

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.

> TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me and wants to spend time with me. MARY AND MARTHA LUKE 10:38-42

MEMORY VERSE

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

KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves me.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15 MIN SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive. Freeze Dance

LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways "Whole Lotta Bit" 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. Sand Art How Long? Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



PRELUI	DE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME
PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION 15 MINUTES			ΓΙΟΝ			

MADE TO PLAY

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

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FREEZE DANCE

WHAT YOU NEED: Music player and the monthly song, "Whole Lotta Bit"

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Cue the music on the music player.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Dance when the music plays and freeze when the music stops. Repeat as long as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we'll hear a story about some people who Jesus wanted to stop and spend time with Him.

WHAT YOU SAY: BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Come spread out over here with me. Let's play freeze dance."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Listen for the music and dance! (*Play the music.*) Remember, when the music stops, you stop and be very still. (*Pause the music.*) Wow! You did a great job being still. (*Repeat as long as desired.*) Now sit down where you are."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story today, we'll hear how Jesus wants us to stop and spend time with Him."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by having the children play the statue game.

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 PRELUDE
 SOCIAL
 WORSHIP
 STORY
 GROUPS
 HOME

 CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

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

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SAND ART

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Sand Heart" Activity Page, cardstock, white school glue, colored sand, paper bowls, plastic spoons, and a marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Sand Heart" on cardstock, one per child. Pour the colored sand into bowls.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to trace the outline of the heart with glue then sprinkle sand over the glue. Shake the excess off and set aside to dry.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Today, we heard a story of when Jesus spent time with Mary and Martha."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "What shape do you see on your paper? (*Pause.*) That's right! It's a heart! Jesus loves us and wants to spend time with us. Trace your heart with the glue. (*Pause.*) Nice! Now take the sand and shake it over the glue heart. (*Pause.*) Great! We'll shake the extra sand off your paper then let it dry."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible story, there were two sisters named Mary and Martha. They were friends with Jesus. One day, Jesus was coming to their house, and they were so excited! Martha ran off to start getting things ready. She cleaned and cooked and tried to make everything perfect. When Jesus got there, Martha kept cleaning and cooking while Mary sat with Jesus and spent time with Him. Jesus told Martha that He didn't care about the cooking and cleaning. He just wanted her to spend time with Him. Jesus is that kind of friend. He doesn't need everything to be just right, He loves us, no matter what. Who loves you? Jesus loves me."



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME	
			CREATI	CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES		

MADE TO MOVE

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



HOW LONG? [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed.

WHAT YOU DO: BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Stand together in an open area in the room.

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MEMORY VERSE

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KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves me.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask children to do different movements for a long time. (*Jump, dance, clap, etc.*) Repeat as long as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand with me. (*Pause.*) I have a game for us to play today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Ready? Show me how you jump. (*Pause.*) How long can you jump up and down? (*Pause.*) Wow! You jumped for a long time. Now, show me how you dance. (*Pause.*) How long can you dance? (*Pause.*) Show me how you clap. (*Pause.*) How long can you clap? (*Repeat as long as desired.*) You did all those movements for so long, but Jesus wants us to spend even more time with Him."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story about Mary and Martha, we learned that Jesus just wants us to spend time with Him. We can talk to Him, dance and sing songs to Him, or take walks and thank Him for all the things He's made. Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever. **Who loves you? Jesus loves me.**"



 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

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JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY] WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Proverbs 17:17, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend we're sweeping like Martha while we walk to our small group spot. Grab your pretend broom

and start sweeping! (Pretend to sweep back and forth as you lead the children to your small group spot.)

"We made it! And you swept the floor clean, just like Martha would. But now, let's sit down like Mary 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 was about how Jesus wants to spend time with us. Jesus loves us, and He likes it when we talk to Him, read our Bibles, sing songs to Him, and even dance with joy! Spending time with Jesus is one way we can show Him that we love Him. And like the Bible verse we are learning says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*)

"'A friend loves at all times.' Proverbs 17:17. (Close Bible and lay it down.)

"That's why Jesus wants to spend time with us all of the time! Let's stand up and say that verse together with the motions."

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

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: "Jesus is the best friend ever because He loves us, SO much! **Who loves** you?"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus loves me!"

SGL: "Say it in a whisper this time! Who loves you?"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "Jesus loves me!"

SGL: (cheering in a normal voice) "Yay! **Jesus loves me**!

"Okay, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)



(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"Mary spent time with Jesus in her house. I like to spend time with Jesus outside. We can spend time with Jesus anywhere, because He always wants to spend time with us. Let's make a list of our favorite places to spend time with Jesus. It can be your bedroom, your yard, a park, your car . . . ANYWHERE!

"When I say your name, tell me your favorite place to spend time with Jesus, and I will write it in our prayer journal. Get ready and listen for your name!

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"This is a wonderful list! Let's use this list when we talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

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

PRAYER

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



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.

FREEZE DANCE

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

- Music player
- This month's song, "Whole Lotta Bit"

WHAT YOU DO:

• Cue the music.

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.

SAND ART [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing **WHAT YOU NEED:**

- "Sand Heart" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- White school glue

- Colored sand
- Paper bowls
- Plastic spoons
- Marker
- WHAT YOU DO:
- Copy "Sand Heart" on cardstock, one per child.
- Pour sand in paper bowls.

HOW LONG? [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:

• No supplies needed.

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 Proverbs 17:17.
- Journal, one per small group
- Fun-shaped pen, one per small group

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

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