



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.



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. LIGHT-UP HOPSCOTCH

WHAT YOU NEED: 11" glow sticks and clear packing tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Activate each glow stick and tape to the floor to create a glowing hopscotch board, covering each glow stick end to end with tape.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Demonstrate how to jump along the board to the other side. Allow every child to jump through the board. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Wow! Friends, come look at these lights! They are all lined up to make a glowing hopscotch board!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Have you ever played hopscotch before? (Pause.) Come line up behind me, and I'll show you how! (Demonstrate.) Doesn't that look like fun? Usually, you toss a bean bag and jump, but today we're just going to jump! [Child's name], why don't you hop first? (Pause.) We can cheer for our friends as they hop through. Yay, [child's name]! (Continue with each child and repeat as desired.) That was so fun!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "This is my first time playing hopscotch on a board that was made with lights! Today, we're going to hear a story about a very special, very bright Light! Let's go hear all about it."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by leading the children to jump left, (children jump to their left) jump right, (children jump to their right) and then "be a bright light" (twinkle fingers on both hands). Repeat over and over again as you travel.

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 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. BRIGHT BANNER

WHAT YOU NEED: White butcher paper; yellow and orange highlighters; pink highlighter, one per child; painter's tape; and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay the butcher paper on a table or the floor. In the middle of the paper, use the permanent

marker to write: "Jesus Is the Light • John 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5." Then, use the permanent marker to draw outlines of smiley faces, suns, and hearts all over the paper, at least two hearts per child. Use the yellow highlighter to color the smiley faces and the orange highlighter to color the suns, but leave the hearts blank.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a pink highlighter. Ask them to color two hearts to make them as bright as the smiley faces and suns are. Ask children to color any additional hearts. Hang the paper at the door.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is the Light of the World.

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let me show you the cool banner I have been working on! (*Point.*) I want it to shine super-bright! I have faces and suns all filled in, but I need help with the hearts. Will you help me make all the hearts super bright too? (*Pause.*) Yay!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I have a really special marker for you to use today. It's called a highlighter. See how bright the suns and smiley faces are? (*Pause.*) Everyone ready to make the banner even brighter? Color in two (*hold up two fingers*) hearts. If we have more to fill in when everyone is finished with their two, then we can keep going. I can't wait to see how bright our finished banner will be! (*Pause.*) WOW! You have helped me make the banner SUPER-bright!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Hearts remind me of love, and in today's Bible Story, we're going to learn about how we can love like Jesus."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by alternating making twinkling hands and heart hands as you walk.

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.



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. PICK A PLACE*

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert Poster;" cardstock; large, laminated map of the United States or your home country; Play-Doh®; and baby wipes; *Optional: Maps of your home state, page protectors, and dry-erase markers*

**Note: Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (in the Prelude folder) and post it at the*

door to your room.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is the
Light of the World.

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

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list Play-Doh®, and post at the door. Lay the laminated map on the table. Set a lump of Play-Doh® at each spot at the table.

Option: For each child, make a copy of the outline of your home state, place it in a page protector, and give each child a dry-erase marker.

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the
light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Explain that maps are like pictures of the places we live—some maps even show us the roads to take to get from one place to another. Encourage each child to find a state near their seat and fill it in with the Play-Doh®.

Option: Give each child the copy of your state in a page protector and a dry-erase marker. Ask them to trace the outline of your state and color it in.

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come find a spot at the table with me."

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "This is a map of [name of map]. A map is like a picture of where we live. We live here, (*point to your home state*) in the state of [State]. There are lots of states on the map. I want you to choose a state near you and fill it in with Play-Doh®. Do you see the borders or the lines that surround each state? Fill in the whole thing, right up to the border. (*Pause.*) You did a great job! There are lots and lots of places on this map. And this is just part of the world—there are more places in the world that are not shown on this map!"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Did you know that Jesus is a Light to the WHOLE wide world? He IS! We'll learn more about that in our Bible Story today. Let's go!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by naming places on the map as kids respond with, "Jesus is the Light." So, you say, "In Texas . . ." as kids respond, "Jesus is the Light!" Tailor this to the places on your map for the activity.



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



1. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

[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

Jesus is the Light of the World.

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

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Say the Memory Verse and demonstrate the motions for the children.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Teach the Memory Verse motions. Invite the children to do it with you several times.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand with me and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. '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.)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now let's learn the motions. The first part of our verse says, 'You.' (Point to others.) Point to all of our friends like this (demonstrate) and say, 'you' with me. (With children.) You. (Point to others.)

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

"The next part of our verse says, 'are the light!' (Twinkle fingers.) Put your hands in the air, make fists, and then open and shut them like this (demonstrate) and say, 'are the light!' (With children.) 'Are the light!' (Twinkle fingers.)

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

"Wonderful! Now, let's put that together. 'You (point to others) are the light!' (Twinkle fingers.) Great job!

"The next part says, 'of the world!' Make a circle in front of you with your arms like this. (Make a circle with your arms.) Then say, 'of the world!' (With children.) Of the world. (Make a circle with your arms.)

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

"Can we do all three together? 'You (point to others) are the light (twinkle fingers) of the world!' (Make a circle with your arms.)

"Now the last part is, 'Matthew 5:14!' (Open hands like a book.) Put your hands together in front of you, and open them like you are opening a book. (Demonstrate.) Then say, 'Matthew 5:14!' (With children.) Matthew 5:14. (Open hands like a book.) Great job!



WEEK
ONE
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"I think we're ready to do it all together! Ready, friends? '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.*) Nice job. Let's do it again." (*Repeat several times.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The Bible teaches us that God sent His Son, Jesus, to be the Light of the World and to show us how to love others. Jesus is a bright light who helps us see how amazing God is. We can love like Jesus and be a bright light 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.**"



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

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.

2. LIGHT OF THE WORLD

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Light Circle," and "World Circle" Activity Pages; white cardstock; light yellow cardstock; scissors; crayons; and metal brads

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Light Circle" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Copy "World Circle" on light yellow cardstock and cut, one per child. Make a small cut where indicated in the center of "Light Circle" for the brad.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a "Light Circle" and "World Circle" cutout. Encourage children to color their papers. Help each child put their papers together ("Light Circle" on top of the "World Circle"), and attach with the brad. Demonstrate how to turn the light. Review the Bible Story.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come sit with me! We're going to make something special for you to take home today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "I'm going to give you a light circle (*hold up 'Light Circle'*) and a world circle (*hold up 'World Circle'*) for you to color. (*Pause.*) Great job! In our Bible Story, we learned that Jesus (*hold up 'Light Circle'*) is the Light of the World. (*Hold up 'World Circle.'*) I want you to put your light circle on top of your world circle. I will come around and help you make them stay together. (*Help assemble the two circles together, and secure them with the brad.*) Now you can turn your light circle like this, (*demonstrate*) to show that Jesus is the Light for everyone in the whole world! Turn your light. See those people? Jesus loves those people. We can love those people too. Turn your light again. (*Repeat as desired.*) Jesus is a light who helps us see how amazing God is. Jesus is a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus came to be the Light for every person in the world. That means Jesus came to show me that **I can love like Jesus** and Jesus came to show you that you can love like Jesus. So, tell me: **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



3. LIGHT-SOURCE BRAINSTORM

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Butcher paper and washable markers

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Use a marker to draw a vertical line down the center of the butcher paper to create two columns. Lay the butcher paper on the table. Gather the children around the table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to brainstorm different sources of light as you write them down on the left-hand side of the paper. Examples: lights on the street, lights on a race car, lights in your home, lights on a bus, flashlights etc. Then ask the children to name places where we see lights. List them on the right-hand side of the paper. Examples: boats, cars, the street, the store, home, school, church, etc. Talk about how these lights can only shine brightly in one spot.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come gather around the table! Today, we are talking about light."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Can you name some lights? (Pause.) What about lights on a race car? I'll write that down on this side of the page. (Pause.) What are some other lights? (Continue until you have several examples.) These are great! On this side, let's write down some places we see lights. I'll start! We see lights at home. (Pause.) Where else do we see lights? (Continue until you have several examples.) This is a great list!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "There are lots of different sources of light and places where we find light! But each of these lights can only shine brightly in one spot. Today, we learned that Jesus is the Light of the World—the whole world! Jesus is a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too.

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

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 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



4. LIGHT UP THE WORLD

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Painter's tape and flashlight

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Create a simple, large outline of the world on the floor using tape.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus is the Light of the World.

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

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask the children to jump inside the world, and act out different ways to show love. When you see the children showing love, shine the flashlight on them. Then, encourage all the children to lift their hands in the air, twinkle their fingers, and say, **"I can love like Jesus."**

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hi, friends! Look at the world on the floor! Let's gather around it together and play a game."

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Everyone, when I say, 'Bright light!' I want you to jump in the world. Ready? One, two, three, BRIGHT LIGHT! (Pause.) Super-duper! Today, we learned that God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World who shows us how God loves people and how we can love people too. Let's walk around inside the world. (Pause.) Okay, freeze! Show me what it looks like to ask a friend to play. (Shine the flashlight at the children who are acting it out. Be careful not to shine the light in their faces.) Look! Our friends [child's names] are loving like Jesus! See the light?"

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

"Everyone, put your hands above your head and twinkle your fingers. (Pause.) Shout it out: **'I can love like Jesus.' I can love like Jesus.** Great job! Put your hands down. (Repeat with as many of the kids who are acting it out.) Okay, walk around the world again. (Pause.) And freeze! (Continue saying different ways to show love: hug a sad friend, share your toys, say 'please' and 'thank you,' draw a picture for someone who is sick, forgive someone for knocking over your block tower, etc.) Wow! That was amazing watching you love like Jesus!"

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "When Jesus helped people, He was a bright light showing us how God helps people. When Jesus forgave people, He was a bright light showing us how God forgives people. And when Jesus loved people, He was a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too."

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus."



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



5. BUBBLE-PAINTED WORLD*
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert Poster," "Bubble-Painted World," and "Bubble Jesus" Activity Pages; cardstock; small, plastic bowls; blue and green washable paint; hypoallergenic dish soap; water; plastic bendable straws; scissors; glue sticks; paper towels; plastic spoons; baby wipes; plastic tablecloth; and a permanent marker

**Note: Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (in the Prelude folder) and post it at the door to your room.*

**Note: You may want to enlist additional help and/or work in smaller groups for this activity.*

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list dish soap, and post at the door. Copy "Bubble-Painted World" on cardstock and cut, one per child and leader. Write each child's name on their paper. Copy "Bubble Jesus" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per child. Lay the tablecloth over the table.

Mix ¼" of green paint and a generous squirt of dish soap to half of the bowls. Fill the bowls the rest of the way with water, an inch from the top. Repeat with the blue paint in the other half of the bowls. Place sets of two bowls around the table. For each child's straw, make a small cut at the bendable part—this will keep the paint from going into their mouths.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to take turns blowing bubbles with their straw in the blue and green paints while the paper is held over each bowl. Turn papers over and show children how their bubbles created a picture of the world. Set aside to dry and clean hands if needed.

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come join me at the table! I have a super-fun and bubbly activity for us to work on today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "We are going to make bubble art! It's so much fun! (Use your own straw and Activity Page to demonstrate.) Put your straw into the colorful water. Then, lay your paper on top of the bowl like this, and blow into the straw. Then, take your paper off and move your straw to the other color, and do it again. (Demonstrate, then reveal your bubble painting.) Take a look! The bubbles colored in the picture of the world! Everyone has their own straw—do not share your straw. Are you ready? Bubble time! (Pause.) You did a great job! (Let children

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.



WEEK
ONE
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

repeat colors if needed to fill in their picture.) We'll put these aside to dry. (Pause.) Friends, now that your picture is dry, let's add your picture of Jesus. Rub some glue on the back and stick Him on. (Pause.) These look fantastic!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, we learned that God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World. Not like a flashlight, or a nightlight, or a glow stick. Jesus is a light who helps us see how amazing God is! Jesus is a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too. Friends, we can love like Jesus too! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!"**



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

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

Jesus is the
Light of the World.

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

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Matthew 5:14. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*

Lead the children to make a circle with their arms for the world as you walk to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the
light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of different places around the world.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today, we're going to make a big circle for the world with our hands, like this. *(Hold up your arms in a circle.)* Everyone, make a world with me! Okay, now let's walk to our Small Group spot with our world high in the air. Follow me! *(Hold your arms in a circle as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)* We did it! We walked the world to our Small Group spot! Way to go! Now, let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: *(Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.)* "In our Bible Story today, we learned that God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World and show us how to love others. We can all love like Jesus. Can [child's name] love like Jesus? Yes! *(Repeat with each child.)* That means not just us, but EVERYONE in the WORLD can love like Jesus! So, every time I ask: '**Who can love like Jesus?**' I want everyone to say, '**I can love like Jesus!**' Let's try it! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!** Yay! That was awesome!"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.



WEEK
ONE
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"Now in our Bible Story, we learned that Jesus is the Light of the World. Right? Right! (*Two thumbs up.*) In the Bible verse we're going to learn, 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.*) Wow! When we love like Jesus, we are the light of the world too! Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do. '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.*) Yay! (*Clap.*) When we love like Jesus, we are a light, like Him! I love that!

"Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Who shows us how to love? (*Give examples as needed, such as Jesus, parents, aunts, teachers, etc. Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all these people we wrote down! (*Hold up journal.*) Jesus is the Light of the World, and we can all be bright lights like the people in our list. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be the Light of the World to show everyone in the world how to love like Him. Thank you for the people who are bright lights to us like (*read the list the children made*). Thank You for sending Jesus to be the Light Please help (*say each child's name*) love like Jesus. We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."



WEEK
ONE
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 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. LIGHT-UP HOPSCOTCH

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- 11" glowsticks, 31 per Small Group
- Clear packing tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Activate each glow stick and tape to the floor to create a glowing hopscotch board, covering each glow stick end to end with tape.

2. BRIGHT BANNER

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- White butcher paper
- Yellow and orange highlighters
- Pink highlighter, one per child
- Painter's tape
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Lay the butcher paper on a table or the floor.
- In the middle of the paper, use the permanent marker to write: "Jesus Is the Light • John 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5"
- Then, use the permanent marker to draw outlines of smiley faces, suns, and hearts all over the paper, at least two hearts per child.
- Use the yellow highlighter to color the smiley faces and the orange highlighter to color the suns, but leave the hearts blank.

3. PICK A PLACE*

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Allergy Alert Poster"
- Cardstock
- Large, laminated map of the United States or your home country
- Play-Doh®
- Baby wipes
- *Optional: Maps of your home state, page protectors, and dry-erase markers*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list Play-Doh®, and post at the door.
- Lay the laminated map on the table.
- Set a lump of Play-Doh® at each spot at the table.
- *Option: For each child, make a copy of the outline of your home state, place it in a page protector, and give them a dry-erase marker.*



WEEK
ONE
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

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. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

[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. LIGHT OF THE WORLD

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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:

- "Light Circle" Activity Page
- "World Circle" Activity Page
- White cardstock
- Light yellow cardstock
- Scissors
- Metal brads

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Light Circle" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Copy "World Circle" on light yellow cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Make a small cut where indicated in the center of "Light Circle" for the brad.

3. LIGHT-SOURCE BRAINSTORM

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Butcher paper
- Washable markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use a marker to draw a vertical line down the center of the butcher paper to create two columns.

4. LIGHT UP THE WORLD

[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
- Flashlight

WHAT YOU DO:

- Create a simple, large outline of the world on the floor using tape.

5. BUBBLE-PAINTED WORLD*

[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:

- "Allergy Alert Poster"
- "Bubble-Painted World" Activity Page
- "Bubble Jesus" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Small, plastic bowls
- Blue and green washable paint
- Hypoallergenic dish soap
- Water
- Plastic bendable straws
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Paper towels
- Plastic spoons
- Baby wipes



WEEK
ONE
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

GETTING READY

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

- Plastic tablecloth
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list dish soap, and post at the door.
- Copy "Bubble-Painted World" on cardstock and cut, one per child and leader.
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Copy "Bubble Jesus" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Lay the tablecloth over the table.
- Mix ¼" of green paint and a generous squirt of dish soap in half of the bowls. Fill the bowls the rest of the way with water, an inch from the top. Stir with a plastic spoon to mix. Repeat with the blue paint in the other half of the bowls.
- Place sets of two bowls around the table.
- For each child's straw, make a small cut at the bendable part—this will keep the paint mixture from going up into their mouths.

6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Bible
- Journal (Check out the Ollie journal at bit.ly/3B4Z71j.)
- Fun-shaped pen (Check out the Ollie pen at bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh.)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group.

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