

JESUS WANTS TO BE
MY FRIEND FOREVER.

WEEK
THREE
APRIL 2020

SMALL GROUP
3-5
YEAR-OLDS



first look™

TEAM

CEO

Reggie Joiner

DIRECTOR OF MESSAGING

Kristen Ivy

DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL STRATEGY

Brittany Compton Robertson

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM

Kathy Hill

DESIGN AND BRAND MANAGER

Sharon van Rossum

CREATIVE TEAM

Brittany Compton Robertson

Kathy Hill

Autumn Ward

Ashley Hiers

Donna High

Sharon van Rossum

Deb Springer

McKenzie Causey

Missy Purcell

WRITERS

Donna High

Emily Meredith

Autumn Ward

USER AGREEMENT

Scripture quotations marked NIV are taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved.

These resources are intended to be downloaded and printed for use by the subscribing entity only and may not be electronically transferred to or duplicated by other non-subscribing entities. Any unauthorized reproduction of this material or incorporation into a new work is a direct violation of US copyright laws. ©2020 The reThink Group. All rights reserved. First Look® and the First Look® logo are trademarks of The reThink Group.

“STATEMENT OF FAITH” USER AGREEMENT

Orange gladly grants permission to churches, schools, and other licensees to tailor First Look® materials to fit their unique leadership requirements, locale and format preferences, and physical environment needs. However, if you wish to edit the content substantively, including Bible stories, learning activities, scripts, and any other content in which biblical principles and concepts are presented, you are obligated to do so within the doctrinal guidelines we’ve expressed in our Statement of Faith.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME



BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive, and
He wants to be our
friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

For Leaders Only
Monthly Overview
Create the Environment

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.
Beanbag Toss
Friendship Garden
Breakfast Time!

10
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

He's Alive Oh Yeah
Follow On

10
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Introductory Sketch
Bible Story
Prayer

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.
Blooming Verse
Jesus on the Beach
Blooming Friendship
Help Me Serve
Friendship Bracelets
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue



first look™
SMALL GROUP



WEEK
THREE
APRIL 2020

SMALL GROUP
3-5
YEAR-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive, and
He wants to be our
friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.



MOVE

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

1. BEANBAG TOSS

WHAT YOU NEED: Beanbags (*one per every two children*)

WHAT YOU DO:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children in the activity area. Help the children pair up to find a partner. Give each pair a beanbag. Instruct the children to sit a few feet apart from each other and toss the beanbag back and forth.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Collect all beanbags for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Friends! Come over here with me. Everyone find a partner. (*Help children partner up.*) I want you to sit down facing your partner. Leave some room between you. I'm going to give each pair a beanbag to toss back and forth."

NOTE: Consider using round floor spots placed in pairs around your activity area for children to sit on. You could preset these and send each pair to sit on their spots.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was so fun! Is tossing a beanbag more fun alone or more fun with a friend? (*Pause.*) Yes! It's way more fun to toss a beanbag with a friend! In our Bible story today, we'll talk about something Jesus did with His friends at the beach. I can't wait!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by talking about things you like to do at the beach with friends as children pantomime each example. Examples: fly a kite, build a sandcastle, play catch, dig for seashells, and have a picnic.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive, and
He wants to be our
friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.



PLAY

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

2. FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

WHAT YOU NEED: Butcher paper, wall tape, different colors of circle garage sale stickers, green marker, different colors of inkpads, and wet wipes

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay the paper on a table or the floor in the activity area. Use the marker to draw flower stems with leaves about two inches apart from one another. Place a circle sticker at the top of each stem. Be sure to use different colors of stickers.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Help the children press their fingers in an inkpad and make fingerprints around the stickers to make flower petals. Encourage the children to each make petals on different flowers. You want to have flowers with multiple children's fingerprints on them. Repeat the activity until all of the flowers have petals.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Use wet wipes to wipe messy fingers. Hang the garden up for all of the families to see

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to make a friendship garden."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We have many flowers, but they do not have petals! (Point.) Let's work together with our friends to make petals on the flowers. I cannot wait to see our friendship garden bloom!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our friendship garden is so beautiful! Friendship is beautiful too! We are going to hear a Bible story today about how Jesus wants to be our friend FOREVER!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to smell flowers as you walk to the story area.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive, and
He wants to be our
friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.



IMAGINE

an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine,
and role play to enhance their learning

3. BREAKFAST TIME!

WHAT YOU NEED: A plastic tablecloth, plastic bowls, plastic spoons, and several empty cereal boxes and empty milk jugs

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay the plastic tablecloth on the table. Set all the breakfast items and plastic bowls and spoons on the table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to make breakfast by choosing a cereal, pouring it into the bowl, adding the milk, and then eating it with a spoon. Continue as time and interest allow.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Gather all breakfast-making items and set aside.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Did any of you have cereal for breakfast this morning? What kind of cereal is your favorite? (Pause.) Today we're going to pretend to make our own breakfast. First, I want you to choose a cereal. Then pour it into the bowl, add the milk, and enjoy!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was fun! In our Bible story today, we'll hear about someone who DID have breakfast with His closest friends. Let's go!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by continuing to pretend to prepare breakfast. You could add other breakfast foods like pancakes (*stir the batter, pour it on the griddle, flip the pancake, serve, and enjoy*) or eggs (*break the egg in the pan, stir it around, transfer to a plate, and enjoy*), etc.



first look™
SMALL GROUP



WEEK
THREE
APRIL 2020

SMALL GROUP
3-5
YEAR-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**HEAR
FROM GOD**
MEMORY VERSE
REVIEW



MOVE

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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

1. BLOOMING VERSE

WHAT YOU NEED: "Blooming Verse" Activity Page, cardstock, green construction paper, pencil, scissors, glue sticks, and yellow garage sale stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Blooming Verse" onto cardstock. Cut a stem and a leaf from the construction paper. You will need a stem and leaf for each child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child an Activity Page and a stem and leaf. Help the children glue the stem and leaf onto the page under the flower. Give each child some stickers, and encourage them to place the stickers in the circle in the middle of the flower.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Say the Memory Verse with the children.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to make a special flower with our Memory Verse inside!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (Give each child an Activity Page.) "Our flower needs a stem! (Do activity.) Now we need to add the middle. (Continue activity.) Perfect! Our flower has our Memory Verse inside the petals. Let's say our Memory Verse together!" (Finish activity.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Awesome! Our Memory Verse tells us that **Jesus is alive! Who is alive? Jesus is alive!**"



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

TALK
ABOUT GOD
BIBLE STORY
REVIEW



IMAGINE

an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine,
and role play to enhance their learning

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive, and
He wants to be our
friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.

2. JESUS ON THE BEACH

WHAT YOU NEED: Four straight back chairs, four solid or striped pieces of fabric (at least three yards per piece), scissors, a fishing net, "Smiley/Excited Faces" Activity Page, cardstock, and two clothespins

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Smiley/Excited Faces" Activity Page onto cardstock front and back so that you have a smiley face on one side and an excited face on the other. You'll need two of these front/back images.

The straight back chairs will be used as "people" from today's Bible story. Use the scissors to cut a long strip of material from the edge of each piece of fabric. Drape a piece of fabric over each chair, covering the back all the way to the floor if possible. Secure the fabric in place by using the long strip you cut to tie around the back of the chair. Line up the chairs with the covered backs facing your activity area.

Chair One represents the disciples fishing. Hang the fishing net over the back of the chair on top of the fabric.

Chair Two represents Jesus.

Chairs Three and Four represent the disciples seeing Jesus. Use a clothespin to hang the Activity Page with the smiley face facing out on the back of each chair.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Use the chairs to retell today's Bible story. Stand behind each chair as you review the story for the children. Then let the children take turns standing behind each chair as they act it out.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Gather all material and other items from chair backs for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit here with me! Do you see these crazy looking chairs? Do they remind you of our true Bible story we heard today?"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Remember, after Jesus had died, He was put in a tomb and His friends were so sad. Tell me, did Jesus stay dead? (Pause.) No way! We know that **Jesus is alive!** He came back just like He said He would!"



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

TALK
ABOUT GOD
BIBLE STORY
REVIEW



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 is alive, and
He wants to be our
friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.

(Stand behind Chair One.) "Not long after that, Jesus' friends were out fishing. Everyone throw out your nets and pull them back in. Great job.

(Stand behind Chair Two.) "As they were coming in from fishing, they saw someone standing on the beach. Can you guess who it was? (Pause.) Yes, Jesus!

(Stand behind Chair Three.) "Jesus' friends were so happy! (Flip the sign over to reveal the excited side.) They were **EXCITED** to see Jesus! Their friend Jesus was alive.

(Stand behind Chair Four.) "They had breakfast right there on the beach with Jesus. (Flip the sign over to reveal the excited side.) Isn't that exciting? The friend they thought was gone was alive!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Those friends were so happy and excited to see Jesus. Why? Because **Jesus is alive!** Isn't that awesome news? **Jesus is alive**, and He wants to our friend forever!"



first look™
SMALL GROUP



WEEK
THREE
APRIL 2020

SMALL GROUP
3-5
YEAR-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**LIVE
FOR GOD**
APPLICATION
ACTIVITY



THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive, and
He wants to be our
friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.

3. BLOOMING FRIENDSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: "Blooming Leaf" Activity Page, green cardstock, scissors, hole punch, green pipe cleaners, and different colored sheets of tissue paper

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Blooming Leaf" Activity Page onto the cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. You will need one leaf per child. Use the hole punch to punch a hole on the dot at the tip of the leaf.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a sheet of the tissue paper. Help the child fold the sheet accordion style all the way to the end. Once folded, bend the paper in half and wrap the top of the pipe cleaner around the bend of the paper. Feed the leaf up the bottom end of the pipe cleaner through the punched hole. Help the children fluff out the tissue paper by pulling apart the folds to form a flower.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Instruct the children to give their flower to a friend of their choice.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's be good friends! Good friends are nice to each other."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to make a flower for a friend. You may choose which friend you would like to give your flower to. It can be a friend here at church or a friend at home." (Do activity.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Your flowers are beautiful! Your friend will love it! Jesus wants us to be His friend forever, too! **Jesus is alive! Who is alive? Jesus is alive!**"



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**LIVE
FOR GOD
APPLICATION
ACTIVITY**



MOVE

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

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever.

**BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14**

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

4. HELP ME SERVE

WHAT YOU NEED: A paper plate, a playground ball, and a fish sticker (optional)

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: If using a fish sticker, place it on the ball.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Divide your group into two lines. Show the group the plate and ball. Guide the first two children to hold onto the plate as you set the ball on top. Then encourage the children to carefully walk from one end of the activity area and back while balancing the ball (*breakfast*) on the plate. If they drop the ball, they may pick it back up and keep going. Once the first pair returns, they will pass the plate and ball off to the next two children in line. Play continues until every child has taken a turn.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's pretend this is our breakfast! We need to serve it to our friends. I want you and a friend to hold onto this plate and walk from here to the end and back again making sure to keep the ball—or breakfast—on the plate. You will have to work together and walk at the same speed. If you drop your breakfast, that's okay. Just pick it up, put it back on the plate, and keep going. When you return to the line, pass the plate to the next two friends so everyone can have a turn."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "What wonderful breakfast servers you are! I love how you worked together! Today we heard about how Jesus prepared breakfast for His friends. Why were they so excited to see Jesus? (*Pause.*) Yes, because He is alive! **Who is alive? Jesus is alive!**"



first look™
SMALL GROUP



WEEK
THREE
APRIL 2020

SMALL GROUP
3-5
YEAR-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**LIVE
FOR GOD
APPLICATION
ACTIVITY**



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 is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever.

**BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14**

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

5. FRIENDSHIP BRACELETS

WHAT YOU NEED: "Charm" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, hole punch, one-inch colored straw pieces (*four per child*), and pipe cleaners (*two per child*)

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Charm" Activity Page onto the cardstock. Cut each charm out on the dotted lines. Punch a hole in the top of each charm on the dot. Each child will need two charms.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Help the children string one straw piece, a charm, and another straw piece onto a pipe cleaner. Wrap the pipe cleaner around the child's wrist and twist the ends to make a bracelet. Encourage the children to make a second bracelet to give away to a friend.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today our Bible story was about friendship. We are going to make friendship bracelets."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Place one colored straw piece (*hold up*) onto the pipe cleaner. (*Demonstrate.*) Then you can put this cool charm (*hold up*) onto your bracelet. The charm says, 'Jesus wants to be my friend forever!' And then add another straw piece." (*Finish activity.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "You have two bracelets so that you can give one to a friend. Friends are important, and Jesus wants to be our friend forever. You can tell your friend that **Jesus is alive! Who is alive? Jesus is alive!**"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**PRAY
TO GOD**
PRAYER
ACTIVITY



REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is alive, and
He wants to be our
friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.

6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Revelation 1:18. Provide a journal and a fun-shaped pen for each small group.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time. Today we are going to pretend to paddle a boat to our Small Group spot. Get your paddles ready and follow me!

(Pretend to paddle a boat as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

"That was some great paddling! Let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me!

(Open the Bible and lay it open in front of the children.)

"Our Bible story today was about some men who were in a boat fishing. Who did they see on the beach while they were in the boat fishing? *(Pause.)*

"Yes! They saw Jesus! And what did Jesus do for His friends when they hurried to see Him? *(Pause.)* Right again! Jesus made them breakfast on the beach. Jesus wanted His friends to see that He is alive and He wants to be their friend forever.

"We are learning a Bible verse that will help us remember that **Jesus is alive.**

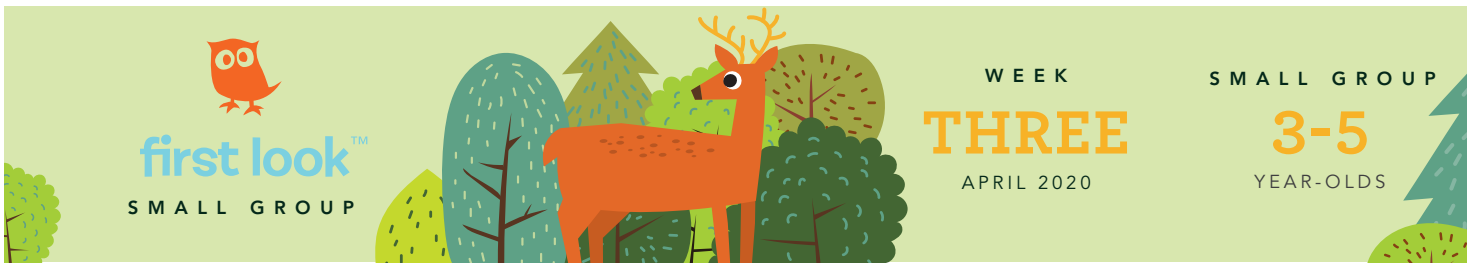
(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)

"The verse says: "I am alive for ever and ever!" Revelation 1:18.

(Close the Bible and lay it down.)

"That is Jesus talking! Jesus is saying: "I am alive for ever and ever!" Let's stand up and say that together with the motions."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "I am alive *(point both hands up)* for ever and ever!" *(Twirl around.)* Revelation 1:18." *(Open your hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)*



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

**PRAY
TO GOD**
PRAYER
ACTIVITY



REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer

SGL: "Fantastic!

(Give a fist bump to the children.)

"Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God.

(Hold the journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"The men in our story spent time with Jesus on the beach. Now that Jesus is always with us, we can spend time with Him anywhere. That's why I want us to make a list of some of our favorite places. When we pray, we can thank Jesus for being with us wherever we go.

(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.)

"Look at all of these places! This is a great list! 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 are so thankful **Jesus is alive** and we can be with Him everywhere we go. We can spend time with Jesus at *(read the list the children made)*. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."