

# TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

## BIBLE STORY

I love like Jesus when I help others.

TABITHA HELPS ACTS 9:36-42

### 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. Sorting Fun Dress Them Up The Great Helper

# LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways "Be a Light" 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. Light-Up Verse Wrapped in Love I Can Love Like Jesus Neon Bracelets

#### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



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. SORTING FUN**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Sorting Fun" Activity Page, cardstock, laundry baskets, blankets, coats, and painter's tape

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Sorting Fun" on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Tape one picture to the outside of each basket. Place the baskets on one side of the activity

area and the blankets and coats on the floor on the opposite side.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to put the coats and blankets in corresponding baskets. Empty and repeat as desired.

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

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, look at this pile! (Hold up a coat.) What is this? (Pause.) It's a coat—you're right! (Hold up a blanket.) What about this? (Pause.) Yes, this is a blanket. Let's work together and sort all these coats and blankets into those baskets over there. They have a picture of what goes in each basket."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Ready, set, sort! [Child's name], what did you find? (Pause.) Oh, it's a [blanket/coat]! Run and put it in the basket with that picture. (Pause.) [Child's name], what about you? What did you find? (Continue with each child until all the items have been sorted.) Wow, friends! You did a great job sorting all the coats and blankets. Let's play again!" (Repeat as desired.)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "That was lots of fun. Today our Bible Story is about a woman named Tabitha who helped others by making them clothes. Let's go hear more about her."

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to put on a coat.

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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



WORSHIP

## **2. DRESS THEM UP**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Dress Up Dolls" and "Dress Up Clothes" Activity Pages, cardstock, laminating pouches, scissors, and VELCRO® dots

## WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Dress Up Dolls" and "Dress

Up Clothes" on cardstock and cut, one set for every two children. Laminate and cut out each doll and clothing item. Place soft VELCRO dots on the back of each clothing cutout and rough VELCRO dots on the front of each doll. Be sure that the dots line up so the clothes fit the dolls.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to help dress the dolls in the different clothes. Switch outfits and play with the dolls.

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

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about different ways we can love like Jesus. One way is to help people."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's help our friends (*point to the dolls*) pick out clothes and help them get dressed. Work together with your friends and choose the clothes together. Helping others is a fun way to love like Jesus!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "You all did such a fantastic job helping our friends get dressed. Today we're going to hear a TRUE story from the Bible about a woman who helped others by making them clothes. I can't wait to hear how she loved like Jesus!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to get dressed as you walk to the story area. Pretend to button a shirt, put on pants, and put on socks.

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PRELU	JDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	НОМЕ
PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION 15 MINUTES						

## MADE TO IMAGINE

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



#### **3. THE GREAT HELPER**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Various toys (blocks, play food, dolls)

WHAT YOU DO: BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Scatter the toys around the room.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage the children to be great helpers by picking up the toys and putting them away.

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# **BASIC TRUTH**

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

**WHAT YOU SAY: BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Hey, friends! Wow, look at all the toys on the floor! Do you want to be a great helper and help me pick them up and put them away?"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's turn picking up our toys into a fun game! Are you ready? On your mark, get set, go! [Child's name], you found some blocks that need to be put away. Carry them to the block center and put them away. (Pause.) Thank you! Oh! [Child's name] found some dolls—where do they go? (Pause.) Thank you for putting the dolls away! (Continue with each child until all the toys have been picked up.) Great job, friends! You are all super-duper helpers!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "I love how you helped by putting away all the toys! Did you know that we're loving like Jesus when we help? Today we'll hear a story about how we love like Jesus when we help others."

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by encouraging children to hold hands with a friend while walking.



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME	
			CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT			

## MADE TO MOVE

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



# 1. LIGHT-UP VERSE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW] WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page, Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent, and one light-up ball

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.

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# BASIC TRUTH

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### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one label per child. Ask the children to sit in a circle with you on the floor. Say the Memory Verse together as you do the motions.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Pass the light-up ball around the circle as you say the Memory Verse together.

Note: Depending on the type of light-up ball you use, you may need to instruct the children how to make the light turn on.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Say the verse with the motions one more time. Review the Bottom Line.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come sit in a circle with me. Let's say our verse and do the motions together. Ready? '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!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Look at this ball! (Make the ball light up.) It lights up! Let's pass the ball around the circle to each other as we say our Memory Verse. (Pass the ball.) 'You are the light of the world,' Matthew 5:14 (NIrV). Good job! Keep passing, and let's say it again. (Repeat the verse several times until the ball has gone around the circle at least once.) That was a lot of fun saying our verse as we passed this bright light-up ball. I have a special sticker for you—it's our Memory Verse sticker! (Give one sticker to each child.)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Now let's stand up and say our Memory Verse and do the motions! (*Pause.*) Everyone ready? The Bible teaches us that Jesus said: '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, friends! Now tell me: **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME	
			CREA	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



WHAT YOU SAY:

help."

# 2. WRAPPED IN LOVE [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Dolls, plush animals, and small blankets

#### WHAT YOU DO:

animals in blankets as you review the Bible Story.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Sit together with the children with the items in front of you.

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# **BASIC TRUTH**

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**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Our toy friends look cold. Let's help them! We can wrap them in these blankets, so they'll be warm. (*Continue wrapping toys.*) In our Bible Story, a woman named Tabitha made clothes for people so they would be warm, like you helped our toy friends stay warm. Tabitha helped a lot of people. That's how she loved like Jesus. And when we help people, we love like Jesus too!"

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Look, everyone! We have some friends who need our

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage the children to wrap the dolls and plush

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Helping others was how Tabitha loved like Jesus. When we help people, we love like Jesus too! I can love like Jesus! And you can love like Jesus! Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!"



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



WHAT YOU SAY:

love like Jesus!'"

#### 3. I CAN LOVE LIKE JESUS [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY] WHAT YOU NEED: Preschool-safe floor mirror

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to run to the mirror one at a time and ask: **"Who can love like Jesus?"** Answer with them: **"I can love like** 

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Everyone, come join me over here. We're going to take turns running to the mirror! When you look in the mirror, you'll say: **'I can** 

WHAT YOU DO: BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Gather children in the middle of your activity area.

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# BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

# **BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Line up behind me. [Child's name], run to the mirror! Who do you see? (Pause.) It is you! Tell me: Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus! Great job! Run back and get in the back of the line. Next friend, [child's name], run to the mirror! (Continue with each child and repeat as desired.) Now I want everyone to come to the mirror. Look at the mirror and tell me: Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!"

Jesus!" Continue with each child and repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, when we love others the way Jesus loves us, we can be a bright light and show others how much Jesus loves them. Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!"



PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME
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MADE TO CREATE

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Story, Bottom Line, or Memory Verse by creating a craft

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## **BASIC TRUTH**

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#### 4. NEON BRACELETS [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Neon Bracelets" Activity Page, neoncolored cardstock, neon plastic smoothie straws, paper plates, masking tape, neon or bright color yarn, scissors, and permanent marker

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Neon Bracelets" on neon-colored cardstock and cut, one heart cutout per child. Cut yarn into 18" lengths, one per child. Tape one end of a piece of yarn to each plate, and wrap the other end tightly with tape like a shoelace. Cut straws into 1" pieces. Put a handful of straw pieces on each plate, making sure to include several of each color.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Ask children to thread the straw pieces and their heart cutout onto the yarn. Once complete, remove the taped end from the plate. Loop the yarn through the straw piece on each end and knot, leaving a tail on both ends to tie a bow around a child's wrist.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, I have a special activity for us today! We're going to make neon bracelets! Come sit at the table with me, and we'll get started."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Thread the straw pieces and your heart cutout on your yarn. You can make a pattern or just thread them as you want. (*Pause.*) Great job! I'm going to measure it around your wrist and tie off each end, so your bracelet pieces don't come off. (*After measuring, you may need to remove a few straw pieces, so it fits on their wrist. Remove taped end from the plate and discard the tape. Thread each end piece of yarn through the last straw piece and knot, leaving a tail of yarn.) Okay! Let me help you put your bracelets on, and you can wear them home today."* 

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Tabitha loved like Jesus and helped others by making clothes for them. When you wear your bracelet, you can remember to love like Jesus! Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus! One more time! Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!"



**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. SORTING FUN**

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

- "Sorting Fun" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Laundry baskets, two per Small Group
- Blankets
- Coats
- Painter's tape

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Sorting Fun" on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
- Tape one picture to the outside of each basket.
- Place the baskets on one side of the activity area and the blankets and coats on the floor on the opposite side.

## **2. DRESS THEM UP**

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

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Dress Up Dolls" Activity Page
- "Dress Up Clothes" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Laminating pouches
- Scissors
- VELCRO® dots

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Dress Up Dolls" and "Dress Up Clothes" on cardstock and cut, one set for every two children.
- Laminate and cut out each doll and clothing item.
- Place soft VELCRO® dots on the back of each clothing cutout and rough VELCRO® dots on the front of each doll. Be sure that the dots line up, so the clothes fit the dolls.

#### **3. THE GREAT HELPER**

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

- Various toys (blocks, play food, dolls)
  WHAT YOU DO:
- Scatter toys around the room.



# **GETTING READY**

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

## 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. LIGHT-UP 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
- Light-up ball, one per Small Group
- WHAT YOU DO:
- Copy "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one label per child.

# 2. WRAPPED IN LOVE [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:** 

- Dolls
- Plush animals
- Small blankets

#### 3. I CAN LOVE LIKE JESUS [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:** 

• Preschool-safe floor mirror

# 4. NEON BRACELETS

# [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:

- "Neon Bracelets" Activity Page
- Neon-colored cardstock
- Neon plastic smoothie straws
- Paper plates
- Masking tape
- Neon or bright color yarn
- Scissors
- Permanent marker
- WHAT YOU DO:
- Copy "Neon Bracelets" on neon-colored cardstock and cut, one heart cutout per child.
- Cut yarn into 18" lengths, one per child.
- Tape one end of a piece of yarn to each plate, and wrap the other end tightly with tape like a shoelace.
- Cut straws into 1" pieces. Put a handful of straw pieces on each plate, making sure to include several of each color.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

# **GETTING READY**

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

## 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\_LightBright</u>