



PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



1. BALL ROLL

WHAT YOU NEED: Playground balls

WHAT YOU DO:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children in the activity area. Help the children pair up to find a partner. Give each pair a playground ball. Instruct the children to sit a few feet apart from each other and roll the ball back and forth.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Collect all balls for clean-up.

WHAT YOU SAY:

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here with me. Everyone, find a partner. (*Help children partner up.*) I want you to sit down and face your partner. Leave some room between you. I will give each pair a ball to roll back and forth."

NOTE: Consider using circles on the floor placed in pairs around your activity area for children to sit on. You could preset these and send each pair to sit on their spots.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "That was so fun! Is rolling a ball more fun alone or with a friend? (*Pause.*) Yes! It's way more fun to roll a ball with a friend! In our Bible story today, we'll talk about something Jesus did with His friends at the beach. I can't wait!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to fly a kite at the beach.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

EPHESIANS 3:18, 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.



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



1. WRITTEN ON THE KITE STRINGS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Friend Forever Kite" and "Kite Strings" Activity Pages; white cardstock; various colors of cardstock; glue sticks; scissors; crayons; and a marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Friend Forever Kite"

Activity Page on cardstock, one per child. Copy "Kite Strings" Activity Page on various colors of cardstock and cut out, one set per child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Have children glue the tails on in order and decorate their paper.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Say the memory verse together.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit down at the table with me."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "On your paper is a picture of a kite. The words inside your kite say, 'Jesus wants to be my friend forever.' Let's add the ribbons to the kite tail. Glue the [color] ribbon on first. (Pause.) It says, 'How wide and long.' Very nice! Glue the [color] ribbon on. (Pause.) It says, 'and high and deep.' Now glue the [color] ribbon on. (Pause.) It says, 'is the love of Christ.' The last ribbon you need to add says where to find this Bible verse. Glue the [color] ribbon on. (Pause.) It says, 'Ephesians 3:18.' Super job! Now color your kite. (Pause.) These are fantastic!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, let's say our memory verse together. 'How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.' Ephesians 3:18. Say it again. 'How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.' Ephesians 3:18. Jesus loves you, and He wants to be your friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

BIBLE STORY

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BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

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4. CALLING FRIENDS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Blue sheet and brown sheet

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Lay the blue sheet out flat in the center of your activity area. Lay the brown sheet on the floor a few feet away from the blue sheet.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

BREAKFAST ON THE BEACH
JOHN 21:1-14

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Gather the children to stand on the blue sheet (*representing the boat in the water*). Select a child to stand on the brown sheet (*represent the beach*). Have the children in the "boat" call out the friend's name on the "beach" then leave the "boat" to see their friend. Repeat, selecting a different child to stay on the "beach" as you send the rest of the children to the "boat."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Gather the sheets for clean-up.

MEMORY VERSE

"How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ."

EPHESIANS 3:18, NIV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "In our true story from the Bible, we learned how Jesus' friends were out fishing when they saw someone standing on the beach. Do you remember who it was? (*Pause.*) Yes, it was Jesus! He was back. They were so excited that they jumped out of the boat and headed straight towards Him. Let's pretend this sheet is the water and the brown sheet is the beach. Everyone, stand over here with me." (*Lead children to the blue sheet.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Okay, [child's name], why don't you head over to the brown sheet—our beach! (*Pause as child moves.*) Now let's call out to our friend! (*Pause as children calls friend's name.*) Let's go see our friend." (*Repeat with a different child.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We found our friend, just like the disciples found their friend, Jesus! That was so fun. Can you imagine how excited they were to see Jesus on that beach? Jesus promised that He would come back, and He did! Jesus wanted to be their friend forever. And He wants to be yours, too. So, tell me, **who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

KEY QUESTION

Who wants to be your friend forever?

BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclipped "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Ephesians 3:18, journal, and fun-shaped pen

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll pretend to tip-toe through the warm sand while we walk to our small group spot. Do what I do and

follow me! (*Tip-toe and pretend to walk on sand as you lead the children to your small group spot.*)

"I love sand! Thank you for pretending with me. Let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*)

"Today's Bible story was about how Jesus made breakfast for His friends, the disciples, on the beach. Jesus wanted His friends to know that He is alive and wants to be their friend forever. Jesus loves all of His friends, more than we can even imagine! That's why our Bible verse says (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*)

"'How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.' Ephesians 3:18. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"Jesus' love is so big we can't even measure how wide or long or high or deep it is. Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together with the motions."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'How wide (*hold arms out wide*) and long (*raise one hand high and hold one hand low*) and high (*jump*) and deep (*crouch*) is the love (*hug yourself*) of Christ,' (*point up*) Ephesians 3:18." (*Open hands like a book.*)

(*Repeat the verse with the motions a few times.*)

SGL: "And because Jesus loves us SO much, He wants to be our friend forever. **Who wants to be your friend forever?"**

CHILDREN AND SGL: "**Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

SGL: "**Who wants to be your friend forever?"**

CHILDREN AND SGL: "**Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

SGL: "You got it! Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*)

BIBLE STORY

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

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WEEK
TWO

SMALL GROUP
Downtown

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

“Since Jesus made breakfast for His friends, we’re going to make a list of our favorite breakfast foods today. When I say your name, tell me your favorite food to eat for breakfast, and I will write it in our prayer journal. Get ready and listen for your name! *(Say each child’s name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*”

“Yum! These are some great breakfast foods! Let’s pray and thank Jesus for all the ways He shows us that He loves us. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

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

PRAYER

SGL: “Dear God, thank You for giving us Jesus. He is the best friend ever. Thank You for the Bible and all of the true stories that teach us how great a friend Jesus is. We love how Jesus made fish and bread for breakfast for His friends. We like to eat *(read the list the children made)* for breakfast. I pray each child here today will follow Jesus so He can be their friend forever, too. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”