

SMALL GROUP

YEAR

-OLDS

# TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

#### BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION MATTHEW 28:18-20

#### 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**

# SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

15 MIN

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive. On the Mountain Sunshine Doh S Illuminated

#### LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways "You Love Me" and "Follow On" Bible Story Prayer

#### **SMALL GROUP**

25

#### **GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect**

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. Bright Places Mail All Over the World This Little Light Important Job Journal and Prayer

#### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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

ALLERGY

This symbol indicates an activity with potential allergens. Be sure to post allergy alert sign and inform parents at drop-off.

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SMALL GROUP **3-5** YEAR -OLDS

#### PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

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



WORSHIP

#### **1. ON THE MOUNTAIN**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Small playground slide, large piece of brown butcher paper, marker, scissors, and painter's tape

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Draw a simple outline of a mountain on the paper and cut out. Tape the mountain cutout to the side of the slide that faces the children.

#### **BIBLE STORY**

Jesus says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION MATTHEW 28:18-20

#### 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.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage the children to "climb the mountain," and slide down the slide.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Wow friends, look at this really tall mountain! Who wants to climb it?"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Look, this is so fun! It looks like you're really climbing a tall mountain and then sliding down. Next friend! Climb the mountain! (*Continue with each child and repeat as desired.*) That was so fun! You are great mountain climbers."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "In today's story, we're going to learn that Jesus and His friends were on a mountain and Jesus gave them an important job to do."

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to climb a mountain with big high-knee steps.



#### PRELUDE

SOCIAL WORSHIP

STORY

HOME

SMALL GROUP

YEAR

-OLDS

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 says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION MATTHEW 28:18-20

#### 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.



#### **2. SUNSHINE DOH\***

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Allergy Alert Poster," cardstock, yellow Play-Doh®, yellow straws (*paper or plastic*), scissors, small bowls, and small paper plates

\*Note: Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (from the Prelude folder) and post it at the door to your room.

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list Play-Doh®, and post at the door. Cut the straws into three pieces and place in several bowls. Place a small mound of Play-Doh® on each plate, one per child.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage the children to roll and shape their Play-Doh® into a circle or dome. Ask children to stick straw pieces into it to create a sun and its rays.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come find a spot at the table. Look at all this fun, bright Play-Doh® we get to play with today!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "What did God make that lives in the sky and shines bright? (*Pause.*) The sun! That's right! Let's make a sun with our Play-Doh®! Roll and shape it into a circle or dome like this. (*Demonstrate.*) And then, we need to add some rays. Let's use these pieces of straw for the rays. Place these all around your sun. (*Pause.*) Everyone made bright, beautiful suns! Great job!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "The Sun shines brightly to keep us warm and help things grow. In our Bible Story today, we'll hear about how we can shine our lights when we do what Jesus says! Come with me."

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to shine like the Sun. Encourage children to raise their arms high overhead and "shine" like the rays of the Sun.



GROUPS

SMALL GROUP **3-5** YEAR -OLDS

#### PRELUDE

SOCIAL WORSHIP

STORY

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

#### BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION MATTHEW 28:18-20

#### 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.



#### **3. ILLUMINATED**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Illuminated" Activity Page; vellum paper; clear, plastic, wide-mouth jars with lids; batteryoperated tea lights or tap lights; scissors; clear tape; and clear packing tape

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Illuminated" on vellum paper and cut, four per Small Group. Turn jars upside down and wrap the cutouts around the jars. Tape to secure. Turn the tea or tap lights on and tape the lights to the inside of the lid. Secure the lids and tape shut.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to explore the different pictures. Talk about what they see.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Hello, everyone! It's great to see everyone's bright, smiling faces today! Come sit at the table with me. I have some neat jars for us to explore."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Look at the jars. What do you see? (*Pause.*) You all are right! There are a lot of different pictures, and they all are lit up, aren't they? Look and find the picture of the world. Who made the world? (*Pause.*) God made the world! That's right! Find the grocery store. (*Pause.*) There it is! Find the mailman. (*Pause.*) There's the mailman! Find the friends playing on the playground. (*Pause.*) There they are! Now, find the heart. (*Pause.*) There it is! Good job finding all the pictures I called out. There are more pictures to discover. Turn the jars to see them all."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear what all these pictures have to do with the important job Jesus gave His friends, the disciples."

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by calling out the different people and places you see as you walk to the designated area.



SMALL GROUP **3-5** 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

#### BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION MATTHEW 28:18-20

#### 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.



## 1. BRIGHT

#### [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Bright" Activity Page, cardstock, yellow washable markers or dot markers, black washable markers, mini popsicle sticks, craft glue, metallic gold pipe cleaners, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Bright" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their cutout. Cut pipe cleaners in half and bend them to look like the filament on the cutout. Say the Memory Verse and do the motions together with the children.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Repeat the verse as children color their lightbulbs with yellow marker. Encourage children to color two or three popsicle sticks with the black marker and glue along the bottom of the lightbulb. Ask children to glue the sparkly pipe cleaner following the lines that make the filament. Set aside to dry.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Say the Memory Verse one more time with the motions and review the Bottom Line.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, join me over here. Let's do the motions as we say our verse together. Ready? Okay! '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! Find a seat at the table! We're going to make a bright light to help us remember our Memory Verse."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Look! It's a lightbulb! Use the yellow markers to fill it in. (*Pause.*) While you are coloring your lightbulb, let's say our verse. 'Let your light shine,' Matthew 5:16. (*Repeat.*) Nice! Now use the black marker to color these popsicle sticks. (*Pause.*) Glue them to the bottom of your lightbulb. (*Pause.*) Let's make your lightbulb really shine! Glue this sparkly pipe cleaner to this part right here. (*Point to the filament.*) Great job, everyone! Let's clean off our hands. Let's say the verse together again. 'Let your light shine,' Matthew 5:16. Amazing!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our Memory Verse teaches us to 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. Everyone, stand up! Let's do the motions as we say our verse one last time. '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! We shine bright when we do what Jesus says. Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says."



SMALL GROUP **3-5** YEAR -OLDS

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 says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION MATTHEW 28:18-20

#### 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.



#### **2. PLACES**

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW] WHAT YOU NEED: "Places" Activity Page, cardstock, carpet circle, and painter's tape; Option: Use a piece of butcher paper cut into a circle and taped to the floor in

#### WHAT YOU DO:

place of the carpet circle.

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Places" on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Tape the pictures around the room where they can be easily seen by the children. Put a carpet circle in the center of the room as a visual for the children to run to during the game.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Walk around the room with the children and name the places in each picture, so the children have an idea of where to go when you play the game. Instruct the children to stand on the carpet circle in the middle of the room. Tell the children to listen and go to the place you call out. When they get to the place, ask them to say, "Jesus wants to be your friend forever!" and then run back to the carpet circle. Play as long as time and interest allow.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

#### WHAT YOU SAY: BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Follow me. everyone! I want to show you some pictures we have in the room today!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "This is a [playground]. This is a [grocery store]. This is . . . (continue naming each place you have a picture of on the wall). Now, follow me to the carpet circle. (Lead the children to the carpet circle.) We're going to play a game with all the places we just walked to. If I say, 'Go and tell at the playground,' run to the playground picture and say, 'Jesus wants to be your friend forever.' Then come back to the carpet circle. Got it? Let's play! Go and tell at the grocery store. (Pause.) All together. Jesus wants to be your friend forever. Run back! (Continue with different places and repeat as desired.) That was so much fun, friends. Come stand around the carpet circle with me."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, Jesus told His friends, the disciples, to go and tell everyone, everywhere that Jesus is alive and that Jesus wants to be their friend forever! We can do that, too, because we can do what Jesus says! Right? Right! So tell me: Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says! Yay! I can do what Jesus says!"



SMALL GROUP **3-5** YEAR -OLDS

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

#### MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

#### BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION MATTHEW 28:18-20

#### 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.



#### 3. MAIL ALL OVER THE WORLD [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Mail All Over the World" and "Ollie Stickers" Activity Pages, cardstock, Avery® Labels #6450 or equivalent, washable markers, and scissors

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Mail All Over the World" on cardstock and cut, one postcard per child. Copy "Ollie Stickers" on label paper, one sticker per child. Set the postcards and markers on the table.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Give each child a postcard. Point to where the Bottom Line is written and say it out loud. Encourage children to decorate their postcards as you walk around the table and ask each child to name a friend they want to send this message to. Write that name above the Bottom Line. Ask children to place an "Ollie Sticker" in the spot where a stamp would go. Put aside to send home.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, have you ever received a postcard in the mail? Did you know you can mail postcards all over the world? It's true! Right here on our postcard, it says, (*point*) **'I can do what Jesus says.'** We can use these postcards to tell others that Jesus wants to be their friend forever! Because Jesus says to tell others about Him!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Use the markers to decorate your postcards. Do you have a friend you'd like to send this postcard to? Tell me your friend's name when I come around the table, and I'll write it on your card. We also need to add a special Ollie sticker right here where the stamp would go. You can add that to your postcard. (*Pause.*) Yay! Your postcards look great."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus says to tell others about Him! We can do what Jesus says. Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says! One more time: Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!"



SMALL GROUP **3-5** YEAR -OLDS

PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME	
			CREAT	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

# MOVE

#### 4. THIS LITTLE LIGHT [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Flashlight; sheets of star, heart, and smiley face stickers

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** To make it easier for children to

remove stickers from backing paper, peel off the top layer of the sticker sheets, leaving the stickers intact on the backing paper. Spread out in an open area and give each child a sheet of stickers.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Shine the flashlight toward a child. (Keep the beam of light low so it doesn't shine in any eyes.) Then encourage everyone to run to that child, place a sticker on them, and say: "Jesus wants to be your friend forever." Continue with each child and repeat as desired.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, I have a really fun activity for us today. Everyone gets a sheet of stickers. (*Pass out the stickers.*) I have this flashlight and I'm going to shine it on a friend. When you see the friend with the flashlight shining on them, run and give them one sticker and say: 'Jesus wants to be your friend forever.' Remember to be gentle when putting stickers on our friends. Are you ready? (*Pause*) Okay, here we go!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Look for who I shine the flashlight on. (*Turn the flashlight on and shine it on a child, making sure not to shine it in anyone's eyes.*) Look, everyone! The light is shining on [child's name]! Run and give [child's name] a sticker. (*Pause.*) Now say, 'Jesus wants to be your friend forever!' (*Pause.*) Awesome! Everyone, spread out again and watch to see who I shine the light on. (*Continue until each child gets a turn.*) Wow, friends! That was so much fun getting to share stickers with our friends and do what Jesus says to do!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story, Jesus told His friends, the disciples, to go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus is alive and Jesus wants to be their friend forever! We can do that, too, because we can do what Jesus says! Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says! Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!"

#### BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION MATTHEW 28:18-20

#### 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.



#### SMALL GROUP **3-5** 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

#### BIBLE STORY

Jesus says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION MATTHEW 28:18-20

#### 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.



#### 5. IMPORTANT JOB [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Important Job" and "Important Job Person" Activity Pages, cardstock, washable markers, scissors, metal brads, and permanent marker; *Optional: camera and glue sticks* 

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Important Job" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Copy "Important Job Person" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per child. Poke a hole in the middle of the world and at the end of the person cutout. Option: Take each child's full body picture with the camera, print, and cut out.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to color their world with blue and green markers and decorate the person to look like themselves. Option: Ask children to glue the picture of themselves to cover the gingerbread person. Attach the person cutout to the back of the world with a brad. Demonstrate how the person cutout can move around the world telling everyone, everywhere that Jesus is alive and He wants to be their friend forever.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come sit at the table with me. Let's make a craft to help us remember today's Bible Story."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Jesus gave His friends, the disciples, a very important job to do. Jesus wanted them to go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. Decorate the person cutout to look like you. (*Pause.*) Amazing! Now look at the dots on the world. Where you see green dots, color green. Where you see blue dots, color blue. (*Pause.*) Great job coloring the world! Now let's add you to the world so YOU can go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus wants to be their friend forever!" (Attach the person cutout to the back of the world cutout with the brad. Demonstrate how the "person" can move around the world.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, Jesus gave His friends, the disciples, an important job to do. Jesus told His friends to go and tell everyone, everywhere that Jesus is alive and Jesus wants to be their friend forever. Jesus told them to GO and TELL. And we can do that important job, too, because we can do what Jesus says. Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says."



SMALL GROUP **3-5** YEAR -OLDS

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 says to tell others about Him.

GREAT COMMISSION MATTHEW 28:18-20

#### 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.



#### 6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a journal, and a fun-shaped pen

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on

cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Matthew 5:16. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage the children to skip as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the Memory Verse and motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of people we can go and tell about Jesus.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to skip like this (*demonstrate*) to our Small Group spot. Just do the best you can and follow me! (*Skip as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) That was a fun way to get to our Small Group spot! Now let's sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.) "In our Bible Story today, Jesus said to go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus is alive and Jesus wants to be their friend forever. You can skip to go and tell. You can run to go and tell. You can even hop to go and tell! The important thing is to do what Jesus says. And: **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!** That's right!

"And when we do what Jesus says, we shine our light, which is what Jesus says for us to do in the Bible verse we are learning. It says: '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.) Stand up and say Jesus' words with me! Just say what I say and do what I do. '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.)

"Yay! (*Clap.*) Now it's time to write in our prayer journal and talk to God, so let's sit down. (*Open journal.*) Today, we're going to make a list of people we can go and tell about Jesus. When I say your name, tell me the name of one person, and I will write it in our journal. (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)"



**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Look at all of these people! (*Hold up journal.*) Let's use our list when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, You are the BEST! Thank You for giving us Jesus to be our friend forever. Help us to go and tell (*read the list the children made*) that Jesus is alive and He wants to be their friend forever. We want to do what Jesus says and shine our light! We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

H

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 handson 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. ON THE MOUNTAIN**

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

- Small playground slide
- Large piece of brown butcher paper
- Marker and Scissors
- Painter's tape

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Draw a simple outline of a mountain on the paper and cut out.
- Tape the mountain cutout to the side of the slide that faces the children.

#### **2. SUNSHINE DOH\***

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

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Allergy Alert Poster"
- Cardstock and Yellow Play-Doh®
- Yellow straws (paper or plastic)
- Scissors
- Small bowls and Small paper plates, one per child **WHAT YOU DO:**
- Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list Play-Doh®, and post at the door.
- Cut the straws into three pieces and place in several bowls.
- Place a small mound of Play-Doh® on each plate, one per child.

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#### **3. ILLUMINATED**

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

GROUPS

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Illuminated" Activity Page
- Vellum paper
- Clear, plastic, wide-mouth jars with lids
- Battery-operated tea lights or tap lights
- Scissors
- Clear tape
- Clear packing tape

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Illuminated" on vellum paper and cut, four per Small Group.
- Turn jars upside down and wrap the cutouts around the jars. Tape to secure.
- Turn the lights on and tape the lights to the inside of the lid.
- Secure the lids and tape shut.

#### 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 children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

#### **1. BRIGHT**

#### [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

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

- "Bright" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Yellow washable markers or dot markers



#### PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

HOME

# GETTING READY

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

- Black washable markers
- Mini popsicle sticks
- Craft glue
- Metallic gold pipe cleaners
- Scissors
- Baby wipes
- Permanent marker

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Bright" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their cutout.
- Cut pipe cleaners in half and bend them to look like the filament on the cutout.

#### 2. PLACES

#### [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:

- "Places" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Carpet circle
- Painter's tape
- Option: Use a piece of butcher paper cut into a circle and taped to the floor in place of the carpet circle.

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Places" on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
- Tape the pictures around the room where they can be easily seen by the children.
- Put a carpet circle in the center of the room as a visual for the children to run to during the game.

# 3. MAIL ALL OVER THE WORLD

#### [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Mail All Over the World" Activity Page
- "Ollie Stickers" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Avery® Labels #6450 or equivalent
- Washable markers
- Scissors
- WHAT YOU DO:

• Copy "Mail All Over the World" on cardstock and cut, ©2024 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com one postcard per child.

• Copy "Ollie Stickers" on label paper, one sticker per child.

GROUPS

# 4. THIS LITTLE 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:** 

#### VHAI YOU NEE

- Flashlight
- Sheets of star, heart, and smiley face stickers **WHAT YOU DO:**
- To make it easier for children to remove stickers from the backing paper, peel off the top layer of the sticker sheets, leaving the stickers intact on the backing paper.

#### 5. IMPORTANT JOB

#### [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

- "Important Job" Activity Page
- "Important Job Person" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Washable markers
- Scissors
- Metal brads
- Permanent marker
- Optional: camera and glue sticks

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Important Job" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Copy "Important Job Person" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per child.
- Poke a hole in the middle of the world and at the end of the person cutout.
- Option: Take each child's full body picture with the camera, print, and cut out.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP STORY

GROUPS

HOME

# GETTING READY

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

# 6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

#### [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

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

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible
- Journal (Check out the Ollie journal at <u>bit.ly/3B4Z71j</u>.)
- Fun-shaped pen (Check out the Ollie Pen at <u>bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh</u>.)

#### WHAT YOU DO:

• If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place it in the Bible at Matthew 5:16. Note: Keep the Memory Verse Card in your Bible all month.

#### 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. <u>bit.ly/FL\_Shine</u>