SMALL GROUP

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

God loves us so much that God gave us Jesus.

GOD LOVES ME JOHN 3:16; 1 JOHN 4:9-10

MEMORY VERSE

"How you made me is amazing and wonderful."

PSALM 139:14, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who made you wonderful?

BOTTOM LINE

God made me wonderful.

BASIC TRUTH

God made me.

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.

Smallest to Largest

Fill the Heart

What Is It?

LARGE GROUP

20 MIN WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Made Us Wonderful" 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.

Stir the Verse Pass and Tell Follow the Path Three Truths Book

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



2 YEAR -OLDS

SMALL GROUP

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



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1. SMALLEST TO LARGEST

WHAT YOU NEED: Three different-size mixing bowls with lids and gift bows

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Put the lids on each of the bowls, and attach a gift bow on the top of each lid. Place the bowls around the room.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to find the three bowls, then arrange them from smallest to largest.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand with me. I need your help today finding three mixing bowls that are somewhere in the room. Will you help me? Fantastic!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "The three bowls all have a bow on them—they look like gifts. When you find a bowl, bring it to me. (Pause.) Hooray! You found all three bowls. Are these bowls the same size? (Pause.) No! Help me put them in order from smallest to largest. (Pause.) Is this the smallest bowl? (Hold up the large bowl.) No! Is this the smallest bowl? (Hold up the medium bowl.) No! This is the smallest bowl! (Hold up the small bowl.) Which one comes next? (Pause.) Great job! That leaves this bowl as the biggest! Thank you for helping me put the bowls in order from smallest to biggest." (Repeat as desired.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, that was so much fun. Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about a very special gift that God gave us. I can't wait to hear about it!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by taking a few small steps followed by medium steps and then larger steps.



2 YEAR -OLDS

SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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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

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2. FILL THE HEART

WHAT YOU NEED: Gallon-sized resealable bags, permanent marker, clear hair gel, smooth buttons in a variety of bright colors, clear packing tape, and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Draw a large heart on each bag. Add about ½ cup of gel to the bag along with a handful of

buttons. Squeeze air out of the bags and seal. Secure the opening of each bag with packing tape. Tape bags to the table with painter's tape.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to use their fingers to move all the buttons into the heart.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit at the table with me. What shape do you see on these bags? (*Pause.*) Yes! They're hearts! Hearts make me think of love."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's fill the hearts so they are full of love! Use your fingers to push all the buttons into the hearts. (*Pause.*) Yay! You filled the hearts! Let's move all the buttons out of the heart and do it again!" (*Repeat as desired.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We're going to hear how much God loves us in our Bible Story today! Let's go hear about it!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by saying: "God loves . . . [child's name] and God loves . . . [child's name]," repeating with each child.



SMALL GROUP

2 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

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HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
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MADE TO EXPLORE

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

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3. WHAT IS IT?

WHAT YOU NEED: Opaque bag, Little People® diverse figures, toy food, toy animal, and a heart cutout

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place all the items in the bag.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to take turns pulling one item out of the bag and placing it on the table. Repeat until all the items have been selected and the bag is empty. Talk about all the items from the bag.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here and sit with me. I have a bag full of things for us to explore!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "What do you think is in the bag? (*Pause.*) Let's take turns. [Child's name], reach into the bag and take one item out. You pulled out a [name item]. Put your item on the table. (*Pause.*) [Child's name], your turn. (*Continue with each child.*) Look at all these awesome things! There is a heart that reminds me of love, there is toy food, and a toy animal, and lots and lots of people! And God made all of them."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, we're going to hear about how much God loves us!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pointing to all the wonderful things God made. If you pass by a window, point out something outside that God made. If you pass by a light, point out how God gave us light. As you arrive, have the children point to themselves and say: "God made us wonderful because God loves us!"



2 YEAR -OLDS

SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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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



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1. STIR THE VERSE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page, and Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one label per child. Review the Memory Verse and motions.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask children to pretend to hold a bowl in one hand and a spoon in the other. Say the verse together while everyone pretends to stir in their bowl. Repeat several times, only stirring when you say the verse. Give each child a Memory Verse Sticker.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand in a circle with me. Let's say our verse while we do the motions. Ready? 'How you (point up) made me (point to self) is amazing and wonderful,' (push hands up twice) Psalm 139:14. (Open hands like a book.) Awesome!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Can you pretend to hold a bowl with one hand and a spoon in the other, like this? (Demonstrate.) Now pretend you are stirring something in your bowl. (Demonstrate.) Good job! Now let's say our verse while we stir in our bowl. 'How you made me is amazing and wonderful.' Psalm 139:14. Fantastic! Let's do it again! (Repeat as desired.) Whew! That was fun pretending to cook while we said our verse today. Here's a fun sticker for you that has our Memory Verse on it."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our Memory Verse teaches us that God made each and every one of us amazing and wonderful, inside and out! Who made you wonderful? God made me wonderful!"



2 YEAR

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HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

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2. PASS AND TELL

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Plush Jesus doll; Optional: "Pass and Tell" Activity Page and cardstock

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Sit in a circle on the floor with the children. Option: Copy "Pass and Tell" on cardstock, one per

Small Group. Use this illustration of Jesus instead of the plush Jesus doll.

buring the activity: Invite the children to sit in a circle with you, while you hold plush Jesus. Say a child's name and give plush Jesus to them to hold. While the child holds plush Jesus, encourage all of the other children to say, "God loves [child's name] so much that God gave [child's name] Jesus!" Tell the child holding plush Jesus to pass the doll to another friend, and repeat the activity. Make sure each child gets a turn.

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hey, friends! Come sit in a circle with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "This is my Jesus doll. (Hold up plush doll.) Say, 'Hi, Jesus!' (Pause.) I'm going to give Jesus to [child's name]. (Give the doll to that child.) Now I want everyone to say, 'God loves [child's name] so much that God gave [child's name] Jesus!' Say that with me! God loves [child's name] so much that God gave [child's name] Jesus! Yay! Okay, [child's name], pass Jesus to a friend. (Continue with each child.) Yay! God loves everyone in the whole world so much that God gave us Jesus!" (Hold up plush doll.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "What a super-special gift Jesus is! Jesus is God's Son, and . . . Jesus wants to be our friend forever!! Thank You, God, for Jesus and thank You for making us all wonderful. God made you (point to a child) wonderful, and God made you (point to a child) wonderful, and God made you (point to a child) wonderful . . . (say this with each child's name). All together now: Who made you wonderful? God made me wonderful! One more time. Who made you wonderful? God made me wonderful!"



2 YEAR -OLDS

SMALL GROUP

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HOME

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BASIC TRUTH

God made me.



3. FOLLOW THE PATH [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Painter's tape and heart cutouts

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Create three paths on the floor of your activity area with tape. Make one path straight, one path that loops, and one path that zigzags. At the end of

each path, tape down a heart cutout.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to walk down each path as they repeat one of the Basic Truths.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the three Basic Truths and the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come look! Do you see the paths on the floor? Come stand at the path with the straight line."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's take a walk on the straight path. Follow me! Repeat after me. 'God made me.' Say it again. (Repeat several times until each child has made it to the heart.) Look! There is a heart at the end of this path! Stand at the heart with me and say: 'God made me.' God made me. Good job!

"Let's go stand at the loopy path. Follow me and repeat after me as we walk: 'God loves me.' Say it again! (Repeat several times until each child has made it to the heart.) Look! There is a heart at the end of this path too! Stand at the heart with me and say: 'God loves me.' God loves me.

"Let's go stand at the last path, it's a zigzag path! Follow me and repeat after me as we walk: 'Jesus wants to be my friend forever.' Say it again! (Repeat several times until each child has made it to the heart.) Look! There is a heart at the end of this path too! Stand at the heart with me and say: 'Jesus wants to be my friend forever.' Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand at the heart on the straight path with me. God made me. Follow me to the next heart. God loves me. Follow me to the next heart. Jesus wants to be my friend forever! God made you wonderful and loves you so much that God gave you Jesus to be your friend forever. God made me wonderful! Who made you wonderful? God made me wonderful! One more time: Who made you wonderful? God made me wonderful!"



2 YEAR -OLDS

SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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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

BIBLE STORY

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MEMORY VERSE

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PSALM 139:14, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who made you wonderful?

BOTTOM LINE

God made me wonderful.

BASIC TRUTH

God made me.



4. THREE TRUTHS BOOK [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Three Truths Book" Activity Page, cardstock, foam heart stickers, stamps, washable ink pads, crayons, glue sticks, camera, photo paper, scissors, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Three Truths Book" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on the blank on their paper. Fold each child's paper into a book. Take each child's picture, print, and cut to size.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to decorate the cover of their book with stamps and crayons. On the first page on the inside of the book, help children glue their picture.

Option: If choosing not to take pictures, encourage children to draw themselves inside the frame on the first page on the inside of the book.

On the second page of the book, ask children to add the heart sticker to the heart in the book. On the back side, encourage children to draw themselves next to Jesus.

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, let's make a book! Come sit at the table, and we'll get started!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "On the front of your book, it says WONDERFUL and AMAZING [child's name], and WONDERFUL and AMAZING [child's name]. (Repeat with each child's name.) I want you to use the stamps and crayons to decorate that page. (Pause.) Super-duper! Open your book. On the first page, it says: 'God made me.' Glue your picture to the frame. (Pause.) Great! On the next page, it says: 'God loves me.' Fill the heart on your page with this big heart sticker. (Pause.) Close your book! This last page says: 'Jesus wants to be my friend forever.' See Jesus? Fill in the person outline to look like you. (Pause.) Fantastic job, friends!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We heard in our Bible Story today that God loves us SO much that God gave us a super-special gift. Do you remember what that special gift is? (Pause.) That's right! JESUS is the special gift! Jesus is special because Jesus is God's Son, AND... Jesus wants to be our friend forever! Thank You, God, for Jesus and thank You for making us all wonderful. Who made you wonderful? God made me wonderful."



2 YEAR -OLDS

SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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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)

Encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and engage with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing fun, age-appropriate, hands-on activities that introduce new concepts they will hear in the Bible Story.

Offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two Small Group Leaders lead activities in different areas of the room while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

1. SMALLEST TO LARGEST

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Three different-size mixing bowls with lids
- Gift bows

WHAT YOU DO:

- Put the lids on each of the bowls, and attach a gift bow to the top of each lid.
- · Place the bowls around the room.

2. FILL THE HEART

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Gallon-sized resealable bags
- Permanent marker
- Clear hair gel
- · Smooth buttons in a variety of bright colors
- Clear packing tape
- Painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Draw a large heart on each bag.
- Add about ½ cup of gel to the bag along with a handful of buttons.
- Squeeze air out of the bags and seal.
- Secure the opening of each bag with packing tape.
- Tape bags to the table with painter's tape.

3. WHAT IS IT?

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Opaque bag
- Little People® diverse figures
- Toy food
- Toy animal
- Heart cutout

WHAT YOU DO:

• Place all the items in the bag.

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. STIR THE VERSE [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:

- "Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page
- Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent

WHAT YOU DO:

 Copy "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one label per child.

2. PASS AND TELL

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers



2 YEAR -OLDS

SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE

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HOME

GETTING READY

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

to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Plush Jesus doll
- Optional: "Pass and Tell" Activity Page, and cardstock
 WHAT YOU DO:
- Option: Copy "Pass and Tell" on cardstock, one per Small Group. Use this illustration of Jesus instead of the plush Jesus doll.

3. FOLLOW THE PATH [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:

- · Painter's tape
- · Heart cutouts, three per Small Group

WHAT YOU DO:

- Create three paths on the floor of your activity area with tape. Make one path straight, one path that loops, and one path that zigzags.
- Tape a heart cutout at the end of each path.

4. THREE TRUTHS BOOK [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:

- "Three Truths Book" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Foam heart stickers
- Stamps
- Washable ink pads
- Cravons
- · Glue sticks
- Camera
- Photo paper
- Scissors
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

Copy "Three Truths Book" on cardstock, one per child.

- Write each child's name on the blank on their paper.
- Fold each child's paper into a book.
- Take each child's picture, print, and cut to size.

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 CookingShow</u>