

Friends Worship as One

Bible: Friends Worship as One (worship with one another) • *Hebrews 10:24-25*

Bottom Line: Friends worship with each other.

Memory Verse: “A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a time of adversity.”
Proverbs 17:17, NIV

Life App: Friendship—treating others the way you want to be treated.

Basic Truth: I should treat others the way I want to be treated.

Social: Setting the Tone for the Experience (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)

9:00 & 11:30

Name Drop

- A large sheet or tablecloth

10:15

Early Arriver

- No supplies needed

Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (9:15, 10:30, 11:45)

- Bible Presentation in Large Group

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (9:40, 10:55, 12:10)

9:00 & 11:30

Time for Friends

- “Friendship Clock” and “Friendship Tiles” (Activity Pages); one for each kid
- Glue
- Markers or crayons

10:15

Freeze Dance

- A selected song from Large Group to play

Prayer (9:50, 11:05, 12:20)

Prayer

- “Glory to God Forever”

Dismiss (10:00, 11:15, 12:30)

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Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today’s Bible Truth.

9:00 & 11:30

Name Drop

What You Need: large sheet or tablecloth

What You Do:

Divide the group into two teams and ask for a neutral volunteer. The volunteer and yourself will stand and hold the long side corners of the sheet between you, with the opposite side touching the ground. The teams will all sit behind either side of the sheet. Each team will select one person to kneel in front of the group, right next to the sheet. Say, “One, two, three,” then you and the volunteer will drop the sheet, revealing two people kneeling face to face. Whoever shouts out the name of the person in front of them first, wins; the loser goes to the winner’s side and then the sheet goes back up and two more people are selected. Play as long as time allows.

What You Say:

“It was a little tricky to come up with names on the spot like that but you all did a good job! It’s been a lot of fun in Small Group, being able to spend time together. **[Transition] Let’s go to Large Group to celebrate what we’ve been doing together during this Friendship series!**”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

10:15

Early Arriver Idea

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Greet kids as they arrive. Talk about this friendship series—favorite story? Favorite verse? What was the best activity? The best Large Group song? Their favorite game? Ask kids about their school year. Have they had fun? Is anyone ready to go back to school?

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 25 minutes)

GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host

2. Bible Truth

What You Need:

- Historyteller
- Bible
- Videos of three staff members doing these various activities—first with two or three people together, then again with just one.
 - Tag
 - Playing Pool
 - Swinging
 - Video Games
 - Ping Pong
 - Trust Fall
 - Party

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Power Praise Team

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- “Raise Your Hands High”
- “This Love”
- “My God Can”

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Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 25 minutes)

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

CG: 10 Second Count Down

CG: Welcome Slide

Historyteller enters.

HISTORYTELLER: “We are going to get this party started with our favorite guests!! Let’s call the Power Praise Team in. Say it with me....Power Praise, Power Praise, Power Praise, Power Praise....”

Power Praise Team enters.

WORSHIP

POWER PRAISE:

SFX: “Raise Your Hands High”

SFX: “This Love”

SFX: “My God Can”

Power Praise Team exits. Historyteller enters.

SETTING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “I wish we could start every morning with the Power Praise Team! Well, I am so glad to see you this morning. We are going to jump right into our Bible Truth today. Today’s lesson is a great reminder of how important it is for us to spend time together. (*Hold up Bible*) Although in these verses, it’s talking about US. (*Motioning around the room*) Your Small Group. The Church!

“First, let me ask you a question. Do we really need friends? I mean, think about it. We can do so much on our own, right? Think about all the technology we use. If we have a question, we can just Google it. Anytime. Anywhere. We play video games and stare at a screen for hours on end. We can even order a pizza online so we don’t have to talk to anyone on the phone. So, it’s really easy for us to feel like we can do everything by ourselves.

“But is that really how God made us to live? Do we really NEED other people? *(Pause.)* What if you tried to do everything by yourself? Would it really be better with just one? Well, take a look at this and we’ll find out.”

BETTER WITH ONE?

Note: These are videos (or pictures) of staff members doing these various activities—first with two or three people together, then again with just one.

CG: Tag

CG: Pool

CG: Swinging

CG: Video Games

CG: Ping Pong

CG: Trust fall

CG: Party

KEEP MEETING TOGETHER

HISTORYTELLER: “Okay, so is life better with one? No way! We need friends! Life wouldn’t be any fun if you were by yourself all the time. God designed you to have people around you—to help you, support you, and encourage you.

“Listen to these verses from the book of Hebrews, chapter ten, verses twenty-four and twenty-five.

Open the Bible and read Hebrews 10:24-25a.

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another.’ *(NIV)*

CG: Week 4 Verse Slide

“You see, God knows that if we’re going to follow Him, we can’t really do it on our own. We need other people. We need friends! God wants us to have people in our lives that can cheer us on as we make wise choices and live the way He wants us to live.

“Look around you right now. This is why you’re in a Small Group! This is why you have a leader who cares about you and wants what’s best for you. This is why you have a group of friends. You can encourage them, and they can encourage you!

FRIENDSHIP REVIEW

HISTORYTELLER: “Alright, now I need nine of you to come up here for a minute. I need your help to show why friendship is so important.

Bring nine kids up on stage (possibly an entire Small Group).

“We need friends. We need to keep meeting together. Because here’s what friends do!

One by one, give each kid a Review Poster to represent the six weeks of the Friendship Series. Have the kids spread out on stage so the audience can see all nine of the signs.

[Impress] “Friends love each other.”
[Impress] “Friends welcome each other.”
[Impress] “Friends teach each other.”
[Impress] “Friends are patient with each other.”
[Impress] “Friends serve each other.”
[Impress] “Friends accept each other.”
[Impress] “Friends forgive each other.”
[Impress] “Friends encourage each other.”

“And this last one is what we’re talking about today: **[Impress]** friends worship with each other.

(To the nine kids on stage) “Okay, you guys can stick your signs on the wall here for me. Awesome. Thanks. You can have a seat.

Dismiss them to their seats.

WRAPPING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: *(Referencing the signs)* “THIS is what friends do for each other. THIS is why God created us to need others—to need Him, and each other. God created us to worship Him together with others.

“You see, when we hear the word *worship*, we tend to think of it as music. But it’s so much more than that! Worship is what you DO. Worship is showing God you love Him by the way you act and the way you treat others. So, when you *(reference the signs)* love each other, or serve each other, or forgive each other—when you **[Recycle]** treat others the way you want to be treated—that’s a great way to worship God!

“That’s why it’s so important for you and me to go to church! That’s why it’s so important to share with each other in the circle of our Small Groups. We need others to help us stay strong and focused on the way God wants us to live. It’s just like the verse in Hebrews says: ‘Let us not give up meeting together.’ Because God does incredible things through people—through friends who circle up together to worship Him.

“Remember, **[Impress]** friends worship with each other.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“Remember our verse.”

CG: Memory Verse Slide

“It really is a gift for us to share life together and share our hope in God. And praying together is such a big part of that. So, let’s do that right now. Will you guys huddle up with your Small Group, football-

style? I'll lead us."

Pray

HISTORYTELLER: "God, thank You so much for the friends in this room—for the circle of friends You've put in place, so we can grow stronger in our relationship with You and with each other. We know that You made it this way, so that we could share life together and encourage each other along the way. Please help us to remember all that we've learned about friendship—how we can love and serve each other and find strength in these friendships you've created. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

"If you have an offering with you today, raise your hand and we will bring the bucket over to you."

Historyteller exits as Host enters.

Closer

HOST: "So the one thing about friendship to remember today is this:"

HOST and SMALL GROUP LEADERS: *[Impress]* "Friends worship with each other."

CG: Bottom Line Slide

HOST: *(To kids)* "Say it with us!"

KIDS and LEADERS: *[Impress]* "Friends worship with each other."

HOST: "One more time!"

KIDS and LEADERS: *[Impress]* "Friends worship with each other!"

SFX: Play high-energy music as kids exit.

All Leaders meet in the center of the stage and "bring it in," then raise their hands victoriously.

LEADERS: "Ahhhhhhh ... FRIENDSHIP!"

Dismiss children to their Small Groups.

CG: Small Group Slide

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Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (10 minutes)

9:00 & 11:30

Time for Friends

What You Need: Precut “Friendship Clock” and “Friendship Tiles” (Activity Pages), glue, markers or crayons

What You Do:

Give each child a Friendship Clock Page and Friendship Tiles. Encourage them to color the tiles. Show them how to glue the tiles around the clock face like numbers, from 2 o’clock to 10 o’clock. Point out the memory verse and read the verse aloud together.

What You Say:

“Our memory verse says that a friend loves at all times—look at all the times we have learned about these past few weeks! **[Apply] There are times when our friends need patience or teaching or forgiving or serving or encouraging. We can be good friends by doing all these things for our friends. Remember, we saw this week that when we love and help each other, what we’re really showing is that [Impress] friends worship together.** When we show love to others, we’re showing love to God, too.”

10:15

Freeze Dance!

What You Need: selected song from Large Group, equipment to play the song

What You Do:

Play the song for your group. Have kids come up with some dance moves or use the motions they know from Large Group. Explain that when you play the song they’re supposed to dance, but as soon as you pause the song, they need to freeze. Play for the duration of the song you choose.

What You Say:

[Apply] “When we all sing and dance together, it’s just one of the ways we show God that we love Him. One person dancing is great, but all of us dancing together is just awesome! Showing God we love Him is one of the reasons that [Impress] friends worship together.”

[Personalize] Share about a time when you participated in a special worship service or service project with friends and how it enhanced your worship of God.

All Service Times

Pray and Dismiss (10 minutes)

What You Need: “Glory to God Forever” or an alternate slower worship song, audio equipment

What You Do:

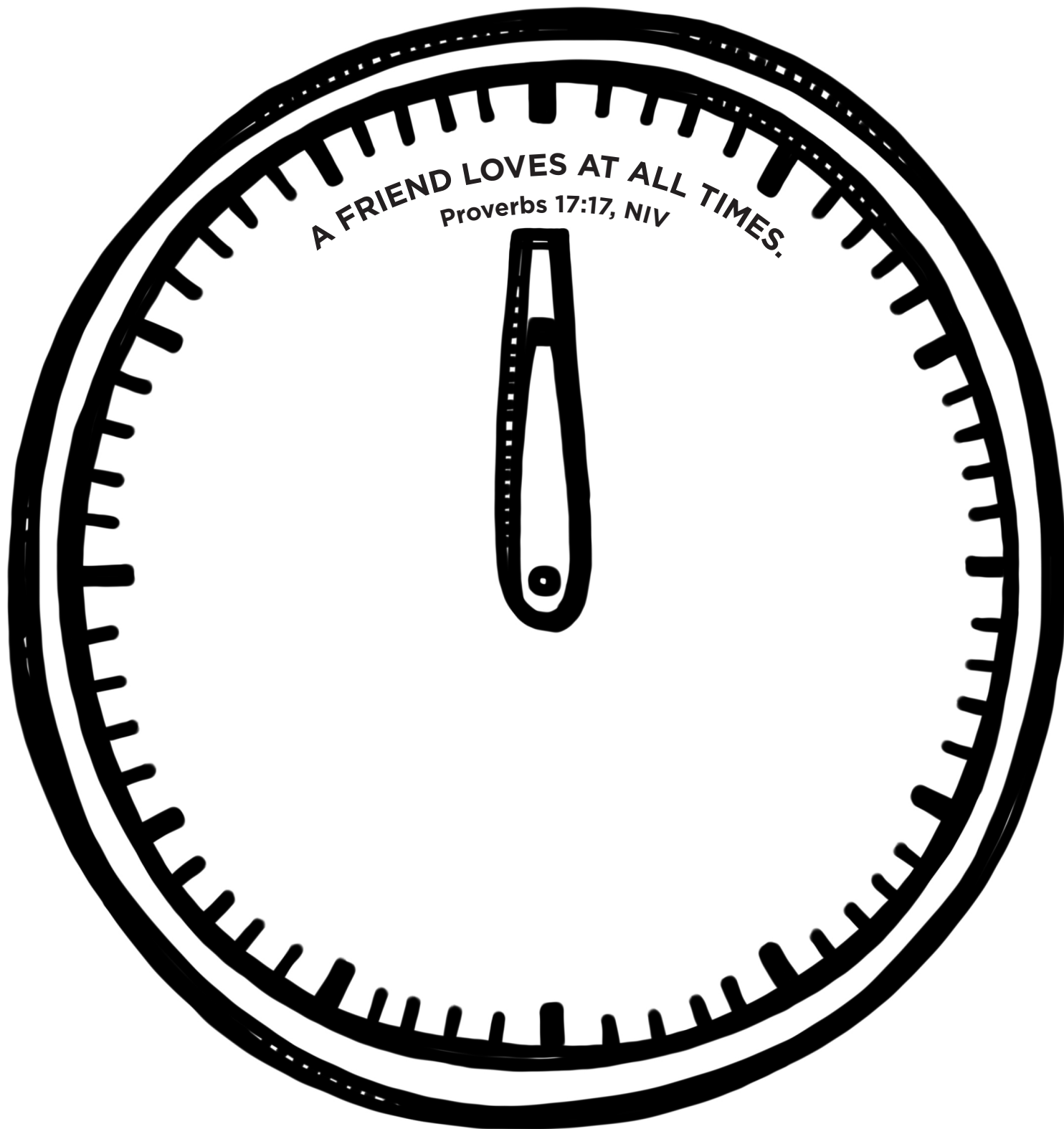
Gather all the Small Groups together, play the song, and sing along as your prayer to end the Friendship series.

What You Say:

“Thanks so much for showing us how friends worship together!”

Close in prayer, thanking God for friendship and the opportunity to show love to Him by loving others.

Give each child a GodTime card. Pass out Parent CUE cards as adults arrive for pick-up.



What to Do:

Print one copy on cardstock for each child.

Friendship Clock, NIV



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Print one copy on cardstock for each child.