

March 15, 2020

Bible Story Focus: Everyone can follow Jesus.

Matthew (Tax Collector) • *Matthew 9:9-12*

Memory Verse: “Come and follow me,’ Jesus said.” Matthew 4:19, NlrV

Key Question: Who can you follow?

Bottom Line: I can follow Jesus.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (15 minutes)

Activity: Play Time

In this opening time, kids are welcome to play with the toys in the room. Help them engage by playing with them or reading with them. Connect with parents as they drop off their kids. You can also use the USB in the TV to put on the worship song for this month called *I’ve Got a Friend*”.

#1. Bible Story

Engage kids’ hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

Use the TV to show this week’s Bible story. When sharing the Bible story, guide kids to gather around on the floor. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That’s OK. They’re still listening and learning! Close the Bible story time by asking questions about the story or read the story in the bible.

#2. Memory Verse

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

“Come (motion toward yourself with hand) **and follow me** (march),” **Jesus said** (hands to mouth like yelling), **Matthew 4:19.** (Open hands like a book.)

PRAYER

LEADER: “Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us. Thank You for showing us that everyone can follow Jesus! We love You so much. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (Groups, 25 minutes)

Activity: Table

Table | 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: “Table” Activity Page, cardstock, and happy face stickers

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy the Activity Page onto the cardstock (one per child).

During the Activity: Give each child an Activity Page, and help the child place happy face stickers around the table on the page.

After the Activity: Send the Activity Pages home with the children.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “In our Bible story today, we heard about how Matthew and Jesus had dinner and that everyone was invited!”

During the Activity: “We have a table on the Activity Page with Matthew and Jesus. Let’s add all of the people!” (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: “Way to go! Everyone in the story followed Jesus. We can follow Jesus, too, and be His friend. **Who can you follow? [Bottom Line] I can follow Jesus!**”

Play Time

If children complete their crafts and snack before service is dismissed, allow them to play in the centres around the room until parents arrive.

Get Ready to Dismiss

Set any take-home creations where you or parents can get them easily. Greet parents at the door and tell them that this month Toddlers are learning that **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**

Encourage parents to repeat the Bottom Line at home. Connect with parents as they arrive to pick up their children and send home any activities along with a memory verse card and Parent Cue. Ensure that every parent shows their parent tag to pick up their children.