

SMALL GROUP **PRE-K** STARTER

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

Note: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and preschoolers. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your preschoolers for both Large and Small Group time.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can do amazing things.

JESUS FEEDS THE 5,000 JOHN 6:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"And the power of the Lord was with Jesus."

LUKE 5:17, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can do anything?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus can do anything.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15 MIN **SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction** Find and Sort

LARGE GROUP



WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways "Nothing You Can't Do" Bible Story Prayer

SMALL GROUP



GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect Basket Full Pattern the Bread and Fish Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home Memory Verse Card Parent Cue Card (print or email) Parent Cue App



This symbol indicates an activity with potential allergens. Be sure to post allergy alert sign and inform parents at drop-off.





PRELUDE

WORSHIP

STORY

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION 15 MINUTES

SOCIAL

MADE TO MOVE

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



FIND AND SORT

WHAT YOU NEED: "Find and Sort" Activity Page, cardstock, large basket, twelve containers, and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Find and Sort" on cardstock and cut, six sets per Small Group. Hide the cutouts

around the room. Put the containers and the basket in the center of the room or table.

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can do amazing things.

JESUS FEEDS THE 5,000 JOHN 6:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

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KEY QUESTION

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BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

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DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to search the room for the fish and bread. When they find some, they place it in the basket. When they've found all of the fish and bread, set all twelve of the containers out in front of you and divide the fish and bread as equally as possible between all twelve containers. Count the bread and fish with the children.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "I have a game for us to play today! I need you to find all the bread and fish hidden throughout the room. When you find one, bring it back and put it in this basket."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "One, two, three, GO! (*Pause.*) Good job of finding fish and bread! Put them in this basket, and go look for more! (*Continue until children have found all or almost all.*) Help me put some food in each container. (*Pause.*) Great job! Now let's count it. How many loaves of bread do you think we have? Do you think we have more than five loaves of bread and two fish? (*Pause.*) Let's count. (*Count with the children.*) Wow! That is a lot of food! Thanks for helping me today!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today we're going to hear a story about how Jesus took two fish and five loaves of bread and fed a lot of people! I can't wait to hear all about it!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by asking children to tell you what their favorite foods are.



SMALL GROUP **PRE-K** STARTER

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES

GROUPS

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft



BASKET FULL

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW] WHAT YOU NEED: "Basket Full" and "Basket Fish and Bread" Activity Pages, cardstock, crayons, dot markers, scissors, glue sticks, baby wipes, and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Basket Full" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Copy "Basket Fish and Bread" on cardstock and cut, one set per child. Fold each child's set of seven paper strips in an accordion-fold style.

BIBLE STORY

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MEMORY VERSE

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KEY QUESTION

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BASIC TRUTH

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DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color their basket with crayons, then dot marker their fish and bread. Help children glue the last fold of each strip to the inside of their basket. Clean hands as needed. Demonstrate how the two fish and five loaves of bread become much more.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, everyone! Come join me at the table! I have a neat story picture for us to create today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Today we heard a story about how a boy shared his meal of two fish and five loaves of bread with Jesus, and Jesus fed five thousand people with it! Look on your big paper—it's a picture of a basket. Color it in with the crayons. (*Pause.*) Great! You have seven strips of paper, two of them have fish pictures, and the other five have bread pictures on them. Take a dot marker and dot each fish and each bread. (*Pause.*) See how the paper has folds? Let's follow them and fold up each strip. Then we'll glue them to your basket. (*Help as needed.*) Fantastic!" (*Clean hands as needed.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We learned today that there was a crowd of people who had been listening to Jesus teach, and when He finished and went across the water, they followed! They knew He could do amazing things. Jesus saw the people and wanted to feed them. The disciples didn't have enough money to feed all those people, but there was a boy who shared his food. Jesus took the boy's food of five loaves of bread and two fish and thanked God for it. Then Jesus started giving the people bread and fish, and more bread and more fish, until they were no longer hungry. There was even food leftover! Wow! Jesus can do anything! Who can do anything? Jesus can do anything."



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	HOME			
			CREAT	CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES				

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



PATTERN THE BREAD AND FISH* [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert Poster," cardstock, Goldfish® crackers, Cheerios®, small paper cups, napkins, and a pitcher of water

Note: Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (in the Prelude folder) and post it at

the door to your room.

WHAT YOU DO:

BIBLE STORY

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JESUS FEEDS THE 5,000 JOHN 6:1-14

MEMORY VERSE

"And the power of the Lord was with Jesus."

LUKE 5:17, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who can do anything?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus can do anything.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list "Goldfish" and "Cheerios," and post at the door. Pour fish crackers into cups, one per child, and cereal into cups, one per child. Set a napkin and a cup of each snack at each spot at the table. Make sure the leader has cups of snacks too.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Explain to your preschoolers that you will use the snacks in your cups to create different patterns. In the center of the table, create the following pattern: bread (*Cheerios*®), bread, fish (*Goldfish*®), fish, bread, bread, fish, fish, etc. Call out each item as you point to it. Encourage the children to create the same pattern on their napkins. Celebrate as they finish. Repeat with two or three more patterns. Provide cups of water, and encourage the children to eat and enjoy their snacks.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come find a spot at the table! In our story today, Jesus fed a huge crowd of people with just fish and bread. In the cups in front of you, we have some Goldfish to represent the fish and some Cheerios to represent the bread. Don't eat anything yet! First, we're going to make some patterns with our fish and bread."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Spread your napkin on the table in front of you. Now, I'll make a pattern for you to copy with your own fish and bread on your napkin. (Say the food as you put it down.) Bread, bread, fish, fish, bread, bread, fish, fish. Follow the pattern with your fish and bread. (Pause.) Great job! Put all the fish and bread back in your cups, and let's try another pattern. Fish, bread, fish, bread, fish, bread, fish, bread. Follow the pattern. (Repeat as desired.) You did a great job with all of your patterns. Now you can enjoy your fish and bread! Snack away, friends!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Are your tummies full? In our story, everyone was full, and it was amazing! Jesus fed over 5,000 people as much bread and fish as they wanted, and there was even food leftover. Wow! Jesus can do anything! Who can do anything? Jesus can do anything!"



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	WORSHIP	STORY	GROUPS	номе		
			CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT 25 MINUTES				

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



WHAT YOU DO:

JOURNAL AND PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a journal, and a fun-shaped pen

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

BIBLE STORY

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KEY QUESTION

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BOTTOM LINE

Jesus can do anything.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Luke 5:17. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

Tell the children to pretend to pack their lunch and carry their lunchbox as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of their favorite foods.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to pretend to pack our lunch and carry our lunchbox to our Small Group spot. Come on, everyone! Let's pack our lunch! (*Pretend to pack a lunch*.) There! Lunch is ready! Now let's pretend to carry our lunchboxes. Follow me! (*Pretend to carry a lunchbox as you lead the children to your Small Group spot*.) Here we are! Now we can sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.) "In our Bible Story today, Jesus used a boy's lunch to feed a lot of people! Do you remember what the boy packed for lunch? (*Pause.*) Yes! The boy had five loaves of bread and two fish, and Jesus used it to feed over 5,000 people! Wow! **Jesus can do anything! Who can do anything? Jesus can do anything!**

"The Bible verse we are learning tells us how **Jesus can do anything.** It says, 'And the power (*muscle arms*) of the Lord (*point up*) was with Jesus,' (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) Luke 5:17. (*Open hands like a book*.) Wow! God's power is with Jesus! Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do! 'And the power (*muscle arms*) of the Lord (*point up*) was with Jesus,' (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) Luke 5:17. (*Open hands like a book*.)



"Yay! I am so proud of you! (*Clap.*) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) The boy in our story had bread and fish in his bag. What's one food you really like to eat? When I say your name, tell me one food you really like, and I will write it in our journal. Then we can use the list when we pray. (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Mmmm... this list is making me hungry! (*Hold up journal.*) Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for foods like (*read the list the children made*). Help us to talk to You about what we need. Food, friends, boo-boos...You can help us with anything because **Jesus can do anything.** We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."



GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and engage with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing fun age-appropriate, hands-on activities that introduce new concepts they will hear in the Bible Story.

Offer the following activity as preschoolers arrive. Let one Small Group Leader lead the activity while another leader greets parents and children at the door.

FIND AND SORT

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Find and Sort" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Large basket
- Twelve containers (small enough for all twelve to fit in the basket)
- Scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Find and Sort" on cardstock and cut, six sets per Small Group.
- Hide the cutouts around the room.
- Put the twelve containers and the basket in the center of the room or table.

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or offer two activities at once and allow half the children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

BASKET FULL

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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:

- "Basket Full" Activity Page
- "Basket Fish and Bread" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Crayons
- Dot markers
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Baby wipes
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Basket Full" on cardstock, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Copy "Basket Fish and Bread" on cardstock and cut, one set per child.
- Fold each child's set of seven paper strips in an accordion-fold style.



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

PATTERN THE BREAD AND FISH* [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Allergy Alert Poster"
- Cardstock
- Goldfish® crackers
- Cheerios®
- Small paper cups, four per child and leader
- Napkins
- Pitcher of water

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list "Goldfish" and "Cheerios," and post at the door.
- Pour fish crackers into cups, one per child and leader, and cereal into cups, one per child and leader.
- Set a napkin and a cup of each snack at each spot at the table.

JOURNAL AND PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible
- Journal (Check out the Ollie journal at <u>bit.ly/3B4Z71j</u>.)
- Fun-shaped pen (Check out the Ollie Pen at <u>bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh</u>.)

WHAT YOU DO:

• If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place it in the Bible at Luke 5:17. Note: Keep the Memory Verse Card in your Bible all month.

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue App.**

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

 Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. <u>bit.ly/FL_WatchThis</u>