

February Week 4



Overview Card



Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Key Question: How do you love God?

Bottom Line: Love God with all your heart.

Memory Verse: "Love ... God with all your heart." Matthew 22:37, NIV

Bible Story: Jesus talked to God.
Jesus Prays • *Matthew 6:5-13*

God Made Me

God Loves Me

Jesus Wants To
Be My Friend Forever

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ARRIVAL ACTIVITY

Musical Hearts



What You Need: “Colored Hearts” (from the Activity Pages on the Web site), multiple colors of cardstock, scissors, a CD player, and a CD of fun preschool music.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Print “Colored Hearts” onto cardstock and then cut out the hearts. (Option: *Laminate the hearts for increased durability.*)

During the activity: Arrange the hearts on the floor in a large circle. Instruct each child to stand on a heart. You should stand on a heart too! When the music plays, you will all walk in the same direction. When the music stops, call out one color of heart. Everyone standing on the color you call out will say the Bible verse out loud. Keep playing the game, calling out a different color of heart each time the music stops.

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: “Come here, everyone, and stand on a heart. We’re going to play a fun game that will help us remember our Bible verse. All you have to do is walk in a circle when you hear the music. When the music stops, I will call out a color. If you are standing on that color, you get to say our Bible verse. Here we go!”

During the activity: “‘Love ... God with all your heart,’ Matthew 22:37.”



February Week 4



Anything,
Anytime,
Anywhere



What You Need: Posters (Make them using “During the Activity” directions)

What You Do: Review the Bible story by repeating the “Anything,” “Anytime,” and “Anywhere” motions from the Bible story.

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: “I love our Bible story today. Do you know why I love it so much? (Pause.) Because, Jesus said we can talk to God about ANYTHING (motion), ANYTIME (motion), ANYWHERE (motion). I think it’s awesome that we can talk to God about ANYTHING (motion), ANYTIME (motion), ANYWHERE (motion)! Stand up with me and let’s do those motions together. I don’t want us to ever forget this!”

During the activity: “Can we talk to God when we’re sad? Yes! We can talk to God about ANYTHING (motion), ANYTIME (motion), ANYWHERE (motion)! Can we talk to God when we’re scared? Yes! We can talk to God about ANYTHING (motion), ANYTIME (motion), ANYWHERE (motion)! Can we talk to God while we watch TV? Yes! We can talk to God about ANYTHING (motion), ANYTIME (motion), ANYWHERE (motion)! Can we talk to God while we are in the bathtub? Yes! We can talk to God about ANYTHING (motion), ANYTIME (motion), ANYWHERE (motion)! Can we talk to God while we are in the bathtub? Yes! We can talk to God about ANYTHING (motion), ANYTIME (motion), ANYWHERE (motion)! Can we talk to God about a tummyache? Yes! We can talk to God about ANYTHING (motion), ANYTIME (motion), ANYWHERE (motion)!” (Continue proposing scenarios as long as the children are interested.)

At the end of the activity: “God wants us to talk to Him about anything, anytime, anywhere because He loves us. And when we talk to Him, He knows we love Him too. **How do we love God? [Bottom Line] Love God with all your heart.**”



February Week 4



Prayer Frame Craft



What You Need—craft frame, insert, magnet, tape.

Have kids attach heart stickers to craft frame. After kids are done with the frame, attach the insert that helps kids remember that they can pray anytime, anywhere, about anything with tape and put a magnet on the back.



February Week 4

Dismissal Activity



Heart to Heart



What You Need: “Lots of Hearts” (from the Activity Pages WEEK 3), white or red cardstock, and scissors.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Cut out the seven large hearts from “Lots of Hearts.” (Option: Laminate the hearts for increased durability.)

During the activity: Tape the hearts in a row on the floor. Begin by placing them very close together. Show the children how to begin at the first heart and say each word of the Bible verse as they walk, tiptoe, jump, touch with their hand—whatever motion you want them to do—from heart to heart. Each time everyone says the verse, separate the hearts a few more inches to make it more challenging to go from heart to heart. Continue playing as long as the children are interested.

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: “Raise you hand if you can jump. Wow! You can all jump! That’s great! You’re going to need to jump in this game.”

During the activity: “‘Love ... God with all your heart,’ Matthew 22:37.”



February Week 4

Jesus Talked to God

Jesus Prays Matthew 6: 5-13

"In our story today, Jesus is teaching His friends how to talk to God. Hmm ... talk to God? Well, I know how you talk to people. That's pretty easy, right? You can ... *(pause as if you're thinking)* you can call them on a phone. *(Pretend to dial a number on a toy cell phone and have the following conversation with a friend.)*

(In a squeaky, teenage girl voice) "Hi, is this Sally? *(Pause.)* Hi, Sally! I just called to say hello. I wanted to see if you can come over today after church. Cool! See you then! *(Close cell phone and continue.)*

"See? That was easy. Another way you can talk to people is on the computer. *(Open up a toy computer or laptop.)* You just open this right up and type a few words. *(In a skater dude voice)* What's up, Jack? Saw you yesterday at school. You did a gnarly job painting that picture in art class. Catch ya later, gator! *(Back to regular voice)* Then I just press this send button, and—BAM—Jack gets my words on his computer. It's amazing really.

"Sometimes I like writing a letter to talk to people. My grandmother loves getting letters from me in her mailbox. *(Take out a pen and paper. Use a toddler voice.)* Hi, Grandma. I can't wait to come see you at your house. Will you make me your special chocolate chip cookies? See you then! Love, *(Storyteller's name)*. *(Fold the letter and continue with the script.)*

"There are lots of ways you can talk to people, but how do you talk to God? It's a good thing that Jesus tells us right here in the Bible exactly how to do it. He says you can talk to God about ANYTHING *(start with your fists close to your chest, then stretch arms straight up and out to the side with jazz hands)*, ANYTIME *(point your finger to your wrist like you're pointing to a watch)*, ANYWHERE *(with your left hand on your hip and your right hand stretched out in front of you, turn all the way around once)*. Can you do those motions with me? You can talk to God about ANYTHING *(start with your fists close to your chest, then stretch arms straight up and out to the side with jazz hands)*, ANYTIME *(point your finger to your wrist like you're pointing to a watch)*, ANYWHERE *(with your left hand on your hip and your right hand stretched out in front of you, turn all the way around once)*.

(Doing the motions above each time you say 'ANYTHING,' 'ANYTIME,' and 'ANYWHERE.') "ANYTHING *(motion)* means you can talk to God about how much you love Him or how you need help with something. You can talk to Him about being happy or sad. You can thank God for your food and friends. You can tell Him you miss your mom or that you like the flowers or that your tummy hurts! You really can talk to God about ANYTHING *(motion)*!

"ANYTIME *(motion)* means you can talk to God when you wake up or before you go to bed. You can talk to God before you eat and after you eat! You can talk to God before you go to school, while you watch TV, or even practice soccer! ANYTIME *(motion)* means God is ALWAYS listening.

"ANYWHERE *(motion)* means just what it says—ANYWHERE *(motion)*. You can talk to God in your bed, at the dinner table, at school, in the bathtub, at the doctor's office, at the baseball field, at your friend's house, in a tree, in a pool, in the snow. You get the idea. You can talk to God ANYWHERE *(motion)*!

"Now that you know how to talk to God, let me hear you say it. How do you talk to God? Stand up and do the motions with me!

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: "About ANYTHING *(motion)*, ANYTIME *(motion)*, ANYWHERE *(motion)*!"

STORYTELLER: "That was great! Let's do it again. How do you talk to God?"

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: "About ANYTHING *(motion)*, ANYTIME *(motion)*, ANYWHERE *(motion)*!"

STORYTELLER: "That's right! Good job! Let's sit down now. God loves it when you talk to Him. It's another way you can show God you love Him with all your heart. That's how you love God—with all your heart. **How do you love God?**"

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: *[Bottom Line]* "Love God with all your heart!"

STORYTELLER: "Fantastic! What do you say we talk to God right now! Come on. Let's pray.

"God, it is so cool that we can talk to You about ANYTHING, ANYTIME, ANYWHERE. Thank You, thank You, THANK YOU for always listening. We love You SO much, God! Amen."