woolier. (Pause.) Our sheep is full! How many did it take us to fill the sheep? (Pause.) Let's count them. (Pause.) This one right here (point to the last one added) was the last one added. It's like the little lost sheep from our Bible story."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "All of the pieces we added were important, just like the shepherd's sheep in our story. When he noticed one of his sheep was missing, he left all of the other sheep to find the lost one. Jesus told us this story to teach us something very important: we are important to God. He tells us that if we were lost, God would find us then celebrate. You are important to God. I'm glad we have Jesus to teach us important things. Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things."





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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that we are important to God.

THE LOST SHEEP LUKE 15:3-7

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible; journal; and fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend to be sheep while we walk to our small group spot. What do sheep say? (*Pause.*) Yes! Baa! Baa!

Okay little sheep, follow me!c(Pretend to be a sheep as you lead the children to your small group spot.) We made it little sheep! Now let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)

"Today's Bible story was about another story Jesus told. In this story, there was a shepherd who had lost one sheep. Did the shepherd say, 'I have enough sheep. Who cares about one lost sheep?', OR did the shepherd leave all of his sheep to look for his one lost sheep? (*Pause.*) Yes! The shepherd cared about ALL of his sheep, so he looked for his lost sheep. What did the shepherd do when he found his lost sheep? (*Pause.*) You're right! The shepherd was SO happy that he told all of his friends!

"Jesus told this story so we can know that we are important to God. Where can we read the stories that Jesus told? (*Pause*.) Yes, the Bible! (*Hold up the Bible*.) Jesus teaches us lots of important things in the Bible. **Who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus teaches me important things."

sgl: "Yes, He does! Jesus is an amazing teacher, and the Bible verse we're learning will help us remember it! It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'The crowds were amazed at his teaching,' Matthew 7:28. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*) Let's stand up and say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed (hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth),' Matthew 7:28." (Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

"Great job! (Give two thumbs-up.) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"Today, we'll make a list of things that are important to us. Maybe it's your favorite blanket or toy, a special book or someone you live with. It can be anything or anyone that is important to you. So, when I say your name, I want







PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

you to tell me one thing that is important to you, and I will write it in our prayer journal. (Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"These are some very important things. But if God was making a list, He would write YOUR name! Because YOU are important to God. It's true! You are important to God. Let's pray and thank God for sending Jesus to teach us that we are important to Him. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, we have things and people that are important to us, like (read the list the children made). All of these things and people are very important. That's why it's so special that we're important to You! (Name each child) . . . and I are all important to You. Thank You for loving us and thinking we are important. Help us treat everyone like they are important, too. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."





PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

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 3-, 4-, or 5-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

FIND MY SHEEP

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

• No supplies needed.

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.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

SWEET SHEEP

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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:

- "Sweet Sheep" Activity Page
- Light blue cardstock
- White cupcake liners (large)—one per child
- Black construction paper
- Googly eye stickers—two per child
- Green crayons

- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Sweet Sheep" on light blue cardstock, one per child.
- Write child's name on their paper.
- Cut black construction paper into strips, ½" x 3"; four per child.
- Cut two-inch egg shapes from black construction paper; one per child.
- Cut black construction paper in ½" x 1" ovals; two per child.

HOW MANY?

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Butcher paper
- Cotton balls, white pom poms, or white mini cupcake liners
- Masking tape
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Draw a large simple outline of a sheep body (as simple as an oval) and give the sheep four legs and a round head.
- Make tape loops and add all over the sheep body.

JOURNAL AND PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 7:28, NIV.
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen







PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

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

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

Today's Suggested Schedule—January 2022, Week 2

Today's Bible Story: Jesus teaches us that we are important to God.

The Lost Sheep • Luke 15:3-7

Memory Verse: "The crowds were amazed at his teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

Key Question: Who teaches you important things? **Bottom Line:** Jesus teaches me important things. **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

LARGE GROUP (20 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

VIDEO: "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

VIDEO: "The Lost Sheep" from Wonder

LARGE GROUP: Worship (10 minutes) • Story (10 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Today's Bible Story: Jesus teaches us that we are important to God.

The Lost Sheep • Luke 15:3-7

Memory Verse: "The crowds were amazed at his teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

Key Question: Who teaches you important things? **Bottom Line:** Jesus teaches me important things. **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

WORSHIP

What You Need: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 7:28, NIV.

LEADER: "Hey, friends! Who's ready for worship? (*Pause.*) Me, too! I LOVE to sing and dance and praise God with you. God sent Jesus to be our friend forever and teach us important things. **Who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "Yes, He does! I'm so glad to know that **[Basic Truth] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** He's a good, good friend. Sing this out with me.

VIDEO: "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video

LEADER: "I want to be just like Jesus! He's my forever friend. The Bible teaches us that 'The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed (hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth),' Matthew 7:28. (Open hands like a book.) Let's say that together."

Lead children to repeat the memory verse with the motions.

"Yes, Jesus teaches us SO many important things. Tell me, who teaches you important things?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

First Look Story Time

STORY

What You Need: Bible

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I'm here to tell you a true story from the Bible.

Hold up the Bible then set it in front of you.

"Today, I want to share one of the stories Jesus told to teach us something very important. And this story starts with a shepherd. Do you know what a shepherd does? Raise your hand if you think a shepherd takes care of dogs? (*Pause.*) No? Okay, what about birds? Does a shepherd take care of birds? (*Pause.*) Nope. A shepherd takes care of, say it with me."

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Sheep!"

LEADER: "That's right. A shepherd takes care of sheep! What does the sheep say? Let's all make a sheep noise together."

CHILDREN and LEADER: "Baa!"

LEADER: "Very good! Now let's visit our friends at the Clubhouse to hear more about this important lesson!"

VIDEO: "The Lost Sheep" from Wonder

LEADER: "YOU matter to God. Yes, YOU are important to God. I'm so glad we have a friend like Jesus to teach us important things. Tell me, **who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "Yes, it's true. One more time, who teaches you important things?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "You've got it! God loves you so much that He sent Jesus to be your friend forever. Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."

PRAYER

LEADER: "God, thank You for sending Jesus, Your Son, to teach us so many important things. Every friend here is so important to You, God. Thank You for loving us so, so much. We love You, God. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

Jesus teaches me important things.

The Lost Sheep • Luke 15:3-7







TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

NOTE: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and preschoolers. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your preschoolers for both Large and Small Group time.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that we can share our stuff.

BIGGER BARNS ACTS 2:45: LUKE 12:16-21

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

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



SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive. Amazing Tic-Tac-Toe

LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"My Forever Friend" Bible Story Prayer

SMALL GROUP



GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

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

Cup Barn Colorful Barns S Journal and Prayer

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.





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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that we can share our stuff.

BIGGER BARNS ACTS 2:45: LUKE 12:16-21

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



AMAZING TIC-TAC-TOE

WHAT YOU NEED: "Amazing Tic-Tac-Toe" Activity Page; cardstock; painter's tape; and bean bag

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Amazing Tic-Tac-Toe" on cardstock. Arrange the words from the memory verse in

rows of three to make a Tic-Tac-Toe board and tape to the floor to secure. Tape a standing line on the floor opposite the Tic-Tac-Toe board.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children take turn tossing the bean bag on a word from the memory verse. When the bag lands on "amazed," wave your hands and celebrate. Repeat as long as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Say the memory verse together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's great to see you today, friends! Come join me in a game of Tic-Tac-Toe!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "The Tic-Tac-Toe board has our memory verse on it. I'll read it for you. (*Point to each word as you say it.*) The. Crowds. Were. Amazed. (*Wave hands in the air to celebrate.*) At. His. Teaching. Matthew 7:28. We'll go one at a time. (*Say the word that the bean bag lands on.*) Whoa! It landed on 'amazed'! (*Wave hands in the air to celebrate.*) Do that with me. (*Pause.*) Yay! Great job!" (*Repeat as long as desired.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, that was so much fun. Let's say all the words to our memory verse. 'The crowds were amazed at his teaching,' Matthew 7:28. (*Repeat.*) Today, we'll hear another story about an important thing Jesus wants to teach us."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by saying the memory verse. When you say "amazed," everyone can celebrate.





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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that we can share our stuff.

BIGGER BARNS ACTS 2:45: LUKE 12:16-21

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



CUP BARN

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Cup Barn" Activity Page; copy paper; red plastic cups; crayons; scissors; glue sticks; yellow or brown tissue paper; and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Cup Barn" on copy paper and cut out, one per child. Write child's name on their cup. Tear some pieces of tissue and ball them up to give out during the activity.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color the barn then glue it to their cup. Have children rip the tissue into pieces, ball it up, and fill their cup.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible story today, Jesus told a story about a farmer who grew a lot of food and stored it all in a big barn. Let's make a big barn and fill it with food."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Color your barn. (Pause.) Very nice! Turn it over and rub the glue stick all over the back of the barn. (Pause.) Now stick in on your cup. (Pause.) Look at your barn! It's ready to be filled. Tear the tissue into pieces and ball it up. (Pause.) Great! Now fill your barn with it. (Pause.) I have some grain to share with you, too. (Hand out the pre-made tissue balls.) Add it to your barn. (Pause.) Now you have a barn full of grain!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The farmer in our story grew so much food that it filled his barn. Instead of sharing the extra, he built a bigger barn and kept all the food for himself. This was way more food than he needed, but he wanted to keep it all for himself. God gave the farmer more than he needed, and he could have shared to help a lot of people. Sometimes, God gives us more than we need, and we can share it with others. That's the important thing Jesus wanted to teach us in this story. God wants us to share. I'm so glad we have a friend like Jesus to teach us important things. Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things."





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



COLORFUL BARNS*

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert Poster"; cardstock; construction paper in various colors; large bag of colorful O-shaped cereal like Fruit Loops®; plastic container; and wet wipes; Optional: marker

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that we can share our stuff.

BIGGER BARNS ACTS 2:45: LUKE 12:16-21

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

*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 DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock and post outside the room. Spread the construction paper out on the table, one sheet of each color. Pour cereal in the container. Option: Draw the outline of a barn on each sheet of paper.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children clean their hands. Explain the cereal is not to eat. Encourage children to sort the cereal onto the colored paper barns. Talk about what color has the most and which color has the least. Collect and repeat.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Join me at the table. We're going to sort the cereal today. But before we start, we need to clean our hands. (*Give each child a wipe. Help them wipe hands if needed.*) The cereal today is not for us to eat, only to play with. Okay? Okay!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "There are different colors of paper on the table aren't there? (*Pause.*) These are our barns. We're going to work together to fill the barns with the same color of cereal. Let's go! (*Pause.*) Good job of filling the barns. Look and tell me what color had the most. (*Pause.*) What color didn't have a lot of cereal? (*Pause.*) Can each of these colors share their cereal? (*Pause.*) Yes! Let's share it and pour it all back into the container. (*Pause.*) Superduper sharers!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus told us this story about the farmer to teach us that it's good to share. God gave the farmer more than he needed, but he didn't share. He could have helped a lot of people with that extra food, but he didn't. He kept it all to himself. I'm so glad we have a friend like Jesus to teach us important things; and they are all written in the Bible! Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things."



THREE
JANUARY 2022



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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us that we can share our stuff.

BIGGER BARNS ACTS 2:45: LUKE 12:16-21

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend we're barn animals when we walk to our small group spot. But first, we need to choose what

animal we want to be. Hmm . . . what animals live in a barn? Cows, horses, pigs, sheep, chickens, goats, cats, ducks, donkeys—lots of animals live in barns! I want you to pick an animal, then when we walk, I want you to walk and talk like that animal. Got it? Okay, here we go! (*Pretend you are a barn animal as you lead the children to your small group spot.*)

"Wow! We really sound like a bunch of barn animals! Good job! Now, let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)

"Our Bible story, today, was about a man and a barn. But the man didn't want to put animals in his barn. What did he want to put in his barn? (*Pause.*) Yes! Food! Jesus told a story about a man who had A LOT of food. He had way more food than he could eat. He had a choice. He could share his food with people who didn't have any OR he could build a bigger barn and save all of the food for himself. What did the man in the story decide to do? (*Pause.*) You're right. The man said he would build a bigger barn and keep all the food.

"Jesus told this story so we can know that it's important to share our stuff. Where can we read the stories that Jesus told? (*Pause.*) You got it! The Bible! (*Hold up the Bible.*) Jesus teaches us lots of important things in the Bible. **Who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus teaches me important things."

sgl: "Jesus is an amazing teacher, and the Bible verse we're learning will help us remember that. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'The crowds were amazed at his teaching,' Matthew 7:28. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*) Let's stand up and say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed (hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth),' Matthew 7:28." (Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "Wow! You said that so well! (Give fist bumps.) Now let's sit down so we







PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"Since Jesus teaches us that it's important to share, I think we should make a list of things we can share. The man in our story could have shared his food. So, what can we share? When I say your name, tell me one thing you can share, and I will write it in our journal. (Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"This is a great list! Thank you for making it with me. Now let's pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, we don't want to be like the man in Jesus' story who didn't share his food. We want to be kind and share with others. Help us share things like (*read the list the children made*). And God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever and teach us important things about You. You are the best, and we love You. In Jesus' name, amen."





PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

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 3-, 4-, or 5-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

AMAZING TIC-TAC-TOE

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Amazing Tic-Tac-Toe" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Painter's tape
- Bean bag

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Amazing Tic-Tac-Toe" on cardstock; one set per activity.
- Arrange the words from in rows of three to make a Tic-Tac-Toe board. Tape to floor to secure.
- Tape a standing line on the floor opposite the Tic-Tac-Toe board.

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.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

CUP BARN

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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:

- "Cup Barn" Activity Page
- Copy paper
- Red plastic cups—one per child
- Crayons
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Yellow or brown tissue paper
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Cup Barn" on paper and cut out, one per child
- Write child's name on their cup.
- Tear some pieces of tissue and ball them up to give out during the activity.

COLORFUL BARNS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Allergy Alert Poster"
- Cardstock
- Construction paper in various colors
- Large bag of colorful O-shaped cereal like Fruit Loops®
- Plastic container
- Wet wipes
- Optional marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock and post outside the room.
- Spread the construction paper on the table, one sheet of each color. (Try to match the colors to the cereal.)
- Pour cereal in the container.
- Option: Draw the outline of a barn on each sheet of paper.







SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

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

JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 7:28, NIV.
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen

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

Today's Suggested Schedule—January 2022, Week 3

Today's Bible Story: Jesus teaches us that we can share our stuff.

Bigger Barns • Acts 2:45; Luke 12:16-21

Memory Verse: "The crowds were amazed at his teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

Key Question: Who teaches you important things? **Bottom Line:** Jesus teaches me important things. **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

LARGE GROUP (20 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

VIDEO: "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

VIDEO: "Bigger Barns" from Wonder

LARGE GROUP: Worship (10 minutes) • Story (10 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Today's Bible Story: Jesus teaches us that we can share our stuff.

Bigger Barns • Acts 2:45; Luke 12:16-21

Memory Verse: "The crowds were amazed at his teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

Key Question: Who teaches you important things? **Bottom Line:** Jesus teaches me important things. **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

WORSHIP

What You Need: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 7:28, NIV.

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm so excited to be with you today. Do you know what time it is? It's WORSHIP time! God is awesome and worthy of all our praise. He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. I'm SO glad God gave us Jesus to teach us important things. **Who teaches you important things?"**

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "It's true! Jesus is our forever friend. Let's sing this together.

VIDEO: "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video

LEADER: "I'm so glad that **[Basic Truth] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** He's always with me. He'll never leave me; this I know for sure! We can count on Him, always. **Who teaches me important things?"**

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "That's right! *[Bottom Line]* Jesus teaches me important things! The Bible teaches us that 'The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed (hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth),' Matthew 7:28. (Open hands like a book.) Let's say our memory verse together.

Lead children to repeat the memory verse with the motions.

"Great job! When we listen to Jesus' teaching, when we follow Him, we can love like He loves! I'm so glad we're learning all the important things that He teaches us. One more time, **who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "Yes, He does! Thanks for worshipping with me, friends."

First Look Story Time

STORY

What You Need: Bible

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and it's time to hear a true story from the Bible.

Hold up the Bible and place it in front of you.

"Jesus told this story to teach us something very important. I know our friends at the Clubhouse can't wait to tell us more. So, what are we waiting for? Let's go!"

VIDEO: "Bigger Barns" from Wonder

LEADER: "Jesus told this story to teach us that we can share our stuff. So, tell me, **who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "Who teaches me important things?"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "That's right. *[Bottom Line]* **Jesus teaches me important things.** It's time to talk to God. Let's close our eyes and pray together."

PRAYER

LEADER: "God, we love You! Thank You for Jesus, the best friend ever. Jesus teaches us important things. Help us share our stuff this week. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."



crowds

were

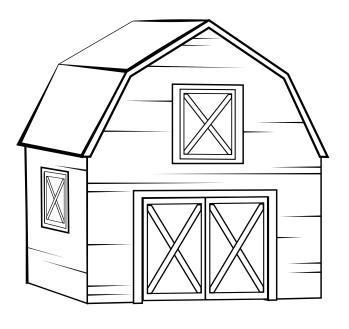
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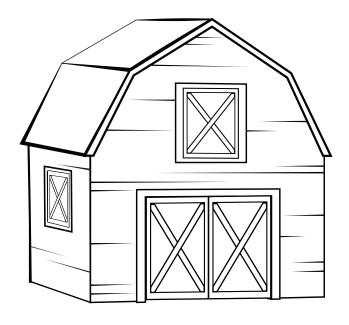


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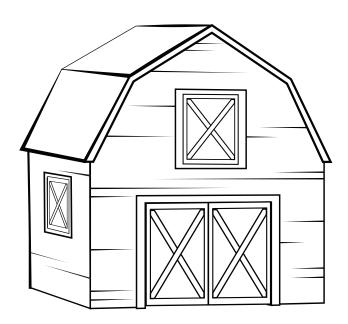
Matthew 7:28



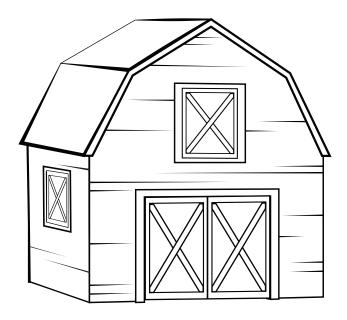
Jesus teaches me important things.
Bigger Barns • Luke 12:16-21



Jesus teaches me important things.
Bigger Barns • Luke 12:16-21



Jesus teaches me important things.
Bigger Barns • Luke 12:16-21



Jesus teaches me important things.Bigger Barns • Luke 12:16-21







TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

NOTE: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and preschoolers. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your preschoolers for both Large and Small Group time.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us to help others.

GOOD SAMARITAN LUKE 10:25-37

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

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



SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive. Story Basket

LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"My Forever Friend" Bible Story Prayer

SMALL GROUP



GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

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

Bandage Art Feely Story Bag Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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





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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us to help others.

GOOD SAMARITAN LUKE 10:25-37

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



STORY BASKET

WHAT YOU NEED: Basket, bandage wraps, towels, money, plush donkey, washcloth, soap, and pack of crackers or toy food

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place the basket in an open area of the room. Place the other items around the room. Make sure you have at least one thing for each child to find.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: When children enter the room, have them find the item you tell them.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we'll hear a story about how it's important to help others.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's great to see you today, friends! I have something important for you to do. I need to fill that basket (*point to the basket*) with the helpful things for us to use in our story today. [Child's name], see if you can find some bandages. [Child's name], see if you can find a washcloth." (*Continue asking children to find the various items.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Once you put your item in the basket, sit down beside it. (*Pause.*) Great job of finding things that go with our story. Let's look through the basket and see what you found. (*Pull out one item at a time.*) Who knows what this is? (*Pause.*) That's right!" (*Repeat with other items.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "All of these things go with our story. It's another story where Jesus teaches us something important. It's all about how we can help others. I can't wait to hear it."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pulling one item out of the basket at a time and whoever brought that item gets to move.



PRE-K
STARTER

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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us to help others.

GOOD SAMARITAN LUKE 10:25-37

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



BANDAGE ART

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Bandage Art" Activity Page, cardstock, crayons, cotton balls, glue sticks, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Bandage Art" on cardstock, one per child. Write child's name on their paper.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color each of the bandages on their paper then glue a cotton ball in the center of each.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible story today, Jesus told a story about helping others. There was a hurt man. Several people passed him without helping, but finally someone stopped to help."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "What do you see on your paper? (*Pause.*) Yes, bandages! Make your bandages colorful with crayons. (*Pause.*) I like colorful bandages. They make the boo-boos feel even better. On the bandages, there's a soft, cotton spot. Glue a cotton ball to the middle of each of your bandages. (*Pause.*) The words on your paper say, 'Jesus teaches me important things.' Say that with me. Jesus teaches me important things."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus tells us that there was a man walking down the road when some robbers came and hurt him. They left him lying in the road with lots of boo-boos. He needed help. The hurt man asked for help from the first person who walked by, but the man kept walking. Another person walked by and the man asked him to help, but he kept going, too. A third person walked by and the hurt man asked for help. This third man was a Samaritan. Samaritans and the hurt man's people were not friends. But the Samaritan stopped and helped the hurt man.

"The Samaritan gave the hurt man bandages, put him on his donkey, and took him to a place to stay until he was better. The Samaritan man was a great helper. We can be helpers, too. We can help everyone—parents, teachers, friends, everyone! The important thing that Jesus taught us in this story is that we can help everyone. I'm so glad we have a friend like Jesus to teach us important things. Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things."





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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us to help others.

GOOD SAMARITAN LUKE 10:25-37

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



STORY FEELY BAG

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bag or pillow case and items from "Story Basket" Activity (bandages, towels, money, plush donkey, washcloth, soap, pack of crackers, toy food, etc.)

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Put the items in the bag.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children reach in and pull out one item. Have them help you retell the story with the item they pulled out.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how Jesus teaches us that sharing is an important thing.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to retell today's Bible story with the items from our earlier activity. (Show children inside the bag.) Everyone will get a turn to reach in the bag and pull one item out then help tell the story with your item." (Go around the circle and have children pull out an item from the bag.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "So our Bible story starts with a traveling man. The man was robbed and hurt really bad. He needed someone to help. But the first man walked right by without helping. Then another man walked by and didn't help either. Then a third man walked up, but he was a Samaritan and their people didn't get along with each other.

"But the Samaritan stopped and helped the hurt man! He gave him bandages. Who has bandages? (Pause.) How would you help the man with your bandages? (Pause.) That's a great thing to do! Then the Samaritan put him on his donkey. Who has the donkey? (Pause.) Gallop your donkey. (Pause.) He took the hurt man to a place to stay until he was better. He was able to get clean. What do we use to clean ourselves? (Pause.) Yes! Soap, a washcloth, and a towel! Who has those? (Pause.) Show us how you clean with them. (Pause.) What do we have left? (Pause.) Food! We can't forget about food! The Samaritan made sure the man had food to eat, too. The Samaritan was a great helper. We can be helpers, too. We can help everyone—parents, teachers, friends, everyone!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The important thing that Jesus taught us in this story is that we can help everyone. I'm so glad we have a friend like Jesus to teach us important things. Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things."





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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us to help others.

GOOD SAMARITAN LUKE 10:25-37

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend to ride donkeys to our small group spot. A donkey is kind of like a horse. Okay everyone, get

on your donkey like this. (Pretend to get on your donkey.) Hold the reins like this (demonstrate), and here we go! (Pretend to ride a donkey as you lead the children to your small group spot.)

"Whoa, donkey! Everyone, get off your donkey and sit down so we can talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)

"Our Bible story, today, was another story Jesus told. This story was about a man who helped another man who was very hurt. One day, a man was walking down a road. Some men made a very bad choice and hurt this man. Then they took all of his stuff! They left the hurt man all alone on the road. Two people walked by the hurt man and did not stop to help him. Then, a third man came by. Did that man help the hurt man? (*Pause*.) Yes, he did! He even put the hurt man on his donkey and carried him somewhere where he could rest and get better.

"Jesus told this story so we can know that it's important to help others. Where can we read the stories that Jesus told? (*Pause*.) You got it! The Bible! (*Hold up the Bible*.) Jesus teaches us lots of important things in the Bible. **Who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus teaches me important things."

sgl: "Jesus loves us and wants to teach us what is important. The Bible verse we're learning will help us remember that Jesus is an amazing teacher. It says . . . (Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.) 'The crowds were amazed at his teaching,' Matthew 7:28. (Close Bible and lay it down.) Let's stand up and say that together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed (hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth),' Matthew 7:28." (Open hands like a book.)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "Way to go! (Give high fives.) Now let's sit down so we can write in our







PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"Since Jesus teaches us that it is important to help others, we'll make a list of ways we can help others. So think about it. What are some ways you can help your mom, dad, brother, sister, friends, grandparents, teacher, coach—there are so many ways we can help! When I say your name, tell me one way we can help others, and I will write it in our prayer journal. (Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"This is a very special list. Let's use it when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, we want to be people who stop and help others. Please help us do things like (*read the list the children made*). Thank You for sending Jesus to teach us how to help. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."





PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

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 3-, 4-, or 5-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

STORY BASKET

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Basket
- Wrap bandages (like ACE®)
- Towels
- Money
- Plush donkey
- Washcloth
- Soap
- Pack of crackers or toy food

WHAT YOU DO:

• Make sure you have enough items for each child to have one.

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.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

BANDAGE ART

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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:

- "Bandage Art" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Crayons
- Cotton balls
- Glue sticks
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Bandage Art" on cardstock, one per child.
- Write child's name on their paper.

STORY FEELY BAG

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bag or pillow case
- Items from "Story Basket" Activity

WHAT YOU DO:

• Put the items in the bag.

JOURNAL AND PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 7:28, NIV.
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen







SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

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

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

Today's Suggested Schedule—January 2022, Week 4

Today's Bible Story: Jesus teaches us to help others.

Good Samaritan • Luke 10:25-37

Memory Verse: "The crowds were amazed at his teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

Key Question: Who teaches you important things? **Bottom Line:** Jesus teaches me important things. **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

LARGE GROUP (20 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

VIDEO: "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

VIDEO: "Good Samaritan" from Wonder

LARGE GROUP: Worship (10 minutes) • Story (10 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Today's Bible Story: Jesus teaches us to help others.

Good Samaritan • Luke 10:25-37

Memory Verse: "The crowds were amazed at his teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

Key Question: Who teaches you important things? **Bottom Line:** Jesus teaches me important things. **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

WORSHIP

What You Need: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 7:28, NIV.

LEADER: "How is everyone doing today? If you're good, let me hear you say, 'I'm good!"

CHILDREN: "I'm good!"

LEADER: "Awesome! We've been learning so many important things that Jesus teaches us. He's the best friend ever. He is our forever friend! Stand up and sing this out with me.

VIDEO: "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video

LEADER: "I'm so thankful to know that Jesus is my friend forever! **Who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "That's right! *[Bottom Line]* Jesus teaches me important things! The Bible teaches us that "The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed (hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth), Matthew 7:28." (Open hands like a book.) Say that with me. (Lead the children to say the memory verse with the motions.)

LEADER: "Great job! Jesus taught us so many important things. He taught us that God loves us, no matter what; that we are important to God; and that we can share our stuff! I can't wait to hear more today in our Bible story. **Who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

First Look Story Time

STORY

What You Need: Bible

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I'm here to listen to a true story from the Bible.

Hold up the Bible and set it in front of you.

"Ollie and our friends at the Clubhouse are ready to share it with us – are you ready to hear it? (Kids respond) Great! Let's go!"

VIDEO: "Good Samaritan" from Wonder

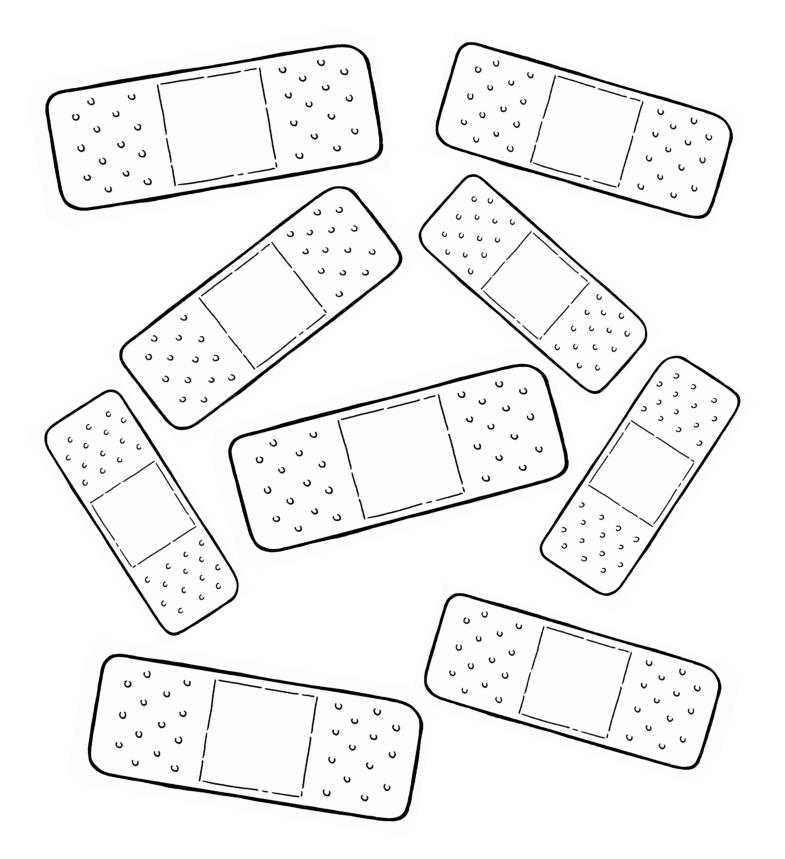
LEADER: "The very important thing Jesus taught us in this story is that we can help everyone. I'm so glad we have a friend like Jesus to teach us important things. Tell me, **who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things!"

LEADER: "That's right! I'm so glad **[Bottom Line] Jesus teaches me important things.** Okay friends, it's time to pray. Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."

PRAYER

LEADER: "Dear God, thank You for the stories like this one Jesus told to remind us to help everyone. Thank You for sending Jesus to teach us important things. We want to do what Jesus teaches us and help everyone. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."



Jesus teaches me important things.

Good Samaritan • Luke 10:25-37







TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

NOTE: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and preschoolers. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your preschoolers for both Large and Small Group time.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us how to live.

HOUSE ON A ROCK MATTHEW 7:24-27

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

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



SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive. Find the Rock

LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"My Forever Friend" Bible Story Prayer

SMALL GROUP



GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

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

Cup House Rain, Sand, and Rocks Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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







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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us how to live.

HOUSE ON A ROCK MATTHEW 7:24-27

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



FIND THE ROCK

WHAT YOU NEED: Medium-sized river rock; two googly eyes; and hot glue gun

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Glue two eyes on the rock and hide it in the room. *NOTE:* Use the hot glue gun before

children arrive and store it out of reach.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children find the rock. Hide and repeat as long as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we'll hear an important story with a rock.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! It's great to see you today! I hid an important rock somewhere in the room, and I need you to find it. Will you help me? (*Pause.*) Great!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Are you ready to look and find the rock? (*Pause.*) Yay! Start searching. (*Pause.*) When you find the rock, bring it to me. Look! Our friend, [child's name] found the rock! Bring me the rock. (*Pause.*) Look at our fun rock! It has eyes! Close your eyes, and I'll hide it for us to find again. (*Repeat as many times as desired.*) Everyone sit down with me. (*Pause.*) Finding the rock was so fun! You are such great finders!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Rocks are hard and solid. Sometimes they are bumpy and sometimes they're smooth. There is a rock in the important lesson Jesus teaches us in our Bible story today."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by jumping from rock to rock. This can be purely imaginative play or leader can tape brown or gray construction paper to the floor.







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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us how to live.

HOUSE ON A ROCK MATTHEW 7:24-27

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



CUP HOUSE

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Cup House" Activity Page; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; solid color paper cups; cupcake liners; glue sticks; scissors; and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Cup House" on label paper, one set per child. Cut the labels apart and cut the window label in half. Write child's name on the inside of their cup.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to turn their cups upside down and add the door and window stickers to one side and the label to the other side. Glue the cupcake liner upside down on top for the roof.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible story today, Jesus told a story about how to live. Let's make a house with this cup to help us remember our story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Turn your cup upside down like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Now a house needs a door and some windows, so add these stickers to one side of your cup. (*Pause.*) Turn your cup around and add the label to the other side. (*Pause.*) Your house needs a roof. Glue the cupcake liner to the top of your cup for the roof like this. (*Demonstrate.*) You made a great house!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible story today, Jesus taught us about how to live. We heard about two men who built houses: one on the sand and the other on the rock. Both houses looked great, but it started to rain. It rained harder and harder. The house built on the sand fell down because the rain washed the sand away. But the house on the rock stood. The rain couldn't wash away the rock. Jesus told this story to teach us how to live and be strong like the house built on the rock. We can love everyone like God loves us and treat them like they are important to God. We can share and help, just like Jesus teaches us to do. I'm so glad we have a friend like Jesus to teach us important things. Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things."







SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us how to live.

HOUSE ON A ROCK MATTHEW 7:24-27

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



RAIN, SAND, AND ROCKS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Large, shallow plastic tub; sand; cardstock; scissors; permanent marker; plastic pitcher; water; and towels

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Pour sand in the tub. Draw and cut out a simple house shape from the cardstock. Fill pitcher with water.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Stand the house up in the sand. Pour the water over the house. Talk about what happens. Repeat as many times as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how Jesus teaches us how to live.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to explore what happened in our Bible story today. Sit with me around the tub of sand."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible story today, Jesus taught us how to live. We heard about two men who built houses: one on the sand (stand the house in the sand) and the other on the rock. Both houses looked great, but it started to rain. (Start pouring the water over the house.) It rained harder and harder. (Dump the rest of the water over the house.) The house built on the sand fell down because the rain washed the sand away. But the house on the rock stayed standing. The rain couldn't wash away the rock."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus told us this story to teach us how to live and be strong like the house built on the rock. We can love everyone like God loves us and treat them like they are important to God. We can share and help, just like Jesus teaches us to do. Who teaches you important things? Jesus teaches me important things."







SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer

BIBLE STORY

Jesus teaches us how to live.

HOUSE ON A ROCK MATTHEW 7:24-27

MEMORY VERSE

"The crowds were amazed at his teaching."

MATTHEW 7:28, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who teaches you important things?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus teaches me important things.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible; journal; fun-shaped pen; and rewards stickers or handstamp

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time!

Today, we'll pretend to splash in rain puddles while we walk to our small group spot. Every time you step say, 'Splash!' Okay, let's put on our

pretend raincoats (demonstrate) and get ready to splash in some rain puddles! Follow me! (Say "Splash" each time you step as you lead the children to your small group spot.) That was fun! Now, let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)

"Our Bible story, today, was another story Jesus told. In this story, Jesus said a wise man builds his house on a rock, because rocks are strong. When it rains and storms, the house stands strong because it's on a strong rock.

"Jesus told this story to teach us how to live. When we remember that God loves, us no matter what, that we're important to God, and we choose to share our stuff and help everyone, it's like building a house on a rock. When hard things happen, we can stand strong!

"Where can we read the stories that Jesus told? (*Pause*.) You got it! The Bible! (*Hold up the Bible*.) Jesus teaches us lots of important things in the Bible. **Whoteaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus teaches me important things."

sgl: "Jesus is the most amazing teacher ever, and the Bible verse we've learned will help us remember that. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'The crowds were amazed at his teaching,' Matthew 7:28. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*) Let's stand up and say that together one time, then anyone who wants to say it can have a turn."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed (hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth),' Matthew 7:28." (Open hands like a book.)

sgl: "You sound awesome! (*Give two thumbs-up.*) Now sit back down, and anyone who wants to try to say it can try. I have my [stickers/handstamp] ready! (*Give each child the opportunity to try to say the Bible verse.*)

"Yay, [child's name]! Here is your [sticker/handstamp]! (Repeat with each child as they try to say the Bible verse.) Okay everyone, when I count to three, I want







PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

you to stand up and show me your [sticker/handstamp]. One, two, three! (Pause to look.) Yayyyy! (Give fist bumps to the children.)

"Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.) Today, we'll make a list of some of the important things Jesus teaches us, like sharing, helping, that God loves us, and that we are important to God. Then, when we pray, we can use our list to thank Jesus for teaching us important things! When I say your name, tell me one thing Jesus teaches us, and I will write it in our prayer journal. (Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

SGL: "Wow! Jesus teaches us a lot of important things! Let's use this list when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever and teach us important things like (*read the list the children made*). Help us remember the things Jesus teaches us and do what He says. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."







SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

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 3-, 4-, or 5-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

FIND THE ROCK

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Medium-sized river rock
- Two googly eyes
- Hot glue gun

WHAT YOU DO:

• Glue the eyes on the rock and hide it in the room. NOTE: For safety, use the hot glue gun before children arrive and store it out of reach.

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.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

CUP HOUSE

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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:

- "Cup House" Activity Page
- Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent
- Solid color paper cups—one per child
- Cupcake liners—one per child (colorful or metallic will make a cool roof)
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Cup House" on label paper, one set per child.
- Cut the labels apart and cut the window label in half.
- Write child's name on the inside of their cup.

RAIN, SAND, AND ROCKS [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Large, shallow plastic tub
- Sand
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Permanent marker
- Plastic pitcher
- Water
- Towels

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pour sand in the tub.
- Draw and cut out a simple house shape from the cardstock.
- Fill pitcher with water.







SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

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

JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 7:28, NIV.
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen
- Reward stickers or handstamp

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

Today's Suggested Schedule—January 2022, Week 5

Today's Bible Story: Jesus teaches us how to live.

House on a Rock • Matthew 7:24-27

Memory Verse: "The crowds were amazed at his teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

Key Question: Who teaches you important things? **Bottom Line:** Jesus teaches me important things. **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

LARGE GROUP (20 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

VIDEO: "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

VIDEO: "House on a Rock" from Wonder

LARGE GROUP: Worship (10 minutes) • Story (10 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Today's Bible Story: Jesus teaches us how to live.

House on a Rock • Matthew 7:24-27

Memory Verse: "The crowds were amazed at his teaching." Matthew 7:28, NIV

Key Question: Who teaches you important things? **Bottom Line:** Jesus teaches me important things. **Basic Truth:** Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

WORSHIP

What You Need: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 7:28, NIV.

LEADER: "Hello, everyone! It's so good to see you here today. We've been learning so many important things that Jesus teaches us this month! Jesus is the best friend ever. **Who teaches you important things?**"

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

LEADER: "Yes! He teaches us to love and help and share. He's our forever friend. Stand up and sing this with me!

VIDEO: "My Forever Friend" Dance Moves Music Video

LEADER: "I love worshipping with you! The Bible teaches us that 'The crowds (arms out and around) were amazed (hands to eyes like binoculars then open and close) at his teaching (hands to mouth)," Matthew 7:28. (Open hands like a book.) Let's say that together. (Lead the children to say the verse with motions.)

"Great job, everyone! The crowds were amazed by Jesus' teaching! He's the best friend ever. [Basic Truth] Jesus wants to be my friend forever. Let's listen to Jesus because [Bottom Line] Jesus teaches us important things. Thanks, friends!"

First Look Story Time

STORY

What You Need: Bible

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I'm here to share a true story from the Bible.

Hold up the Bible and lay it open in front of you.

"Jesus often told stories to teach us important things! You can read the stories He told in the Bible, but today, our friends from the Clubhouse are here to tell one to us. Let's join them now!"

VIDEO: "House on a Rock" from Wonder

LEADER: "I'm so glad we have a friend like Jesus to teach us important things. Tell me, **who teaches you important things?"**

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things!"

LEADER: (Point to the children on one side of the group.) "This side, tell me, **who teaches you important things?"**

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

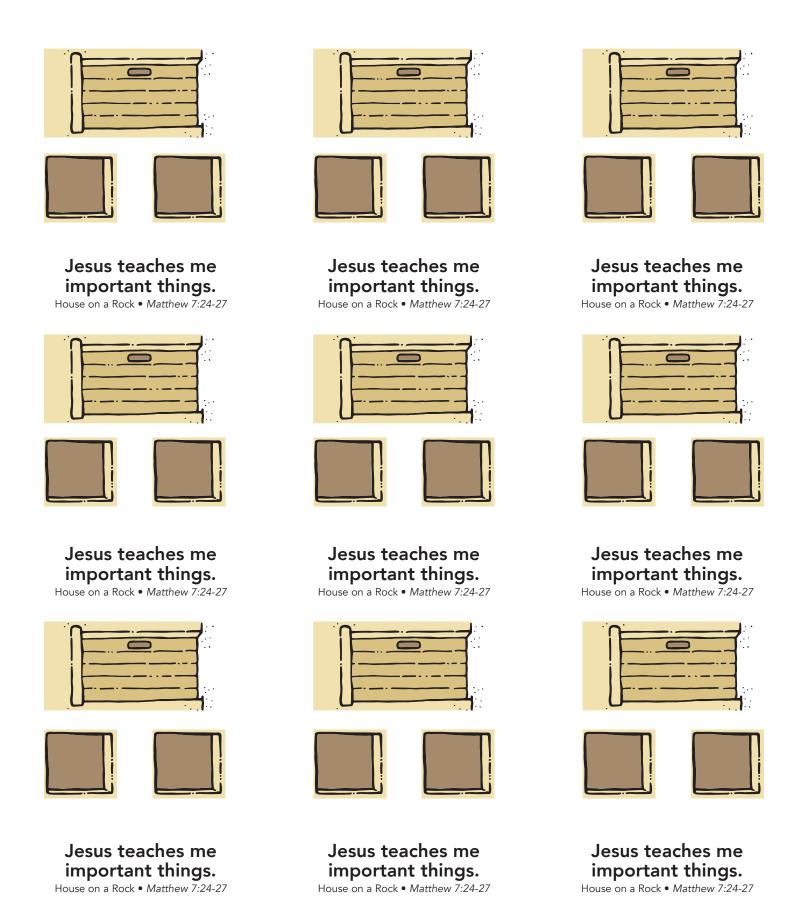
LEADER: (Point to the children on the other side of the group.) "Now this side, **who teaches you important things?"**

CHILDREN and LEADER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus teaches me important things."

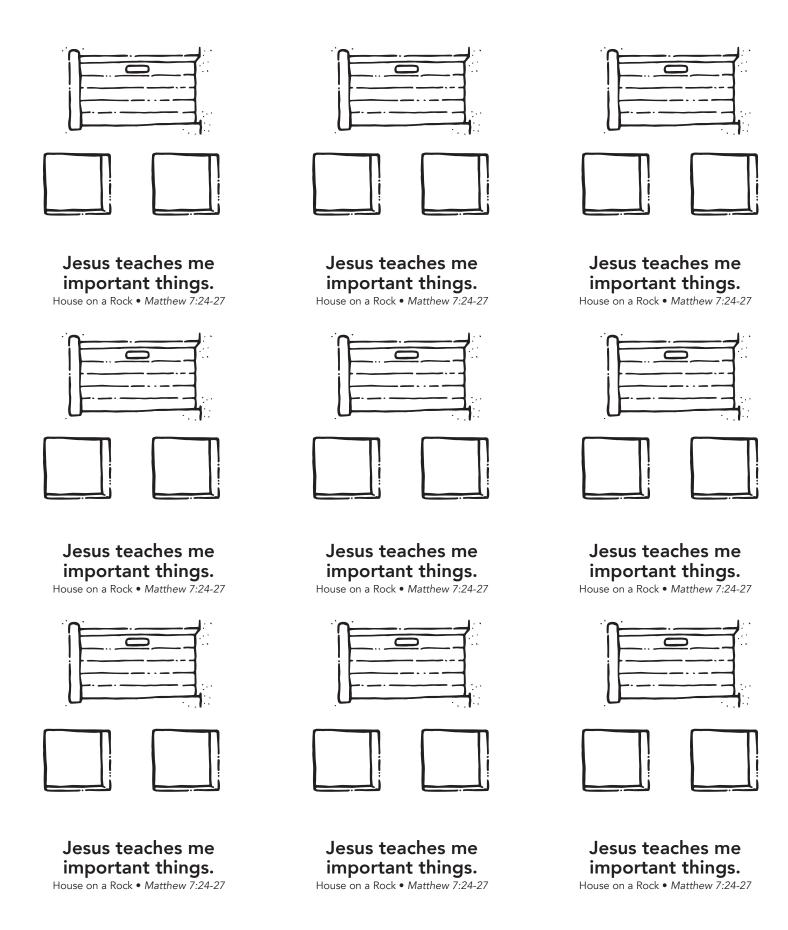
LEADER: "That's right! Okay friends, it's time to pray. Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."

PRAYER

LEADER: "God, thank You for loving us SO, SO much that You sent Jesus to be our friend forever. Thank You for all the wonderful things He teaches us. Help us love everyone because everyone is important to You. Help us share and help and live like Jesus. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."



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