



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



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. COLLECTING LOVE

WHAT YOU NEED: Buckets in four different colors and heart cutouts in colors matching the buckets; *Optional:* "Collecting Love" Activity Page, cardstock in colors that match the buckets, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place the buckets in a line in the middle of your activity area. Scatter the hearts all around your area.

Option: Copy "Collecting Love" on colored cardstock and cut, two copies of each color per Small Group. Use the hearts from "Collecting Love" instead of heart cutouts.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to run, pick up a heart, and then place it in the matching bucket. Repeat until all the hearts have been collected. Scatter hearts and repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, everyone! Come join me over here with all these hearts! Hearts make me think of love."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's play a game and collect the love! When I say, 'go!' I want everyone to run and pick up one (*hold up one heart*) heart. Then, go to the bucket that matches the color of the heart you have, and put it inside. (*Demonstrate.*) Then, go and find another heart and do it again. We'll keep going until we've collected all the love. Are you ready to play? (*Pause.*) Let's GO! (*Pause.*) Hooray! You did it! You collected all the love! Let's play again! (*Scatter hearts and reset the buckets.*) That was so much fun getting all the hearts in the matching buckets! Thank you for helping collect all the love!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In today's Bible Story, we'll hear that when we love like Jesus, we shine bright, and everyone can see that Jesus loves them. I can't wait to hear our story!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by holding up each color heart, one at a time, and asking children to look for things that are the same color as that heart.

BIBLE STORY

I am a light when
I love like Jesus.

WE ARE THE LIGHT
MATTHEW 5:14-16;
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BASIC TRUTH

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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. LOVE LIKE JESUS

WHAT YOU NEED: Mini muffin pans, colorful ping-pong balls, small heart cutouts in a variety of colors, and plastic bins

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place a heart in the bottom of several of the cups in the muffin tin. Add a ping-pong ball to

each cup in the muffin tin.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to find the hearts by removing one ping-pong ball from the muffin tin cups at a time. Ask children to place the balls into the plastic bins after they remove them.

Option: If time and interest allow, create a matching game and encourage children to find two hearts of the same color.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

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 SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hi, friends! Come sit at the table with me. I have a fun game for us to play!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at these muffin pans! They have brightly-colored ping-pong balls in each cup. It reminds me of the bright lights on a Lite-Brite® toy. Let's work to take all the ping-pong balls out of the muffin cups and put them in the bins. (Pause.) What did you find? (Pause.) A beautiful, [color] heart! Wow! What a surprise! Hearts make us think of . . . LOVE! Let's see if we can find more hearts! (Pause.) Look at all the bright and beautiful love we found! Let's play again!" (Reset and repeat as desired.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear how we shine brightly when we love like Jesus and then others see how much Jesus loves them!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by encouraging the children to hold a heart shape with their hands, look through it like binoculars, and see who they can love like Jesus.

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the
light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

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WEEK
FOUR
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

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. LIGHT BRIGHT GLOW

WHAT YOU NEED: Chunky highlighters in a variety of colors, copy paper, and black light flashlight

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Ask children to come sit at the table with you.

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: Give each child a piece of copy paper, and encourage them to draw their favorite shapes, friends, etc. with the highlighters. Help children put the lids back on all the highlighters. Ask children to meet you under the table with their picture. Take turns shining the black light on each child's picture and watching the colors light up.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hi, friends! Let's sit down together and draw some pictures."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "See these markers that I have? Wow! These markers are so bright! Let's use them to draw some pictures of our favorite things. We can draw whatever we want—like different shapes or our friends! *(Pause.)* Wow! Your drawings look so bright! But I want to show you something super-cool! Grab your picture and meet me under the table. Everyone, put your picture on the floor, and I'll shine my special light on it. *(Slowly shine the black light flashlight on each child's picture, pausing to let the children observe how the colors get even brighter with the light.)* That was so neat to see your pictures get even brighter! Come back up to the table with me."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear how our lights can shine bright when we love like Jesus—just like your pictures got brighter when we put the special light on them. Let's go hear all about it!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by encouraging the children to smile their biggest, brightest smile.

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the
light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

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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. PICTURE IT

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Picture It Verse" Activity Page, cardstock, aluminum foil, glue stick, clear Con-Tact® paper, and scissors

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

folder and on Pinterest.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Picture It Verse" on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Cut a piece of aluminum foil to fit on the center of the mirror frame page, and glue it to the page. Lay the Activity Pages spaced out on the floor in the following order: mirror, candle, world. Cut a piece of Con-Tact paper large enough to cover each page and leave at least an inch border. Remove backing of Con-Tact paper, and place over each picture to secure the picture to the floor. Review the Memory Verse and motions together.

MEMORY VERSE

"You are the
light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Point out each image and how it goes with the verse. Ask children one at a time to jump to the corresponding image as everyone says the verse together. Continue with each child. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

KEY QUESTION

Who can love like Jesus?

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come join me over here! Let's say our Memory Verse together with the motions. Ready? Here we go! '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.) Super-duper, everyone!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Come look at these pictures! They go with our verse. Watch me. 'You (point to the mirror image) are the light (point to the candle) of the world,' (point to the world) Matthew 5:14. Now when I call your name, I want you to jump to each picture as we say the verse together. Okay! Let's have our friend, [child's name], come up and jump to the pictures as we all say the verse together. Ready, [child's name]? 'You (jump) are the light (jump) of the world,' (Jump.) Matthew 5:14. Good job, [child's name]!" (Continue with each child. Repeat as desired.) Great job, everybody!"

BOTTOM LINE

I can love like Jesus.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "What a great verse. 'You are the light of the world' (Matthew 5:14, NIRV). Friends, you and I are bright lights when we love like Jesus! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!** Let's say it one more time. **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.



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



2. PHILIP HELPS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Philip Helps" and "Philip" Activity Pages, cardstock, scissors, craft sticks, glue sticks, and crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Philip Helps" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Copy "Philip" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a "Philip Helps" Activity Page, a Philip cutout, and a craft stick.

Option: If using the black-and-white version of "Philip," encourage children to color him in.

Encourage children to glue their Philip cutout to the top of their craft stick. Show children how to push Philip up through the slit and move him across their paper to the man in the chariot while you review the Bible Story.

Option: If using the black-and-white version of "Philip Helps," encourage children to color the Activity Page after you review the story, if time allows.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come sit at the table with me. I have something for us to make that will help us retell the Bible Story."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look on your paper. It's the man in the chariot from today's Bible Story. He was reading God's words, but he needed help understanding what he was reading. Do you remember who helped him? (Pause.) That's right! Philip (*hold up Philip cutout*) helped the man understand God's words. Let's glue Philip to the top of your craft stick. (Pause.) Now push Philip through the slit on your picture, like this. (*Demonstrate.*) You can move Philip back and forth to the man in the chariot.

"Philip sat with the man and helped him understand God's words about Jesus and how Jesus had come to be his friend forever. Philip told the man all about Jesus! Because Philip chose to shine his light and help the man in the chariot, he got to hear that Jesus wanted to be his friend forever."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus told His friends, the disciples, 'You are the light of the world' (*Matthew 5:14, NIV*). That's our Memory Verse! When we love like Jesus, we shine bright like a light! Philip was a light for the man in the chariot. He helped the man learn about Jesus. Philip loved like Jesus, and we can too. **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"

BIBLE STORY

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



3. SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper plates, wax paper, small items from around the classroom (*books, toys, baby dolls, toy food, etc.*), foam hearts, scissors, and masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Cut out the center circle of two of the three paper plates. Cut a piece of wax paper larger than the opening, and tape it to the back of one plate. There are three plates total—a solid plate, a wax plate, and a plate with the center cut out. Set the plates and several items from the classroom on the table. Keep the hearts until the end.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to look through the three plates at the different objects on the table. Lead children to talk about which plate allows them to see the items more clearly. Then, place the foam heart(s) on the table. Allow the children to look at the hearts through the plates. Hold the plate with the center cut out over the heart, and talk about how we are bright lights when we love like Jesus! Hold up the wax paper plate and the solid plate over the heart and talk about how we hide our light when we don't love others like Jesus.

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come gather around the table with me. Let's use these special lenses to look at some items on the table."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's pick a plate and an item. (*Pick up the plate with the center cut out.*) Look through the center of this lens. Can you see the [item] clearly? Yes! Now what about when we look through this lens? (*Pick up the wax paper plate.*) Look through the center of the lens. Can you see the [item] clearly? You can sort of see it, but it's kind of fuzzy, isn't it? What about this lens? (*Pick up the solid plate.*) Look through the center of the lens. What do you see? (*Pause.*) You can't see anything, can you? (*Continue investigating the different items, and repeat as desired.*) Friends, these lenses are like us. When we love like Jesus, (*hold up the plate with the center cut out*) we shine so others can see how much Jesus loves them. But when we don't love like Jesus, (*hold up the solid plate*) we are hiding our light so people can't see Jesus' love."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus said we are bright lights when we love like He does. That's what Philip did! Philip helped the man in the chariot learn about Jesus! We can be like Philip and be bright lights too. **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"

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

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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



4. FIND YOUR LIGHT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Parachute and brightly colored pom-poms

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Spread the parachute flat on the ground and scatter the brightly colored pom-poms on

top of it. Encourage children to stand around the parachute, each holding onto a section of the parachute.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to bounce the pom-poms on the parachute by gently moving the parachute up and down. Then, pop the parachute to make the pom-poms fly around the room. Ask the children to lay the parachute down and go find their light.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's gather around the parachute and play a fun game today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at those pom-poms in the middle. They're so bright! Let's imagine they are lights, and we can spread our lights around the parachute. Lift up and down. *(Pause.)* Awesome job! Now let's make these bright lights shine EVERYWHERE! Shake the parachute super-fast! *(Pause.)* Look at our lights shining all around the room! We spread our love everywhere! Put the parachute down, go collect the pom-poms, and put them on the parachute so we can play again! *(Repeat as desired.)* Yay, that was super-fun!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Remember, we don't want to hide our light. We want to shine our light and love like Jesus! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"

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

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light of the world."

MATTHEW 5:14, NIRV

KEY QUESTION

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BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

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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



5. MY LIGHT
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: “My Light Label” and “My Light Flame” Activity Pages, Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent, yellow cardstock, gold metallic confetti, paper plates, light blue paper cups, heart stickers, craft sticks, baby wipes, glue sticks, scissors, and permanent marker

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.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy “My Light Label” on label paper, one label per child. Copy “My Light Flame” on yellow cardstock and cut, one cutout per child. Put one flame cutout on each child’s plate. Cut a 1” slit in the bottom of each cup. Write each child’s name on their cup.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to lightly spread glue on their flame cutout and then sprinkle with confetti. Clean hands as needed. Ask children to add the label and heart stickers to the outside of their cup. As children are adding stickers, sandwich the flame around the top of a craft stick and secure with glue. Slide the bottom of the craft stick through the slit in the cup by inserting the stick inside the cup. Encourage children to hold the cup with one hand and push the craft stick up with the other to reveal their light.

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: “Friends, come sit with me at the table. In our Bible Story today, we learned that when we love like Jesus, we shine our light. Let’s make a fun craft for us to remember to love like Jesus.”

DURING THE ACTIVITY: “On your plate is a cutout of a flame—a light! Rub the glue stick all over and sprinkle confetti on top. (Pause.) Look how it sparkles and shines. Beautiful! Let’s let this dry and you can work on decorating your cup. (Glue each child’s flame, sandwiching it in between the top of a craft stick.) Add your label and heart stickers to the outside of your cup. (Pause.) Let me add your flame to your cup. (Slide each child’s craft stick into the slit in the bottom through the inside of the cup.) Hold your cup with one hand and the stick with the other, then push the stick up. (Pause.) Look at your lights shining bright! Jesus told His friends, the disciples, ‘You are the light of the world’ (Matthew 5:14, NIRV). Friends, that means when we love like Jesus, we shine bright, and then everyone can see that Jesus loves them. See your lights shining? Hold them up high. (Pause.) Good job! But when we do not love like Jesus, we are hiding our light. Pull your craft stick down so your light hides in the cup. (Pause.) That’s not what we want, is it? No! Push your light up again so everyone can see. (Pause.)”



WEEK
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SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, Jesus told His friends, the disciples, 'You are the light of the world' (*Matthew 5:14, NIV*). We learned how Philip, a friend of Jesus, let his light shine. Philip saw a man in a chariot reading God's words, but the man needed help understanding what he was reading. So, Philip helped and told him all about Jesus and how Jesus had come to be his friend forever. Philip loved like Jesus, and we can love like Jesus too. **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!**"



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 from Week One in Bible, a 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

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: If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Matthew 5:14. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

Lead the children in opening and closing their hands, like blinking lights, 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 people we can tell the good news about Jesus.

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 make blinking lights with our hands, like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Show me your blinking hand lights! Yay! Let's blink our lights while we walk to our Small Group spot. Follow me! (*Open and close your hands, like blinking lights, as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) That was fun! You can stop blinking your lights and 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, Philip let his light shine bright just like Jesus said. Do you remember what Philip did? (*Pause.*) Yes! Philip sat with the man and helped him understand God's words about Jesus. Philip shined his light and helped the man. Philip loved like Jesus!"

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.



WEEK
FOUR
SEPTEMBER 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

"We are learning a Bible verse to help us remember that when we love like Jesus, we are the light of the world too. It says, '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.*) Jesus said those words! Jesus is saying, 'You are the light of the world' (*Matthew 5:14, NIV*). Let's stand up and say that 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.*) I want to love like Jesus and be the light of the world. And you can too! You can love like Jesus! **Who can love like Jesus? I can love like Jesus!** Yay! We can love like Jesus!

"Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Since Philip loved like Jesus by helping the man in the chariot, we are going to make a list of people we can help. When I say your name, tell me one person you can help, and I will write their name beside your name." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "This is a great list of people! (*Hold up journal.*) When we help others, we are loving like Jesus! Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, we want to be a light and love like Jesus. Help us love like Jesus by helping (*read the list the children made*). We want everyone to know that Jesus loves them and that Jesus wants to be their friend forever! We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."



WEEK
FOUR
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. COLLECTING LOVE

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Buckets in four different colors
- Heart cutouts in colors matching the buckets
- *Optional: "Collecting Love" Activity Page, cardstock in colors to match the buckets, and scissors*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place the buckets in a line in the middle of your activity area.
- Scatter the hearts all around your area.
- *Option: Copy "Collecting Love" on colored cardstock and cut, two copies of each color per Small Group. Use hearts from "Collecting Love" instead of heart cutouts.*

2. LOVE LIKE JESUS

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Mini muffin pans
- Colorful ping-pong balls
- Small heart cutouts in a variety of colors
- Plastic bins

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place a heart in the bottom of several of the cups in the muffin tin.
- Add a ping-pong ball to each cup in the muffin tin.

3. LIGHT BRIGHT GLOW

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Chunky highlighters in a variety of colors
- Copy paper
- Black light flashlight
(for example <https://a.co/d/5yGiAQk>)



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. PICTURE IT

[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:

- "Picture It Verse" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Aluminum foil
- Glue stick
- Clear Con-Tact® paper
- Scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Picture It Verse" on cardstock, one set per Small Group.
- Cut a piece of aluminum foil to fit on the center of the mirror frame page, and glue to secure.
- Lay the Activity Pages spaced out on the floor in the following order: mirror, candle, world.
- Cut a piece of Con-Tact paper large enough to cover each page and leave at least an inch border.
- Remove backing of Con-Tact paper, and place over each picture to secure it to the floor.

2. PHILIP HELPS

[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:

- "Philip Helps" Activity Page
- "Philip" Activity Pages
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Craft sticks
- Glue sticks
- Crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Philip Helps" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Copy "Philip" on cardstock and cut, one cutout per child.

3. SHINE JESUS' LIGHT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paper plates, three per Small Group
- Wax paper
- Small items from around the classroom (*books, toys, baby dolls, toy food, etc.*)
- Foam hearts
- Scissors
- Masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Cut out the center circle of two paper plates.
- Cut a piece of wax paper larger than the opening, and tape it to the back of one plate.
- There are three plates total—a solid plate, a wax paper plate, and a plate with the center cut out.
- Set the three plates and several items from the classroom on the table.
- Keep the hearts until the end.



WEEK
FOUR
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

4. FIND YOUR LIGHT

[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:

- Parachute
- Bright-colored pom-poms

5. MY LIGHT

[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:

- "My Light Label" Activity Page
- "My Light Flame" Activity Page
- Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent
- Yellow cardstock
- Gold metallic confetti
- Paper plates
- Light blue paper cups
- Heart stickers
- Craft sticks
- Baby wipes
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "My Light Label" on label paper, one label per child.
- Copy "My Light Flame" on yellow cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Put one flame cutout on each child's plate.
- Cut a 1" slit in the bottom of each cup.
- Write each child's name on their cup.

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 from Week One in 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:

- If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place it in the Bible at Matthew 5:14. *Note: Keep the Memory Verse Card in your Bible all month.*

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