



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

I am a light when
I love like Jesus.

WE ARE THE LIGHT
MATTHEW 5:14-16;
ACTS 8:26-35

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the
light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

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.

Love Path
Spot the Light
Look at a Book

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Be a Light"
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.

Spot Light
Run and Love
X and O Match Up
Handprint Sparkler

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



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. LOVE PATH

WHAT YOU NEED: Yellow butcher paper or poster board, painter's tape, and heart stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: On the top of a piece of butcher paper, write: "I am a light!" Tape the piece of butcher paper to the wall at child's height. Create three different paths on

the floor with painter's tape leading to the yellow paper.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a heart sticker. Encourage them to pick one of the three paths to follow. Once they reach the end, ask children to place their heart sticker on the paper.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here! Look at this big, yellow paper! It says: 'I am a light!' I have something special for us to do with this paper. But first, we need to pick a path."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "On the floor are three different paths that lead to this big, yellow paper. Go stand at the path you want to walk. *(Pause.)* Now as you walk the path, I want you to carry this sticker. *(Give each child a sticker.)* You each have a heart to carry, and hearts remind us of love. When you get to the end of the path, I want you to put your sticker on the paper. Ready? *(Name the children at the beginning of the line.)* Walk the path! *(Continue with all the children.)* This time, go stand at a different path, and we'll walk again! *(Pass out stickers.)* Let's walk! *(Repeat one more time.)* That was so much fun, friends! Look at all that love on the paper!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "No matter what path you walked down, you shared your love! In our Bible Story today, we're going to hear how we can be lights when we love like Jesus. I can't wait to hear all about it!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by chanting, "I am a light!"

BIBLE STORY

I am a light when
I love like Jesus.

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MATTHEW 5:14-16;
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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. SPOT THE LIGHT

WHAT YOU NEED: Neon plastic party cups in three different opaque colors, duct tape, small tap lights, and batteries

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Secure the battery compartment of each tap light with a piece of duct tape.

BIBLE STORY

I am a light when
I love like Jesus.

WE ARE THE LIGHT
MATTHEW 5:14-16;
ACTS 8:26-35

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Place the cups upside down on a table. Turn the tap light on and place it under one of the cups. Slide the cups around on the table without lifting them. Ask children to watch the cups and select the cup the light is under. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over and play a super-fun cup game with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at these pretty cups! (*Place cups upside down, placing one over the shining tap light.*) Watch the cups as I move them around. (*Slide the cups on the table without lifting them.*) Can you tell which cup the light is under? (*Pause.*) YES! You're right! It's easy to see which cup the light is under because it creates a beautiful bright light! (*Remove the cup, put the tap light under another cup, and mix the cups around.*) What about now? (*Repeat as desired.*) Wonderful job! Friend, a light that shines bright is easy to spot!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today we're going to hear a Bible Story about how WE can be bright lights too!"

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the
light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by making twinkling hands up high and down low as you walk.

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.



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. LOOK AT A BOOK

WHAT YOU NEED: Preschool Bible and a variety of preschool books (*food, cars, airplanes, trains, etc.*)

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Stand the books up, spaced out on a table.

BIBLE STORY

I am a light when
I love like Jesus.

WE ARE THE LIGHT
MATTHEW 5:14-16;
ACTS 8:26-35

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Look at and talk about the books with the children.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, let's sit down together, and look at all these books."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (*Hold up a book, and show its cover.*) "What do you think this book is about? (*Pause.*) [Name of subject.] Right! Let's look at it together. What do you see? (*Pause.*) That was a great book! (*Hold up another book.*) Oh, wow, look at this book! What is this book about? (*Pause.*) Yes, you're right, this book is about [name of subject]. Let's look at it together. What do you see? (*Pause.*) That was a great book! (*Continue with all the books, leaving the Bible for last.*) What about this book? (*Hold up the Bible.*) This is a special book! This is the Bible. It's special because it's filled with God's words, and it has true stories about God and Jesus inside. Let's look at it together. What do you see? (*Pause.*) This is the best book!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, we're going to hear about a man who was reading God's words about Jesus! Let's go hear the story!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to flip the pages of a book as you walk. Ask the children to tell you what their book is about.

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the
light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

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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. SPOT LIGHT

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

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.

BIBLE STORY

I am a light when
I love like Jesus.

WE ARE THE LIGHT
MATTHEW 5:14-16;
ACTS 8:26-35

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Review the Memory Verse and motions with the children.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to stand in a circle with you. Call one child to stand in the middle of the circle and say: "[Child's name], 'you are the light of the world'" (Matthew 5:25, *NirV*). Then, instruct all the children in the circle to hold up their hands and twinkle fingers toward the child in the middle. Continue with each child.

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

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the
light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here with me! Let's say our Memory Verse while we do the motions. If you need help remembering, just watch me! 'You (point to others) are the light (twinkle fingers) of the world,' (make a circle with your arms) Matthew 5:14. (Open hands like a book.) Great job, everyone!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now, let's make a big circle. (Pause.) Perfect! I'm going to call you into the middle of the circle, one at a time, and tell you something super-special. Then we'll all twinkle our fingers like this (demonstrate) at our friend in the middle. Are you ready? [Child's name], come stand in the circle. (Pause.) [Child's name], 'you are the light of the world!' (Matthew 5:14, *NirV*). Everyone put your arms up and twinkle your fingers. (Pause.) Fantastic! Come back and stand in the circle. (Continue with each child.) This time, I want everyone to stand right where you are, put your twinkle fingers in the air, and say the verse with me. (Twinkle fingers.) 'You are the light of the world!' (Matthew 5:14, *NirV*). Yay, friends! That was amazing!"

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The Bible teaches us that God sent His Son, Jesus, to be the Light (twinkle fingers) of the World and show us how to love others. Jesus is a bright light (twinkle fingers) that helps us see how amazing God is. We can love like Jesus and be a bright light (twinkle fingers) too. **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus.** Let's say that one more time, friends. **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus."**

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.



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. RUN AND LOVE

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Stick horse

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather children in your activity area.

BIBLE STORY

I am a light when
I love like Jesus.

WE ARE THE LIGHT
MATTHEW 5:14-16;
ACTS 8:26-35

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Pretend to be the man in the chariot by riding a stick horse. Each time you stop, encourage the children to pretend to be Philip and run to you and say: "Jesus loves you!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, come stand with me! We're going to play a game!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, there was a man in a chariot who needed help understanding God's words about Jesus. Philip, a friend of Jesus, ran to the chariot and helped him. Philip told him that Jesus loved him and wanted to be his friend forever.

"Everyone, say 'hello!' to my horse. (Pause.) Let's pretend I'm the man in the chariot, and this is the horse that pulls my chariot. When you see me stop, I want you to run to me and say: 'Jesus loves you!' Let's practice. 'Jesus loves you!' That's it! You've got it! (Walk or gallop around the room, then stop.) Okay, I stopped! Run to me and say: 'Jesus loves you!' (Pause.) Yay! Stay right there—I'm going to ride some more. (Walk or gallop around the room, then stop.) Okay, I stopped! Run to me and say: 'Jesus loves you!' (Repeat as desired.) Good job, everyone!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Philip chose to shine his light and help the man understand God's words. Philip told him that Jesus loved him and wanted to be his friend forever. Philip loved like Jesus, and we can love like Jesus too. You can love like Jesus, and **I can love like Jesus! Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"

MEMORY VERSE

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



3. X AND O MATCH UP

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Large X's and O's" and "Small X's and O's" Activity Pages, cardstock, neon dessert paper plates, and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Large X's and O's" on cardstock and cut, two copies per Small Group. Copy "Small X's and O's" on cardstock and cut, one copy per Small Group. Tape the "Small X's and O's" to the middle of each of the plates, one symbol per plate. Create a tic-tac-toe grid on the floor of your activity area with tape, making sure each spot is large enough for a dessert plate to fit inside. Lay the "Large X's and O's" into each of the spots on the grid, in any order.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Point out the X's and O's on the grid and the matching plates. Give each child a plate with a symbol. One at a time, call on each child to place their plate on a matching X and O on the grid, one plate per space. Collect the plates and move the X's and O's on the floor to different spots. Pass out the plates, and play again to allow every child to have a turn. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come gather here with me. Look at this big game board we get to play with today! This is like a tic-tac-toe board."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I see X's (*point to an "X" on the grid*) and O's (*point to an "O" on the grid*). And I have some plates that have X's and O's. I'll give you a plate, and when I call on you, I want to you match your plate to a spot on the floor. You can set it right on top. Ready? [Child's name], go match! (*Pause.*) Super-duper! [Child's name], take your plate and find a match. (*Continue with each child.*) You did a great job matching the X's and O's!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "These plates look like bright lights. We are learning that we can be bright lights when we love like Jesus! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"

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I love like Jesus.

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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



4. HANDPRINT SPARKLER
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Handprint Sparkler" Activity Page, cardstock, gold star stickers, glittery gold washable paint, paper plate, paintbrush, baby wipes, plastic tablecloth, and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Handprint Sparkler" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Cover table(s). Pour some paint on a plate, and place the plate at the table with the paintbrush.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask children to put the gold star stickers on their paper while you help children paint their palm and press it at the top of the stick on their paper. Clean hands.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, come sit at the table with me! Let's make a picture with your handprint."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "While I am helping each friend paint their hand, I want you to add a star sticker at the end of each line. (*Point.*) Alright friend, let's make a sparkly gold handprint! (*Paint each child's palm, and press hand at the top of the stick on their paper.*) Look how pretty and shiny your handprint is! Let's clean off your hand, and I'll read you what the words say on your paper. It says, 'When I love like Jesus, I sparkle and shine for all to see.' Look how beautiful your handprints look!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, Jesus was talking to His friends, the disciples, and told them, 'You are the light of the world' (*Matthew 5:14, NIV*). You see, when we love like Jesus, we shine bright! Then everyone can see that Jesus loves them. But when we do not love like Jesus, we are hiding our light. Friends, let's always love like Jesus and shine our light brightly for all to see! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!** One more time! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"

BIBLE STORY

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MATTHEW 5:14-16;
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WEEK
FOUR
SEPTEMBER 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)

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. LOVE PATH

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Yellow butcher paper or poster board
- Painter's tape
- Heart stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

- On the top of a piece of butcher paper, write: "I am a light!"
- Tape the piece of butcher paper to the wall at child's height.
- Create three different paths on the floor with painter's tape leading to the yellow paper.

2. SPOT THE LIGHT

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Neon plastic party cups in three different opaque colors, three per Small Group
- Duct tape
- Small tap lights
- Batteries

WHAT YOU DO:

- Secure the battery compartment of each tap light with a piece of duct tape.

3. LOOK AT A BOOK

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Preschool Bible
- Variety of preschool books (food, cars, airplanes, trains, etc.)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Stand the books up, spaced out on a table.

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. SPOT LIGHT

[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. RUN AND LOVE

[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:

- Stick horse



WEEK
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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. X AND O MATCH UP

[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:

- "Large X's and O's" Activity Page
- "Small X's and O's" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Neon dessert paper plates
- Painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Large X's and O's" on cardstock and cut, two copies per Small Group.
- Copy "Small X's and O's" on cardstock and cut, one copy per Small Group.
- Tape the "Small X's and O's" to the middle of each of the plates, one symbol per plate.
- Create a tic-tac-toe grid on the floor of your activity area with tape, making sure each spot is large enough for a dessert plate to fit inside.
- Lay the "Large X's and O's" into each of the spots on the grid, in any order.

4. HANDPRINT SPARKLER

[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:

- "Handprint Sparkler" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Gold star stickers
- Glittery gold washable paint
- Paper plate
- Paintbrush
- Baby wipes
- Plastic tablecloth
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Handprint Sparkler" on cardstock, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Cover table(s).
- Pour some paint on a plate, and place the plate on the table with the paintbrush.

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_LightBright