



TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me.

JESUS AND THE CHILDREN
LUKE 18:15-16

MEMORY VERSE

"How wide and long
and high and deep
is the love of Christ."

EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who loves you?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus loves me.

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.

Heart Naming
Jesus Loves Me THIS Much!
On the Bus

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways


"Never Be" and "Amazing"
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
Jesus and Me
Watch What Happens 
Get to Jesus
Jesus and the Children Puppets
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
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.



WEEK
ONE
FEBRUARY 2023

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

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; Bible; instruments or music player; this month's worship song, "Never Be," included in your monthly files; and "Amazing," available on Apple Music®, Spotify®, and OrangeKidsMusic.com; Optional Dance Moves videos for "Never Be," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com and "Amazing," available from OrangeKidsMusic.com

WHAT YOU DO: Copy "Memory Verse Card" cardstock and cut apart, one per group. Place in Bible at Ephesians 3:18. Download all songs and have them ready to use.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hello, friends! Do you know what time it is? It's worship time! We can sing and dance and say, 'Thank You, God for sending Jesus to be our friend forever!' Jesus LOVES us so much. When I ask, '**Who loves you?,**' you say, '**Jesus loves me. Who loves you?**'"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "Jesus loves me."

WORSHIP LEADER: "Yes, Jesus loves us and wants to be our friend forever! Sing this with me.

Lead children in singing "Never Be," this month's worship song.

"I'm so glad to know that **Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** The Bible teaches us, 'How wide (*hold arms out wide*) and long (*hold arms up and down*) and high (*jump high*) and deep (*crouch low*) is the love (*hug yourself*) of Christ,' (*point up*) Ephesians 3:18. (*Open hands like a book.*)

"That means Jesus will always love you and me. Let's learn our memory verse together. Are you ready? Listen to me say it and watch me do the motions. Then you can do it with me!

"How wide (*hold arms out wide*) and long (*hold arms up and down*) and high (*jump high*) and deep (*crouch low*) is the love (*hug yourself*) of Christ,' (*point up*) Ephesians 3:18. (*Open hands like a book.*)

Lead the children to say the verse with the motions.

"Great job! There is NO better friend than Jesus. He is amazing. Sing this with me.



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Lead children in singing "Amazing."

"Jesus' love will never end. He is our forever friend! Tell me, **who loves you?**"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "Jesus loves me."

INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Box of conversation hearts, six giant heart cut outs, and thick permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO: Write one of the following phrases in big block letters on three of the heart cutouts: SMILE BIG, HUG ME, and COME TO A HEARTS PARTY. Leave the other hearts blank.

Host enters with box of heart candy and heart cutouts.

HOST: "Hi, friends! I'm [your name]. My aunt gave me these yummy heart candies.

Hold up box of candy hearts.

"See? They say fun things like 'Friends Forever' and 'Be Mine.' Do you know what would be even more awesome? Giant candy hearts!

Hold up the giant hearts.

"Aren't these cool? I made them to give to my friends. Do you want to see them? (Pause.) Great! Here's the first one.

Flip heart around and show children the "SMILE BIG" side.

It says, 'SMILE BIG!' Can you show me your biggest, most giant smiles? Ready? SMILE! (Pause.) Look at all those beautiful smiles! Do you want to see the next heart? This one is so fun! Ready?

Flip the "HUG ME" heart so the children can see it.

"It says, 'HUG ME!' Let's all practice our hugs. Can you give yourself the biggest hug? Ready? HUG! (Pause.) Great job! Okay, last one.

Flip the "COME TO A HEARTS PARTY" heart so the children can see it.

"This one says, 'COME TO A HEARTS PARTY!' I'm going to have a heart party for my friends. It will be so fun.

Hold up the three blank hearts.

"I have more hearts, too. I wonder what I should write on these? I'll have to think about it! See you guys in a little bit."

The Host gathers hearts and candy box and exits.



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10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Small table; "Jesus Poster" Activity Page; cardstock; three 12" x 8" x 10" cardboard boxes; packing tape; wagon; plush animals or dolls; and Bible; Optional solid wrapping or butcher paper and construction paper or "Environment Art" PDF from the Prelude folder; *Optional Story Images*

WHAT YOU DO: Copy "Jesus Poster" on cardstock and cut, one set per large group. Assemble the boxes and tape closed. Tape each "Jesus Poster" page on a box. Option: If the boxes have markings on them, wrap the boxes, cover the markings with large hearts cut out of butcher or construction paper, or print the "Environment Art" PDF and cut out the conversation hearts. Decorate all sides of the boxes visible to the audience. Preset the table to the side of the storytelling area and set the boxes on them, faced away from the audience so the "Jesus Poster" is not visible. Place the dolls or plush animals inside the wagon.

Option: Copy the Story Images on cardstock or download them to display on a screen.

The storyteller enters, carrying a Bible and pulling the wagon.

STORYTELLER: "Hello, friends! I'm so happy to see you because I have an awesome TRUE story from the Bible about someone who loves us a whole lot!

Hold up the Bible for the children to see then lay it open on the table. Begin stacking the boxes so the children can see the Jesus poster.

"Can you guess who loves us SO much? (*Place last box on top.*) Yes! Jesus. (*Gesture to Jesus poster.*) We know that Jesus can do amazing things only He can do. Jesus is an awesome teacher, and people would come from far away to hear Him teach.

(Option: Display Story Image W1 01)

A LOT of people would come to hear Jesus. They came because Jesus is amazing, and they wanted to see Him, hear Him, and get close to Him.

Kneel next to the wagon of plush animals or dolls.

(Option: Display Story Image W1 02)

"One day when Jesus was teaching, people brought their children (*gesture to wagon*) to see Jesus. Raise your hand if you're a child. Yes! There were children like you! The parents wanted their children to get close to Jesus. (*Pull the wagon a few steps closer to the Jesus poster.*) These parents knew how special and amazing Jesus is.

(Option: Display Story Image W1 03)

"BUT (*Step between wagon and hold up hands, palms facing wagon, for 'Stop.'*) Jesus' disciples stopped the parents. They didn't want the children near Jesus. The disciples told the children to go away. (*Gesture "away."*)

"But Jesus (*gesture toward Jesus*) called the children to Him and said, 'Let the little children come to me!'



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(Option: Display Story Image W1 04)

Jesus opened His arms wide, (*open arms wide*) and the children went to Him. (*Bring wagon next to or in front of Jesus.*) They were able to be near Him and know how much Jesus loved them. Jesus told the crowd to never stop children from coming to Him because Jesus loves children.

Did you hear that? Jesus loves children. That's you!

"Raise your hand if Jesus loves you! (*Pause.*) Yes! Jesus loves you. Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever. Jesus loves you, and **Jesus loves me.** When I ask, '**Who loves you?**', I want you to say, '**Jesus loves me.**' **Who loves you?**"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "**Jesus loves me.**"

STORYTELLER: "That's the truth, friends! Jesus LOVES you, and **Jesus loves me.** Let's bow our heads, close our eyes, and talk to God."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for Jesus! He told the disciples to let the children come to Him because He loved them. And we know that Jesus loves us! Thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. It's in His name we pray, amen."

"Friends, you are the best! I'll see you next time. Bye!"

The Storyteller exits with the Bible.

OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: The blank heart cutouts and thick permanent marker from Intro Sketch

The Host enters, smiling with the blank hearts and marker.

HOST: "Wow! Jesus wanted the children to come to Him because Jesus loved them so much. That means Jesus loves you and **Jesus loves me!** I think I got the story. Did you get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?"

CHILDREN: "Got it!"

HOST: "Good! I know what I'm going to write on these hearts for my friend: JESUS LOVES YOU!"

Write one word on each heart as you say the words.

"JESUS . . . LOVES . . . YOU!"

Flip hearts around to show the children.

"Jesus loves you, and **Jesus loves me!** See you next time, friends!"

Host exits with the hearts while waving to the children.



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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 introductory 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 to 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 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." Advanced preparation is necessary.

1. WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED:

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

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- This month's worship song, "Never Be," which is included in your monthly files
- "Amazing," available on the Amazing Album on Apple Music®, Spotify®, and OrangeKidsMusic.com

OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- Dance Moves Music Video for "Never Be," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com
- Dance Moves Music Video for "Amazing," available from OrangeKidsMusic.com

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut apart, one per large group.
- Place "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at

Ephesians 3:18.

- Download all songs (available on OrangeKidsMusic.com) and have them ready to use.

2. INTRO/OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Box of conversation hearts candy
- Six giant heart cutouts
- Thick permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Write one of the following phrases on three of the hearts: SMILE BIG, HUG ME, and COME TO A HEARTS PARTY. Leave the other three hearts blank.
- NOTE: Save the giant hearts for Week 2 and the box of candy hearts for Week 3 and Week 4.

3. BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Jesus Poster" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Three 12" x 8" x 10" cardboard boxes (<https://bit.ly/3Mgv4Z8>)
- Packing tape
- Wagon
- Plush animals or dolls
- Bible
- Optional wrapping paper, butcher paper, or construction paper
- Optional "Environment Art" PDF ([Prelude > EnvironmentImages > Theme Art_Environment](#)).

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

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

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Jesus Poster" on cardstock and cut, one set per large group.
- Assemble the boxes and tape closed.
- Tape each "Jesus Poster" page on a box.
- Option: If the boxes have markings on them, wrap the boxes, cover the markings with large hearts cut out of butcher or construction paper, or print the "Environment Art" PDF and cut out the conversation hearts. Decorate all sides of the boxes visible to the



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audience.

- Preset the table to the side of the storytelling area and set the boxes on them, faced away from the audience so the "Jesus Poster" is not visible.
- Place the dolls or plush animals inside the wagon so they can be seen by the audience.
- *NOTE:* Save the "Jesus Poster" boxes for Week 4.
- Option: Copy the *Optional Story Images* on cardstock or download them to display on a screen.

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

WONDER, LOOK AT GOD'S STORY: First Look offers weekly introductory sketches and Bible stories on the DVD titled "Wonder, Look at God's Story." This DVD is available for purchase at OrangeStore.org or as part of your monthly Media Package.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

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