

February 18, 2018

Bible Focus: Jesus loves us when no one else does.

The Unloved Woman • *John 8:2-11*

Memory Verse: “Love each other as I have loved you.” John 15:12, NIV

Key Question: Who does Jesus love?

Bottom Line: Jesus loves everyone.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Here’s what you’ll be teaching in 3s–5s this week.

Social (9:00, 10:15, 11:30)

9:00 & 11:30

- Friend to Friend

10:15

- Good Choice/Bad Choice

Bible (9:10, 10:25, 11:40)

All Service Times

- Bible History Presentation in the Sandbox

Journaling (9:30, 10:45, 12:00)

All Service Times

- Small Group Time
- Prayer

Groups (9:35, 10:50, 12:05)

9:00 & 11:30

- Jesus Loves Everyone

10:15

- Cupcake Craft

All Service Times

- Dismiss–Parent CUE

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Social (Introductory Activities, 10 minutes)

9:00 & 11:30

Friend to Friend

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

During the Activity: Gather the children in an open area of the room and ask them to put their arms out wide so they can spread out and then drop their arms to their sides. Explain that you will call out a body part for them to touch to another friend (like elbow to elbow). The children must quickly find a friend and put their elbow to their friend’s elbow. Remind them not to push or to run during the game.

Body part pairs:

Elbow to elbow

Toes to toes

Knee to knee

Hand to hand

Foot to foot

Back to back

Linked arm to linked arm

Heel to heel (you may need to point out where the heel is)

Shoulder to shoulder

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Let’s gather over here so we have some space! Now I want you to open your arms out wide so you are spread out a little. *(Pause as children follow direction.)* Great job! You can put your arms down. I will call out a body part pair like ‘elbow to elbow’ and when I do, I want you to find a friend and put those two things together. So you would find a friend and touch your elbows together. Are you ready? *(Pause.)* Let’s go!”

During the Activity: *(Call out the body part pairs above.)*

After the Activity: “That was super fun! But you needed a friend to play that game, right? Most games are much more fun with friends. Today we’re going to hear a Truth about a woman who didn’t have any friends. I wonder what happened. Let’s go find out!”

10:15**Good Choice/Bad Choice**

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

What You Need: “Faces” and “Choice Cards

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the two faces on the table or floor.

During the Activity: Place the cards face up in front of the children. Ask the children to look at the pictures and decide if they are good choices or bad choices.

After the Activity: Ask the children to place the good choices on top of the happy face and the bad choices on top of the sad face.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We make choices every day. We make good choices and sometimes we make bad choices.”

During the Activity: “These cards (*point*) have choices on them. Some are good choices and some are bad choices. If you see a good choice, place it on top of the happy face. (*Point.*) If you see a bad choice, place it on top of the sad face. (*Point.*) Are you ready? (*Pause.*) Great! The cards are: friends sharing sidewalk chalk, two friends sharing a doll, a boy making a bed, a girl dusting, not sharing a toy with a friend, toys left out on the floor, refusing to eat your food, and a temper tantrum. Can you show me all of the good choices? (*Pause.*) Great job! Let’s place them on top of the happy face. Now it is time for the bad choices.” (*Finish activity.*)

After the Activity: “Great job picking out the good and bad choices! Today we are going to talk about someone who made some bad choices, but Jesus loved her anyway! I am so excited about our Bible Truth today!”

Bible (Large Group, 20 minutes)

After children have participated in Social, gather them for a large group time that includes interactive worship, introductory sketch and Bible Truth. Place your “We are in The Sandbox” sign on the door as you leave. Travel to the Sandbox.

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Journaling (Small Groups, 5 minutes)

Journaling is designed to help preschoolers understand how the Bottom Line applies to them. They’ll discuss real-life experiences and share prayer requests.

Give each child a cup of Chex cereal to snack on while you take them through the following exercise.

What you Need: Paperclip “Memory Verse Card” in your Bible at John 15:12. Journal and a fun-shaped pen. Reward stamps.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Small Group time!”

“What do you think it would be like to have no friends? No friends to play with. No friends to share a snack with. No friends to come to your birthday party. No friends to go to school with. No friends to give you a hug when you’re hurt or sad. No friends for anything! What would that be like? (*Pause for responses.*) Having no friends would feel very sad and lonely.

“The woman in our Bible Truth today didn’t have any friends. No one in her town loved her. And the people that did talk to her wanted to hurt her because of some wrong things she had done. But guess who was her friend and loved her anyway? (*Pause.*) Yes! Jesus! Jesus was her friend, because [**Bottom Line**] **Jesus loves everyone.** **Who does Jesus love?”**

CHILDREN and SGL: [**Bottom Line**] “**Jesus loves everyone!**”

SGL: “Look to the friend beside you. (*Pause.*) **Who does Jesus love?”**

CHILDREN and SGL: [**Bottom Line**] “**Jesus loves everyone!**”

SGL: “That means Jesus will always be your friend no matter what, and Jesus loves us, A LOT!

(*Open Bible to verse.*)

“And since the Bible verse we’re learning says we should love others the way Jesus loves us, we should love others A LOT too! Our verse says: *Love each other as I have loved you*, John 15:12.

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

“Let’s say this verse together with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do.”

CHILDREN and SGL: “*Love each other (give yourself a big hug) as I (point up with both fingers) have loved you (bring fingers down and point all over the room at all the kids), John 15:12.*” *(Open your hands like a book.) (Repeat several times.)*

SGL: “I am so proud of you for learning that verse! You sound great! Tell a friend beside you, ‘Good job,’ and give them two thumbs up like this. *(Demonstrate two thumbs up.)*”

“Okay, now it’s time to write in our journal and pray. Let’s sit down.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“Jesus is the BEST friend we could ever ask for, because **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone!** Since Jesus is such a good friend to us, it helps us be a good friend to others. Today we’re going to make a list of people we need to be a good friend to, and when we pray, we can ask God to help us be a good friend to them. When I say your name, tell me one person you need to be a good friend to.”

(Write each child’s name and what they say beside their name. Remember to print the words they say so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

SGL: “Now that we have our list of people, let’s pray and ask God to help us be a good friend to them. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

SGL: “Dear God, it feels good to have friends. We want everyone to know that Jesus loves them and that He wants to be their friend forever. We want to love people like Jesus and be their friend too. Help [child’s name] be a good friend to *(name listed)*. *(Repeat for each child.)* We love You! In Jesus’ name, amen.”

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Groups (Application Activities, 25 minutes)

These activities are designed to help preschoolers understand and remember today’s Bible Truth and Bottom Line.

9:00 & 11:30

Jesus Loves Everyone

What You Need: “Thumbprint Bubble Page” Activity Page, 3-4 different colored washable inkpads, and baby wipes

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Provide one activity page per child. Set the inkpads in the center of the table. Place the pages around the edges of the table.

During the Activity: Point out the words on the page and read them aloud, “Jesus loves everyone.” Have the children stand behind one of the pages. Then encourage the children to press their thumbs onto the inkpad and then onto the word “everyone” on the page in front of them. Then instruct the children to step to the right (so that everyone rotates to the next page) and place their thumbprint on the page in front of them. Continue rotating around the table to the right until every child has stamped their thumbprint on every page to represent everyone!

After the Activity: Set the pages aside to dry.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Do you see the words on the page in front of you? (*Point.*) Your page says, [**Bottom Line**] ‘**Jesus loves everyone.**’ Does Jesus love everyone? (*Pause.*) YES! Does Jesus love us when we mess up? (*Pause.*) You bet!”

During the Activity: “Let’s press your thumb onto the inkpad and then press your thumb on the word ‘everyone’ with your thumbprint. When finished, we’ll take one step to the right and put our thumbprints on that page. We’ll continue going around the table until you have each placed your thumbprint onto everyone’s page!”

After the Activity: “Your thumbprint pictures look awesome! Look at everyone’s thumbprints. They are all so different. But [**Bottom Line**] **Jesus loves everyone.** He loves all kinds of people. **Who does Jesus love?** [**Bottom Line**] **Jesus loves everyone!**”

10:15**Cupcake Craft****Live for God | Application Activity**

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible Truth, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft

What You Need: “Cupcake” Activity Page, pink paper folded accordion style, glue sticks, white paper, sequin stickers, a heart stamp, and a completed sample craft.

What You Do:

During the Activity: Give each child an Activity Page and the folded paper. Help the child glue the folded paper on the bottom section of the cupcake on the Activity Page. This will be the cupcake liner. Give the child the white paper and help them tear the paper into little pieces. Encourage the child to glue the pieces onto the top of the cupcake as icing.

After the Activity: Give each child some stickers and explain that they are cupcake sprinkles. Help the children place them on top of the icing. Help the children place a heart stamp on top of the cupcake as a cherry.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We are going to make a yummy pretend cupcake!”

During the Activity: (Give each child an Activity Page.) “First, we need to give the cupcake a bottom. (Hold up pink paper.) This is the cupcake liner. Glue it on the bottom of the cupcake. (Pause.) AWESOME! Now we need to put icing on our cupcake. (Give each child some white paper.) Tear the paper into small pieces. (Pause.) Great! Now, let’s glue on the icing! (Pause.) Perfect!”

After the Activity: “Now we need to add sprinkles and a cherry on top! (Finish activity.) Perfect! I love that the cherry is a heart! It reminds me that Jesus loves EVERYONE—even the woman in our Truth today. **Who does Jesus love? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone!**”

All Service Times**Get Ready to Dismiss**