



WEEK
THREE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
2 YEAR
-OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to love like Him.

EARLY CHURCH
ACTS 2:42-47;
JOHN 15:12,
HEBREWS 10:24

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.

Togetherness
Build It Up
Let Your Hearts Shine

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.

Light's On!
Love Like Jesus
Kindness Charades
Paper Lantern

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



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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. TOGETHERNESS

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

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

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to do different movements together (*dance, wiggle, hop, twirl, etc.*). Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come join me over here and let's get ready to move together!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Come on, friends! Let's wiggle together! (*Wiggle.*) Now let's hop together! (*Hop.*) Let's clap together! (*Clap.*) Let's twirl together. (*Twirl.*) Okay friends, now let's dance together! (*Dance.*) That was so much fun! Let's do it again!" (*Repeat as desired.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, that was fun doing so many different movements together. In today's Bible Story, we're going to hear about what the first people who followed Jesus did together."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by continuing to call out things to do together—marching, clapping, hopping, wiggling your fingers, etc.

BIBLE STORY

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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. BUILD IT UP

WHAT YOU NEED: LEGO® DUPLO® blocks

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Set out the blocks and gather the children to build.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to work together to build a house. Then ask them to build a table and a heart.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, look at these blocks! Let's do some building!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "First, let's work together to build a house. *(Pause.)* Your house looks great! Now, let's build a table. *(Pause.)* Wow! You are so good at building. I have one last thing for you to build. Let's work together to build a heart. *(Pause.)* Amazing! You did a great job, builders!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We worked together and built a house, a table, and a heart! We are going to hear about all these things in our Bible Story today. Come with me."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by making a house (*fingertips together to form a roof*), a table (*hold hands out flat in front of you, as if on a table*), and a heart (*point to your chest*). Call out one of those three things and lead children to make that symbol as you travel.

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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. LET YOUR HEARTS SHINE

WHAT YOU NEED: Three different-sized flashlights, three different-sized foam hearts, and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Tape a heart to the center of the lens of each flashlight.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to love like Him.

EARLY CHURCH
ACTS 2:42-47;
JOHN 15:12,
HEBREWS 10:24

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Explore the different flashlights. Shine them on a table, wall, or floor to reveal the heart shapes. If possible, lower the lights in the room.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here with me! Let's explore the light from these flashlights!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Tell me what you see when I turn on this flashlight. *(Turn flashlight on and point it towards the wall, table, or floor.)* Wow! Look at the light! It's really bright! But what else do you see? *(Pause.)* Yes! A heart! Hearts make me think of love. Look, we are shining love! What about this flashlight? *(Turn another flashlight on and point it toward the wall, table, or floor.)* This one has a heart too! Let's try this last flashlight. *(Turn the last flashlight on and point it toward the wall, table, or floor.)* They all have hearts, and they all shine brightly."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story, we'll hear about how we can shine our lights when we love like Jesus!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by leading the children by shining the heart flashlight in front of you to guide you as you travel.

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

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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



1. LIGHT'S ON!
[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]
WHAT YOU NEED: "Light's On!" Activity Page, cardstock, washable markers, stickers, stamps, washable ink pads, scissors, utility knife, and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Light's On" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on the back of their paper. Lead the Memory Verse with the motions.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to decorate their light switch cover.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come join me over here. Let's say our Memory Verse and do the motions together. '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.*) Great job!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Come sit at the table with me. We're going to decorate a cover for your light switch at home. You can use the markers, stamps, and stickers to decorate your light switch cover. (*Pause.*) Wow! These look great! When you turn the light switch on, the lights come on and light up the room. When we do what Jesus says, we are shining our light! You can put it over your light switch in your room, and every time you turn your lights on and off, you can remember to, 'Let your light shine' (*Matthew 5:16*). Let's say our Memory Verse together. 'Let your light shine,' Matthew 5:16. Fantastic job, friends!"

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 our 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 love like Him.

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

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



2. LOVE LIKE JESUS
[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Plush friends, toy food, bandages, and baby socks

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children around you in a circle on the floor.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to love like Him.

EARLY CHURCH
ACTS 2:42-47;
JOHN 15:12,
HEBREWS 10:24

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give yourself and each child a plush friend. Have the toy food, bandages, and baby socks set to the side. Give yourself and each child a piece of toy food. Pretend to eat with your plush friends. Give yourself and each child a bandage. Pretend to help your plush friends by wrapping their boo-boos. Give yourself and each child a pair of baby socks to share with your plush friends. Pray with your plush friends.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Cuddle your plush friend as everyone repeats the Bottom Line together.

MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

MATTHEW 5:16, NIV

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come sit with me! I have some friends who are going to help us talk about today's Bible Story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "First, I am going to give each of you a plush friend to hold. (Give yourself and each child a plush friend.) In our Bible Story, Jesus said to love each other the way He loves us. Jesus' friends loved like Jesus by eating together, helping each other, sharing with each other, and praying together.

"We can love like Jesus by eating together. (Give each child a piece of toy food.) Let's eat with our friends. (Pretend to eat with plush toys.)"

"We can love like Jesus by helping each other. (Give each child a bandage.) Let's help our friends and wrap their boo-boos. (Put the bandage on the plush toys.)"

"We can love like Jesus by sharing with each other. (Give each child a pair of baby socks.) Let's share some clothes with our friends. (Assist the children as they put socks on their plush friends.)"

"We can love like Jesus by praying with each other. Let's pray with our friends. (Pray with the children and plush friends.)"

"God, please help us do what Jesus says and love like Jesus. Amen."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We can do what Jesus says and love like Jesus! And when we love like Jesus, we shine! Everyone, cuddle your friend and tell me: **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!**"

KEY QUESTION

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



3. KINDNESS CHARADES
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather all the children in an open space in your activity area.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to love like Him.

EARLY CHURCH
ACTS 2:42-47;
JOHN 15:12,
HEBREWS 10:24

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Call out actions that show kindness and help children act them out.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hey, friends! Come over here and let's play a game. I'm going to call out a way we can love like Jesus, and I want you to act it out."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Okay, are you ready? Let's go! We can love like Jesus when we . . . help someone carry something heavy. Show me what that looks like. *(Pause.)* Wow! So good! We can love like Jesus when we . . . pick up our toys. Show me what that looks like. *(Pause.)* Terrific! We can love like Jesus when we . . . invite someone to play. Show me what that looks like. *(Pause.)* Nice! We can love like Jesus when we . . . share a snack. Show me what that looks like. *(Pause.)* You are so good at this game! *(Continue with different actions like waving to a community helper, sharing a toy, cheering for a friend, giving a hug, etc.)* That game was a lot of fun and I loved watching you act out different ways we can love like Jesus!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story, Jesus told us to love like Him and when we show kindness, we love like Jesus. All those actions we just did show people we love Jesus and can do what He 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

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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



4. PAPER LANTERN
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: "Paper Lantern" Activity Page, cardstock, clear Con-Tact® paper, yellow and orange tissue paper squares, crayons, scissors, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Paper Lantern" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Cut Con-Tact® paper into 5" x 5" pieces, one per child. Peel backing and attach contact paper to the back of each lantern and trim excess. (Note: For transport and storage until use, place the backing over the sticky part on each lantern.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to add yellow and orange tissue paper squares to the sticky area of the lantern, and color the rest of their lantern.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

BIBLE STORY

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EARLY CHURCH
ACTS 2:42-47;
JOHN 15:12,
HEBREWS 10:24

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.

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit at the table with me. I have a special light for you to make today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We're learning that when we do what Jesus says, we shine our light for all to see. Let's make a lantern suncatcher to help us remember to shine our light. This part of your lantern is sticky—fill it up with the yellow and orange tissue squares. (Pause.) Great job! Now use the crayons to color in the other part of your lantern. (Pause.) Nice job! Look how cool they look when you hold them up to the light. (Hold lanterns up to the light or window if you have one in your small group space.) Look how they light up!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, Jesus told His friends, the disciples, to love people like He did. They shared what they had with people who needed food, clothes, money, and even places to stay. They were doing what Jesus said and loving like Him. They were shining their light! We can shine our light too because we can do what Jesus says too. **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.** We can all do what Jesus says and love like Jesus. **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.**"



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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. TOGETHERNESS

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. BUILD IT UP

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- LEGO® DUPLO® blocks

3. LET YOUR HEARTS SHINE

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Three different-sized flashlights
- Three different-sized foam hearts
- Painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape a heart to the center of the lens of each flashlight.

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. LIGHTS ON!

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE 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:

- "Light's On!" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Washable markers
- Stickers
- Stamps
- Washable ink pads
- Scissors
- Utility knife
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Light's On!" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Write each child's name on the back of their paper.

2. LOVE LIKE JESUS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role-play to enhance their learning

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Plush friends
- Toy food
- Bandages
- Baby socks



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PRELUDE

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STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

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

3. KINDNESS CHARADES

[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

4. PAPER LANTERN

[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:

- "Paper Lantern" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Clear Con-Tact® paper
- Yellow and orange tissue paper squares
- Crayons
- Scissors
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Paper Lantern" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Cut contact paper into 5" x 5" pieces, one per child.
- Peel backing and attach contact paper to the back of each lantern and trim excess. (Note: For transport and storage until use, place the backing over the sticky part on each lantern.)

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