



WEEK  
**FOUR**  
FEBRUARY 2023

SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically  
designed for older preschoolers



## 3. JESUS LOVES ME NO MATTER WHAT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Good Choice/Bad Choice Cards"  
Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, butcher paper, and a  
marker

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus loves me  
no matter what.

**THE THANKFUL WOMAN**  
**LUKE 7:36-50**

### 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.

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Good Choice/Bad Choice Cards" on cardstock and cut apart, one set per small group. Shuffle cards together in a stack and place them face down on the table. Draw a line down the center of the butcher paper to create two columns. Draw a large check mark at the top of the left-hand column and a large "X" at the top of the right-hand column.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Gather the children around the table. Point out the check mark and "X" on the butcher paper. Draw a card and decide together as a group if it's a good choice or a bad choice and place it in the correct column on the page. When you've finished categorizing the cards, talk about how we all mess up. Draw a large heart in the center of the butcher paper and put the cards inside the heart.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Talk about how Jesus loves us, no matter what.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, gather around the table. I have some cards for us to sort today."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "These cards are pictures of choices. Some are good choices, and some are bad choices. Let's talk about each choice and place the good choice cards on the check mark side and the bad choice cards on the 'X' side. What is this a picture of? (Pause.) Is this a good choice or a bad choice? (Pause.) Let's put it in the correct column. (Continue until all cards have been categorized.) We all mess up, like some of the choices on this 'X' side. We ALL need forgiveness. And I have some very good news for all of us. (Draw a large heart on the paper and pull all of the cards inside the heart.) Jesus loves us, NO matter what! He loves us when we make good choices, and He loves us when we mess up. He always forgives us when we say we're sorry. And He will help us make good choices next time."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Isn't it awesome to know that Jesus loves us, no matter what? **Who loves you? Jesus loves me!**"



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## 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" paperclipped in Bible, journal, fun-shaped pen, and reward stickers or handstamp

**WHAT YOU DO:**

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Now I need everyone to sit down. Anyone who wants to try to say that verse can. I have my [stickers/handstamp] ready! "Everyone, clap for [child's name]! Here is your [sticker/handstamp]! (Continue with each child as they try to say the Bible verse.)

"Okay everyone, when I count to three, I want you to stand up and show me your [sticker/handstamp.] One, two, three! (Pause.) Yay! (Clap.) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

"Since the woman in our story wanted to show Jesus how thankful she was, we'll make a list of things we're thankful for. When I say your name, tell me one thing you are thankful for. I'll write it in our prayer journal. (Write down what each child says beside their names. Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"I love this list! Let's use it when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?" (Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY:

SGL: "Dear God, We have so much to be thankful for! [Child's name] wants to thank You for [what child listed].

[Child's name] wants to thank You for [what child listed]. (Continue with each child.) And we all want to thank You for how much Jesus loves us. In Jesus' name, amen."





