



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is the
Light of the World.

JESUS IS THE LIGHT
JOHN 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5

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.

Light-Up Hopscotch
Bright Banner
Pick a Place

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Be a Light" and "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.

Memory Verse with Motions
Light of the World
Light-Source Brainstorm
Light Up the World
Bubble-Painted World
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



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



10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page; cardstock; scissors; Bible; instruments or music player; this month's worship song, "Be a Light," included in your monthly files; and "Made Us Wonderful," available on Store.ThinkOrange.com; *Optional: Dance Moves Videos for "Be a Light," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from Store.ThinkOrange.com, and "Made Us Wonderful," available from Store.ThinkOrange.com*

Worship Leader enters.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hi, friends! My name is [your name], and I'm SO excited to see you today! We are here to worship Jesus because Jesus is the Light of the World and Jesus loves us! We can be bright lights, too, when we love like Jesus. When I ask, '**Who can love like Jesus?**' I want you to say, '**I can love like Jesus!** **Who can love like Jesus?**'"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "**I can love like Jesus.**"

WORSHIP LEADER: "Yes, you can love like Jesus and **I can love like Jesus!** Let's sing about how we can be a light!"

Lead children in singing "Be a Light," this month's worship song.

"What a great song! We'll sing it all month long. 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.*)"

"Let's learn our Memory Verse together. Are you ready? Watch me say it and do the motions, and then you can do it with me!"

Lead children to say the Memory Verse with the motions.

"Great job, friends! Jesus is the Light and we can be bright lights when we love like Jesus loves! **Who can love like Jesus?**"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "**I can love like Jesus.**"

WORSHIP LEADER: "That's right! You are wonderfully made to love others. Sing this with me."

Lead children in singing "Made Us Wonderful."



WEEK
ONE
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE SOCIAL **WORSHIP** STORY GROUPS HOME

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is the
Light of the World.

JESUS IS THE LIGHT
JOHN 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5

"Thanks for worshipping with me today! **[Transition]** And now it's time to turn around, sit down, and shake the wiggles out (*wiggle hands*), so we can hear (*cup hands behind ears*) what the story's all about!"

Host enters as Worship Leader exits.

MEMORY VERSE

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light of the world."

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Small table, flashlight, fiber optic wand, and plasma ball; *Optional: Extension cord and painter's tape*

Note: If you do not have a fiber optic wand or plasma ball, substitute any fun-shaped lamp, lava lamp, or disco light, and adjust the script accordingly.

Preset a table in the storytelling area. Place the fiber optic wand and plasma ball on the table. Plug in the plasma ball. If using an extension cord, tape the cable to the floor with painter's tape to avoid tripping hazards.

Host enters as Worship Leader exits. Host carries the flashlight.

HOST: "Hi, friends! Welcome to [your environment's name or story time]! My name is [your name]. Guess what? I have some cool lights, and I want you to see how they shine bright. Like my flashlight!

Turn on the flashlight, and shine it around the room above the children's heads.

"Raise your hand if you have a flashlight to help you see in the dark. (Pause.) So many of you!

Place flashlight on the table. Pick up the fiber optic wand, and turn it on.

"Now check this out. See how it lights up all the way to the very end? It's so fun to move around and watch the light.

Set the fiber optic wand on the table. Pick up the plasma ball or move it to the front of the table.

"I love how this one lights up! Look at what happens when I touch it.

Touch the plasma ball so it lights up.

"The light moves! I could watch that forever.

"These lights are really bright, but [Storyteller's name] has a true story from the Bible about the brightest Light! See you later, friends."

Storyteller enters as Host exits, leaving all lights on the table.

STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Table (from Intro), Bible, flashlight, fiber optic wand, and plasma ball (from Intro); tri-fold foam core presentation board; battery-operated poster lights or string lights; red glitter paint; paintbrush; scissors; painter's tape; *Optional: Story Images and cardstock*

Storyteller enters as Host exits. Storyteller carries a Bible and the prepared tri-fold presentation board and lays the board on the table. The heart should be hidden from children's views.

STORYTELLER: "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible.



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HOME

10 MINUTES

Open the Bible for children to see, then set it down.

"Today's true story from the Bible begins with the whole world.

(Option: Display Story Image W1 01)

"God made the whole world and everything in it. Then God made people, and God gave a gift for all people. God sent someone really special.

"Raise your hand if you think you know who God sent for everyone. We celebrate this special person being born on Christmas. Do you know who it is? *(Pause.)* Yes, it's Jesus!

(Option: Display Story Image W1 02)

"God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World.

Turn on the flashlight, and shine it around the room, avoiding children's eyes..

"Now, Jesus is not a light like a flashlight.

Place the flashlight on the table next to the lights Host left behind. Hold up the fiber optic wand.

"Jesus is not a light like this.

Place the fiber optic wand on the table. Touch the plasma ball to make it light up.

"Jesus is not a light like this plasma ball.

"Jesus is a light who helps us see how amazing God is.

(Option: Display Story Image W1 03)

"When Jesus helped people, He was a bright light showing us how God helps people.

(Option: Display Story Image W1 04)

"When Jesus forgave people, He was a bright light showing us how God forgives people.

Hold up the tri-fold board with the heart on it. Open the board up so the heart is visible.

(Option: Display Story Image W1 05)

"When Jesus loved people, He was a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too.



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HOME

10 MINUTES

Turn on the lights on the heart board.

"If our friend needs help learning to play a game, we can love like Jesus and help them.

"If our brother or sister knocks down our block tower, we can love like Jesus and forgive them.

"If our friend is sad, we can love like Jesus and ask them if they would like a hug.

"I'm so glad God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World and show us how to love others. We can all love like Jesus.

Who can love like Jesus?"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "I can love like Jesus!"

STORYTELLER: "Yes, **I can love like Jesus**. **[Transition]** Our story time is over (*pick up and close Bible*), but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. Jesus showed us how to love others. Help us to be bright lights and love like Jesus everywhere we go. We love You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

"I'll see you next time. Bye!"

Host enters as Storyteller exits, carrying Bible.

OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Flashlight, fiber optic wand, and plasma ball (from Intro)

The lights are still on the table.

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: "Wow! God gave us Jesus to show us how to love. Jesus really is the Light of the World!

"I think I (*point to self*) got the story. Did you (*point to children*) get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?" (*Cup one hand behind ear.*)

CHILDREN AND HOST: "Got it!"

HOST: (*Give two thumbs-up.*) "Good!"

"These lights are all really bright, but Jesus is the brightest Light of the whole world! See you next time!

[Transition] "And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

Host dismisses small groups and exits.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

GETTING READY

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

Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive Worship, the Intro Sketch, and the Bible Story. The Stage Script is written for those who gather their preschoolers together from multiple rooms and have a larger space on which to present the Bible Story. If you are pulling your children to a rug on one side of your preschool space, you may benefit from using the Rug Script.

WORSHIP: INVITING PEOPLE TO RESPOND TO GOD (10 MINUTES)

A Worship Leader and live instruments are recommended to sing along with the music tracks. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

STORY: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS (10 MINUTES)

Choose an adult or teenager who relates well to preschoolers to tell the Intro Sketch. If possible, use the same person for an entire month, as the Host role stays the same each month.

Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible Story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be "told" and not "read." Advance preparation is necessary.

1. WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Leader(s)
- "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Bible
- Instruments or music player

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- This month's worship song, "Be a Light," included in your monthly files
- "Made Us Wonderful," available on the *My Friend Forever* album from Store.ThinkOrange.com

OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- Dance Moves Music Video for "Be a Light," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from Store.ThinkOrange.com
- Dance Moves Music Video for "Made Us Wonderful," available from Store.ThinkOrange.com

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut apart.
- Place "Memory Verse Card" in Bible at Matthew 5:14.
- Download all songs available and have them ready to use.

2. INTRO/OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Small table
- Flashlight
- Fiber optic wand, such as <https://a.co/d/dioYhQO>
- Plasma ball, such as <https://a.co/d/7iXzVlJ>
- Note: If you do not have a fiber optic wand or plasma ball, substitute any fun-shaped lamp, lava lamp, or disco light, and adjust the script accordingly.
- Optional: Extension cord and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Preset the table in the storytelling area.
- Place the fiber optic wand and plasma ball on the table.
- Plug in the plasma ball.
- Optional: If using an extension cord, tape the cable with painter's tape to avoid tripping hazards.



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GETTING READY

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

3. BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Table (from Intro)
- Bible
- Flashlight, fiber optic wand, and plasma ball (from Intro)
- Tri-fold foam core presentation board
- Battery-operated poster lights or string lights, such as <https://a.co/d/6D3PbzF>
- Red glitter paint
- Paintbrush
- Scissors
- Painter's tape
- *Optional: Story Images and cardstock*

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Story Image W1 01
- Story Image W1 02
- Story Image W1 03
- Story Image W1 04
- Story Image W1 05

WHAT YOU DO:

- Paint a large red heart on the tri-fold presentation board using the red glitter paint.
- Punch holes through the board around the inside of the heart, one hole per light on the LED string lights.
- Push the LED lights through the hole from the back and tape the cords to the board.
- Tape the control box to the top of the board.
- *Option: Copy Story Images on cardstock or download to display on a device or screen.*

WONDER! LOOK AT GOD'S STORY: First Look offers weekly videos to engage preschoolers with the Bible Story. Join our Bible storytellers, Clubhouse friends, and, of course, Ollie the Owl to discover the wonder in God's story. Available in the First Look Media Package or can also be purchased monthly at Store.ThinkOrange.com.

MONTHLY WIDGET*:

LOVE LIKE JESUS SUNCATCHER

This month, we offer a unique item that helps kids and families apply what they're learning at home. Available at Store.ThinkOrange.com.

*WIDG·ET [WIJ-IT] -noun

1. Something unspecific whose name is either forgotten or not known.
2. A device that is very useful for a particular job
Origin: 1925-30; perhaps an alternative form of gadget

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. bit.ly/FL_LightBright

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES