

January 6, 2019

Bible Focus: My friends need Jesus.

The Four Friends • *Mark 2:1-12*

Memory Verse: “You are everything I need.” Psalm 119:57, NIV

Key Question: Who do you need?

Bottom Line: I need Jesus.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

- Four With Friends

Bible

- Bible Presentation

Journaling

- Small Group Time
- Prayer

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect

- Donate Bag
- Carry that Friend
- Dismiss–Parent CUE

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Social Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 10 minutes)

Let one teacher lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

Four with Friends

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Guide the children to choose a partner and stand with them.

During the Activity: Ask the children to do several movements four times with their partner. For example: four high fives, four hugs, four pats on the back, and hold hands and jump four times. Ask the children to switch partners and repeat.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's have fun with our friends!"

During the Activity: "Choose a friend and hold their hand. *(Pause.)* Awesome! I am going to tell you a movement and you do can do it with your friend. We are going to do it FOUR times! First, let's give our friends HIGH FIVES and do it FOUR times! *(Demonstrate.)* Way to go! Now let's give our friends FOUR hugs!" *(Continue and finish activity.)*

After the Activity: "You did a great job with your friends. Our Bible Truth is about four friends today. I cannot wait to hear our TRUTH from the Bible!"

Transition to Large Group

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Journaling (Small Groups, 15 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 Psalm 119:57. Journal and a fun-shaped pen. Reward stamps.

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Small Group time. Let’s sit down and talk.”

“Do you think your parents need Jesus? (*Pause for responses*) What about the doctors? Do they need Jesus? (*Pause for responses.*)”

“When you think about it, everyone needs Jesus. Right? **[Bottom Line] I need Jesus.** You need Jesus. We all need Jesus! So when I ask you, ‘**Who do you need?**’ I want you to say, **[Bottom Line] ‘I need Jesus.’** Ready? **Who do you need?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: **[Bottom Line] “I need Jesus!”**

SGL: “Again. **Who do you need?**”

CHILDREN and SGL: **[Bottom Line] “I need Jesus!”**

SGL: “Yes! And the Bible verse we are learning this month is a great reminder that we all need Jesus.

(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)

“It says: *You are everything I need,* Psalm 119:57.

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

“Let’s stand up and say that verse together with the motions.”

CHILDREN and SGL: “*You are (point up) everything (hands out to sides) I need (point thumbs to chest), Psalm 119:57.*” (Open your hands like a book.) (Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

SGL: “Great job! (Two thumbs up.) Let’s sit down and write in our prayer journal now.

(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)

“Since everyone needs Jesus, that means our family, friends, neighbors, and teachers need Jesus too.

“I think we should make a list of people who need Jesus in our prayer journal today. When we pray, we can ask God to help us do whatever we can so our friends know how much Jesus loves them.

“When I say your name, tell me one person who needs Jesus. I’ll write their name beside your name.

(After all the names have been written . . .)

“This is a great list! Let’s talk to God and ask Him to help us do whatever we can so all of these people know Jesus loves 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, everyone needs Jesus. We want to do all we can to make sure everyone knows Jesus loves them. Please help [child’s name] tell [person’s name] that Jesus loves them. *(Repeat this with each child’s name and the person they listed.)* Thank You for giving us Jesus, because we all need Him. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

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Groups (Application Activities, 15 minutes)

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

1. Donate Bag

What You Need: “Food Drive Parent Note” Activity Page; large brown paper bag (one per child); crayons; die cuts of hearts, stars, and other shapes; glue sticks; stapler; and stickers

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place the crayons, die cuts, glue sticks, and stickers in the activity area.

During the Activity: Give each child a bag, and encourage them to use the items provided to decorate it.

After the Activity: Staple the “Food Drive Parent Note” Activity Page to the top of the bag and send home with the child.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Everyone needs food!”

During the Activity: “Let’s help people get what they need! We are going to decorate bags (*hold up*) and use them to collect food for people who need it.” (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: “Great job! It is awesome to help people get what they need. Food is something we need, and so is JESUS! Everyone NEEDS Jesus! **Who do you need? [Bottom Line] I need Jesus!**”

Proceed with Activity #2 if time allows.

2. Carry That Friend

What You Need: Parachute and a plush animal

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Lay the parachute out on the floor in an open area of the room.

During the Activity: Gather the children around the edges of the parachute. Encourage them to pick up the parachute with both hands and stand up tall. Place the plush animal in the center of the parachute. Explain that this is like the hurt man in our Bible story today. Encourage the children to hold onto the parachute, follow you to the other side of the room, and carefully set the parachute back down on the floor. Repeat a few more times, moving the parachute with the plush animal back and forth across the room as long as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "In our Bible story, we learned about four friends who helped carry their friend to Jesus. Let's pretend this plush animal is our friend who cannot walk. Let's carefully pick up the parachute together and carry our friend to the other side of the room. Follow me."

After the Activity: "You are great helpers! The man in our Bible story today certainly needed Jesus. But I think all of our friends need Jesus too. I know I certainly need Jesus. **Who do you need? [Bottom Line] I need Jesus.**"

Get Ready to Dismiss

MEMORY VERSE

"You are everything
I need."

PSALM 119:57, NIrV



"You are

(Point up)

everything

(Hands out to sides)

I need."

(Point thumbs to chest)

Psalm 119:57

(Open your hands like a book)

This month, your preschool is learning about how everyone needs Jesus. One of the ways we are talking about our needs is through The Market theme, because we can all relate to needing food. Many children in our community struggle to get the food they need and their families depend on local food banks, like Katy Christian Ministries.

Katy Christian Ministries is in need of donations after the holidays, and we want to help restock their shelves so parents can provide their children with the food they need. Your preschooler can help by bringing in one of the following items: Canned green vegetables, Canned fruit, Peanut butter, and Dried beans (1lb or less). You can drop off your donations at Kids Check-In. All of the items will be delivered to Katy Christian Ministries at the end of the month. Thank you for your help!

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