



WEEK
THREE
JULY 2023

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

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 to take home



5. COMPASS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Compass" and "Arrow" Activity Pages; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; red cardstock; paper plates; dot markers; scissors; brads; and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Compass" on label paper, one set per child. Copy "Arrow" on red cardstock and cut, one per child. Poke a hole in the middle of the plate and at the end of the arrow. Write each child's name on their plate.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to decorate their plates and add the labels. Help each child attach their arrow to the compass with the brad.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, join me at the table. There is a tool that people use to help give them direction. It's called a compass. Today, we'll make our very own compass."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "The first thing you need to do is decorate the back of your paper plate with the markers. (Pause.) Great! A compass shows which direction is north, south, west, and east. Place the 'N' sticker at the top of your plate like this. (Demonstrate.) Take your finger and go straight down the plate. (Demonstrate.) This is where you'll put the 'S' sticker. (Demonstrate.) Put your finger on this side of the plate and put on the 'W' sticker, like this. (Demonstrate.) Now move your finger across the plate to the other side and put on the 'E' sticker. (Demonstrate.)"

"One last step, then your compass is complete. Let's add your arrow. (Help attach each child's arrow with a brad.) These look great! Move the arrow to the 'N' and say, 'I can follow Jesus.' I can follow Jesus. Now move your arrow to the 'E' and say, 'Here.' Here. Move the arrow to the 'S', and say, 'There.' There. Now move it to the 'W' and say, 'Everywhere.' Everywhere. You can follow Jesus and tell everyone here, there, and everywhere that Jesus wants to be their friend forever."

BIBLE STORY

Even when it is hard, we can love like Jesus.

PAUL IS SHIPWRECKED
ACTS 27:1-2, 14-25, 33-36, 41; 28:1,7-9

MEMORY VERSE

"Walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us."

EPHESIANS 5:2, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who wants to be your friend forever?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.



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AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story, Paul was on a boat when there was a really big storm. All the people on the boat were afraid! But Paul wasn't afraid because he knew that God would take care of them. So Paul chose to love like Jesus and encourage everyone on the boat to not be afraid. Then the boat hit some land and got stuck! Everyone on the boat was safe, but they weren't where they thought they would be, and their boat was broken. But again, Paul chose to love like Jesus. He helped people who were sick, prayed for them, and he told them that Jesus wants to be everyone's friend forever—here, there, and everywhere! Paul chose to love like Jesus and tell people that Jesus wants to be their friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"



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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" from Week One paperclipped in Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

BIBLE STORY

Even when it is hard, we can love like Jesus.

PAUL IS SHIPWRECKED

ACTS 27:1-2, 14-25, 33-36, 41; 28:1,7-9

"Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*) Since Paul loved like Jesus when it was hard, like during a storm, after a shipwreck, and in a strange place, we'll make a list of things that are hard. So, think about it. What are some things that you think are hard? When I say your name, tell me one thing that is hard, and I'll write it in our prayer journal. (*Remember to print as you write in the journal so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

"We all have times when things are hard, but Jesus is always with us, helping us love like Him! Let's pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?" (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*)

MEMORY VERSE

"Walk in the way of love, just as Christ loved us."

EPHESIANS 5:2, NIV

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, Thank You for sending Jesus to always be with us and help us love like Him. We really can love like Jesus during hard times, like . . . (*Read the list the children made.*). I pray we will remember how much Jesus loves us so we can go here, there, and everywhere telling everyone that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. In Jesus' name, amen."

KEY QUESTION

Who wants to be your friend forever?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

I can follow
Jesus...

Z

I can follow
Jesus...

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