



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP

2 YEAR
-OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to
let my light shine.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD
MATTHEW 5:1-2, 14-16

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can do
what Jesus says?

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

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.

Move to the Light
Lights
Glow Bottle

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"You Love Me"
Bible Story
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

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

Memory Verse with Motions
Sing and Shine
Turn Over the Light
Flashlight

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
2 YEAR
-OLDS

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



1. MOVE TO THE LIGHT

WHAT YOU NEED: Flashlight; *Optional: nightlight or small lamp*

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Stand in the middle of the activity area with the children standing in front of you. Turn the flashlight on and point it at the floor. *Optional: Plug in the nightlight or turn on the lamp, and dim or turn off lights.*

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Shine the flashlight onto the floor in different areas of your activity area and encourage children to run to the light. Once all the children are standing on the light, move the light to a different area and encourage them to follow the light. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, come stand in front of me, and let's play a fun flashlight game!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "When you see the light the flashlight makes on the floor, I want you to run to it. Ready? (*Point the light away from where the children are standing.*) Great job! Wait for all our friends to get there! Great job! Let's do it again! (*Repeat moving the light all around your activity area.*) You are so good at following the light."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, we are going to hear how we can do what Jesus says and let our lights shine!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by leading the children to the story area with the flashlight.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to let my light shine.

**LIGHT OF THE WORLD
MATTHEW 5:1-2, 14-16**

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
2 YEAR-OLDS

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



2. LIGHTS

WHAT YOU NEED: Tap lights in multiple colors, shapes, and sizes; batteries; and duct tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Add batteries to all tap lights; then secure each battery compartment with a piece of duct tape. Place the lights on a table.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to let my light shine.

**LIGHT OF THE WORLD
MATTHEW 5:1-2, 14-16**

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to tap the lights on and off, to make a pattern out of the lights, or to see how bright each light is. You may need to dim the room lights if possible.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come join me at the table. Look at all these fun lights I have. Some are different colors; some are different shapes, but—look—they all shine light."

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "[Child's name], can you tap the [name a color] light? (Pause.) Now tap the [name a shape] light. (Pause.) Both lights shine even though they are different colors and shapes! (Continue with each child.) Help me tap all the lights off. (Pause.) Watch the lights I tap on and off. (Tap two lights on and off.) Now you tap the lights I tapped. (Pause.) Great job! (Continue with each child.) Look at all the lights shining! It's so bright!"

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Wow, it is so fun to play with the lights and see how each of those lights shine. Today we are going to hear a story about being a light! I can't wait to hear it!"

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by encouraging the children to move when the tap light is on and stop when the light is off. Hold the light and press it on and off as everyone moves to the designated area.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
2 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

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



3. GLOW BOTTLE

WHAT YOU NEED: Empty water bottles or sensory bottles with lids, thin glow sticks, glitter glue, water, and duct tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Activate the glowsticks and place some in each bottle. Put a different number of glow sticks in each bottle. In some of the bottles, add about

one-half cup of glitter glue; then fill each with water. For the remaining bottles, fill some with water and leave others with just glow sticks. Replace all the lids and secure each with a piece of duct tape. Make several glow bottles per Small Group.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to explore and talk about the different colors and how each color shines.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Wow, friends! Come join me at the table and look at the super-cool bottles we can explore today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "These bottles are glowing! Look at this bottle. Turn the bottles and see what happens. *(Pause.)* Wow! What colors do you see? So pretty! Okay, what happens when you shake the bottle? *(Pause.)* Let's count how many glow sticks are in this bottle. *(Pause.)* This bottle has [number] glow sticks in it, and this bottle has [number] glow sticks in it. All of these bottles are shining!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "These bottles were so fun to explore! I loved seeing all the different lights. In our Bible Story today, we are going to learn about a special light. Let's go hear all about it!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by letting the children carry the bottles to the story area.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to let my light shine.

**LIGHT OF THE WORLD
MATTHEW 5:1-2, 14-16**

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
2 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



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

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Say the Memory Verse and teach the motions to the children.

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

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, join me over here. We have a brand-new Memory Verse and motions to learn! Everyone, listen and watch me. 'Let (move flat hands forward from hip) your light (palms facing forward) shine,' (twinkling hands moving out) Matthew 5:16." (Open hands like a book.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now let's do it together! Are you ready? 'Let (move flat hands forward from hip) your light (palms facing forward) shine,' (twinkling hands moving out) Matthew 5:16. (Open hands like a book.) Nice job. Let's do it again." (Repeat several times.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our Memory Verse teaches us that when we do what Jesus says, we let our light shine. Jesus says to shine our light to show the world that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever. **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.** Let's say that one more time, friends. **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says."**

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to let my light shine.

**LIGHT OF THE WORLD
MATTHEW 5:1-2, 14-16**

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
2 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



2. SING AND SHINE

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to come stand with you in the activity area.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to let my light shine.

**LIGHT OF THE WORLD
MATTHEW 5:1-2, 14-16**

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Hold your pointer finger up like a light, and then cover it with the opposite hand while you sing the song together.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Ask the Key Question and encourage the children to repeat the Bottom Line together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come stand with me! We're going to sing a song about doing what Jesus says."

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "First, I need everyone to hold your finger up, like this. (Hold up one pointer finger, like a light.) Let's pretend this is our light. Now sing with me and do what I do!

(Sing to the tune of "Wheels on the Bus")

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

"I can do what Jesus says, and shine, shine, shine!
Shine, shine, shine!
I can do what Jesus says, and shine my light!

(Point both thumbs to chest.)
(Wave pointer finger around.)
(Wave pointer finger around.)
(Point both thumbs to chest.)
(Wave pointer finger around.)

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

"I can do what Jesus says, don't hide my light. No!
Hide my light. No!
I can do what Jesus says, Don't hide my light!

(Point both thumbs to chest.)
(Cover pointer finger. Uncover when you say, "No!")
(Cover pointer finger. Uncover when you say, "No!")
(Point both thumbs to chest.)
(Cover pointer finger and shake head "no.")

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

"I can do what Jesus says, and shine, shine, shine!
Shine, shine, shine!
I can do what Jesus says, and shine my light!

(Point both thumbs to chest.)
(Wave pointer finger around.)
(Wave pointer finger around.)
(Point both thumbs to chest.)
(Wave pointer finger around.)

(Repeat as long as time and interest allow.)



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
2 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: “When we do what Jesus says, we shine like a light, and that shows people how much Jesus loves them. **I can do what Jesus says**, and you can do what Jesus says. So when I ask you, **‘Who can do what Jesus says?’** I want all of us to say, **‘I can do what Jesus says!’ Who can do what Jesus says?** (Cup hand behind ear like listening for a response.) **I can do what Jesus says!** Again! **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!** Yay! (Clap.) **I can do what Jesus says!**”



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
2 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



3. TURN OVER THE LIGHT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Yellow dessert-size paper plates

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Spread out the yellow plates, face down, around your activity area.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to let my light shine.

**LIGHT OF THE WORLD
MATTHEW 5:1-2, 14-16**

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to flip the plates over to reveal the "light" (*yellow side of the plate*). Once all plates have been turned over, flip them back over, and play again as time allows.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how we can shine our lights by doing what Jesus says.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come join me over here. I have a game for us to play with these plates."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's turn over the plates like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Oh, it looks like a light! Can you work together to turn over the rest of the plates to make them shine too? Let's go! (*Pause.*) This is so fun! Wow! Look at all the light! Let's flip them all over and play again!" (*Repeat as desired.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was so fun! You made all the lights shine. In our Bible story today, we talked about how Jesus says to shine our light. We can shine our light by doing what Jesus says! **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!**"

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
2 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

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



4. FLASHLIGHT
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: "Flashlight Label" Activity Page, Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent, 8-ounce paper cups, craft tubes, yellow tissue-paper squares, heart stickers, glue sticks, crayons, scissors, a hot glue gun, and a permanent marker

Note: Use the hot glue gun before children arrive and store it in another room, out of reach.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to let my light shine.

LIGHT OF THE WORLD
MATTHEW 5:1-2, 14-16

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Flashlight Label" on label paper, one label per child. For each craft tube, make four equal cuts 1/2"-3/4" long on one end. Bend the cut ends in, overlapping one over the other, and hot glue together. Hot glue this end to the bottom of a cup, one per child. Write each child's name on their cup.

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to glue yellow tissue squares to the inside of their cup and add heart stickers to the inside. Ask children to color the tube and the outside of their cup, and then add their label.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit at the table with me. I have something neat for us to make today that will help us remember our Bible Story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to make a flashlight! Flashlights light up and help us see things in the dark. Glue these pieces of yellow tissue to the inside of your cup. (Pause.) Now add some heart stickers to the inside of your cup too. (Pause.) Great job! Now use the crayons to decorate the outside of your cup and the tube. (Pause.) Now add the label to your flashlight. Great job, everyone! Your flashlights look amazing!"

BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, Jesus told His friends, the disciples, 'You are the light of the world!' That means when you are kind to people, you shine your light so people can see that Jesus is kind. When you forgive people, you shine your light so people can see that Jesus forgives. When you share with people, you shine your light so people can see that Jesus shares. When you help people, you shine your light so people can see that Jesus helps. Jesus says to shine our light to show the world that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever. **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says."**

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP

2 YEAR
-OLDS

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 preschoolers arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and children at the door.

1. MOVE TO THE LIGHT

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Flashlight
- Optional: nightlight or small lamp

2. LIGHTS

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Tap lights in multiple colors, shapes, and sizes
- Batteries
- Duct tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Add batteries to all lights; then secure the battery compartment with a piece of duct tape.
- Place the lights on a table.

3. GLOW BOTTLES

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Empty water bottles or sensory bottles with lids
- Thin glow sticks
- Glitter glue
- Water
- Duct tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Activate the glowsticks and place some in each bottle. Put a different number of glow sticks in each bottle.
- In some of the bottles, add about one-half cup of glitter glue; then fill each with water.
- For the remaining bottles, fill some with water and leave others with just glow sticks.
- Replace all the lids and secure each with a piece of duct tape.
- Make several glow bottles per Small Group.

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

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line 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.

1. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

2. SING AND SHINE

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP

2 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

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

3. TURN OVER THE LIGHT

[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:

- Yellow dessert-size paper plates, 1-2 per child

4. FLASHLIGHT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Flashlight Label" Activity Page
- Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent
- 8-ounce paper cups, one per child
- Craft tubes, one per child
- Yellow tissue-paper squares
- Heart stickers
- Glue sticks
- Crayons
- Scissors
- Hot glue gun
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Flashlight Label" on label paper, one label per child.
- For each craft tube, make four equal cuts 1/2"-3/4" long on one end.
- Bend the cut ends in, overlapping one over the other, and hot glue together.
- Hot glue this end to the bottom of a cup, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their cup.

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it 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. bit.ly/FL_Shine