



WEEK  
**FIVE**  
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



**BIBLE STORY**

Jesus is preparing a place for us.

**HEAVEN**  
**JOHN 14:3;**  
**REVELATION 21:3-5**

**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.

**5. PARTY HAT**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** “Party Hat Label” Activity Page; Avery® #5160 labels or equivalent; white party hats; washable markers; stickers; and a permanent marker

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy “Party Hat Label” on label paper, one per child. Write each child’s name on their hat. If desired, add the elastic strap before the activity.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to decorate their party hats. Assemble each hat and help place them on children’s heads.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible story.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** “In our Bible story today, we heard that heaven will be like a party that never ends. How exciting! Let’s make a party hat to wear and celebrate Jesus wanting to be our friend forever.”

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** “Use the markers and the stickers to decorate your party hat. (Pause.) Now add the label that shows where to read more about today’s story in the Bible. (Pause.) Great job! Let me put your hats together, then you can wear them for the rest of our time together. (Assemble and help children put on their hats.) You look like you’re ready for a party! Help me review.”

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** “Who wants to be our friend forever and ever? (Pause.) Jesus! That’s right! Jesus is in heaven, right now, getting a place ready for all His friends. Everyone, shout, ‘Hooray!’ Hooray! In heaven, there are NO boo-boos or skinned knees. Everyone can run and play, and no one ever gets hurt! Hooray! In heaven, no one gets sick—no runny noses, tummy aches, or earaches. Everyone is healthy in heaven! Hooray! In heaven, we will never be sad because sad things don’t happen in heaven. There will be nothing to worry about and no reason to be afraid. Hooray!

“In heaven, we will have everything we need. We will be happy all the time because we will be with our friend, Jesus. Hooray! Jesus will be our friend forever. It will be like a party that never ends! Everyone shout, ‘Hooray!’ Hooray! I’m so glad that Jesus wants to be our friend forever and wants everyone to know that He wants to be their friend forever, too. **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**”



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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, a fun-shaped pen, and reward stickers or handstamp

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus is preparing a place for us.

**HEAVEN**  
**JOHN 14:3;**  
**REVELATION 21:3-5**

"Now, let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.) Today, we'll make a list of our favorite places. It can be anywhere you've been that you really love. So think of all the places you've been to. When I say your name, tell me one of them! (Remember to print as you write in the journal so the children can recognize their names and the letters.) These are some great places! Now I'll write 'Heaven' in big letters, because anywhere with Jesus is the best place ever! Okay, 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 making places like . . . (read the list the children made). These are all really great! But we know Jesus is in heaven, right now, getting a place ready for us that will be better than we can ever imagine. There will be no more sadness or sickness. Everyone will have everything they need. And best of all, we will be with You and Your amazing love forever and ever and ever! We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

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