



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.

Collecting Love
Love Like Jesus
Light Bright Glow

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Be a Light" and "You Love Me"

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.

Picture It
Philip Helps
Shine Jesus' Light
Find Your Light
My Light
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

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



10 MINUTES

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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" from Week One in Bible; instruments or music player; this month's worship song, "Be a Light," included in your monthly files; and "You Love Me," 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 "You Love Me," available from Store.ThinkOrange.com*

Worship Leader enters.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hi, friends! I'm [your name], and I'm SO glad to see you today! We're learning something BIG this month! Did you know that Jesus loves you? It's true! Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever. And because Jesus loves you and me, Jesus wants us to love others too. We can love like Jesus. **Who can love like Jesus?"**

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

WORSHIP LEADER: "That's right! When we choose to love others like Jesus loves us, we can be bright, bright lights! Stand up on your feet and let's sing about that!"

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

"I can be a light and **I can love like Jesus!** 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.) Say it with me."

Lead children to say the Memory Verse with the motions.

"I love that verse! We are bright lights when we love like Jesus! And we love others because Jesus loves us. Let's sing about that."

Lead children in singing "You Love Me."

"We can share Jesus' love with everyone. **[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.



WEEK
FOUR
SEPTEMBER 2024

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Glow sticks, small bags or bins, upbeat music, and music player

Host enters with glow sticks as Worship Leader exits.

HOST: "Hi, friends! Welcome to [your environment's name or story time]! My name is [your name] and I have the COOLEST thing!

Hold out hand to display different-colored glow sticks.

"Glow sticks! You can have SO much fun dancing with these. What do you say? Would you like to have a glow stick dance party with me? (Pause.) Yay! Small group leaders, will you pass out glow sticks to all of our friends today?"

Volunteers hand out a bag of glow sticks to each Small Group.

AUDIO: Upbeat music

"Does every friend have a glow stick? (Pause.) Yay! Get on your feet and dance with me! (Pause.)

"Now dance in a circle, like this.

Lead children to dance in a circle.

"Now pretend to be ocean waves and move your arms up and down!

Lead children to make waves with their arms.

"Great job, friends! You can sit down now. These glow sticks are so fun! You can even use them to pretend to write your name in the sky like this.

Mimic writing your name overhead, calling out the letters of your name as you write them.

"I really like playing with glow sticks because they shine so bright! But [Storyteller's name] has a Bible story about how WE can shine bright like a light. See you later!

Storyteller enters as Host exits, leaving the glow sticks with the children for Bible Story.

STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, glow sticks (from Intro) one per child and one for Storyteller, and standing person cutout from previous weeks; *Optional: Story Images and cardstock*

Storyteller enters as Host exits. Storyteller carries a Bible and an activated glow stick.

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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10 MINUTES

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

"Today's true story from the Bible begins with Jesus, God's Son.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 01)

"One day, Jesus was talking to His friends, the disciples, on a mountain. Jesus said, 'You are the light of the world.'
(Matthew 5:14, NIV) Hold up your glow stick up high like this.

Hold glow stick up high.

"Great job! You see, when we love like Jesus, we shine bright like a light! Jesus even said, 'Don't hide it!'

Bring glow stick in front of your chest, and cover glow stick with your hand. Then uncover the glow stick as you continue talking.

"Jesus wants us to be a bright light for everyone to see!

"You can put your glow stick down because I want to tell you about a friend of Jesus' named Philip. Philip let his light shine bright just like Jesus said.

Walk across storytelling area like Philip.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 02)

"One day, Philip was walking down a road and . . .

Point to the standing person cutout.

". . . saw a man sitting in a chariot.

Pick up Bible and walk to the standing person cutout.

"The man was reading God's words, but the man needed help understanding what he was reading.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 03)

"So, Philip sat with the man.

Sit next to standing person cutout and open Bible.

"And Philip helped him understand God's words about Jesus and how Jesus had come to be his friend forever. Wow!

Stand and hold glow stick up high.

"Philip chose to shine his light, and he helped the man. Philip loved like Jesus . . .

Hold glow stick up high.



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HOME

10 MINUTES

“. . . and we can love like Jesus too. **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: “Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to show us how to love others and be bright lights! Just like Philip chose to be a bright light, help us to love others this week too. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.”

“I’ll see you next time. Bye!”

Host enters as Storyteller exits, carrying Bible and glow stick.

OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Glow stick (from Intro)

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: “Wow! We are a bright light when we love like Jesus, just like Philip did!

“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! Hey, I’m going to go share some of these lights with my friend [*friend’s name*] and tell him that Jesus wants to be his friend forever. Hand your glow sticks to your Small Group Leader.”

Small Group Leaders collect glow sticks. Note: This is mainly just to help the children transition away from the glow sticks before small group begins. You can decide to give the glow sticks back to children after small group ends.

[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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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)
- Instruments or music player
- "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, placed in Bible at Matthew 5:14

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- This month's worship song, "Be a Light," included in your monthly files
- "You Love Me," available on the *Never Better* album on 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 "You Love Me," available from Store.ThinkOrange.com

WHAT YOU DO:

- Download all songs available and have them ready to use.

2. INTRO/OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Glow sticks, one per child, Small Group Leader, and Host
- Small bags or bins
- Music player

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- Upbeat music

WHAT YOU DO:

- Organize glow sticks into small bags or bins, one per Small Group. Each bag should have one glow stick for every child and Small Group Leader.
- Activate the glow sticks just before Large Group since glow sticks only last for a few hours.
- *Note: Give Small Group Leaders a heads-up that you'll need their help distributing glow sticks to each child. Have volunteers ready to hand out bags of glow sticks to Small Group Leaders.*



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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:

- Bible
- Glow sticks (from Intro), one per child
- Glow sticks for Storyteller
- Standing person cutout from previous weeks
- *Optional: Story Images and cardstock*

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Story Image W4 01
- Story Image W4 02
- Story Image W4 03

WHAT YOU DO:

- *Option: Copy Story Images on cardstock or download to display on a device or screen.*

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

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.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

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