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Key Question: Who is your friend?

Bottom Line: Jesus is my good friend.

Memory Verse: "A friend loves at all times." Proverbs

17:17, NIrV

Bible Story: I love Jesus.

Caring for Jesus • Luke 7:36-50



God Loves Me

Jesus Wants To Be My Friend Forever



April Week 4



Overview Card



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1. Good or Bad?

What You Need: No supplies are needed. (Have a list of examples for teachers)

What You Do: Call out a series of scenarios that include both good and bad choices. For example, my mom said to clean up my toys, so I did it right away. Or, my dad gave me two cookies, but I would not share with my brother. If you call out a good choice, the children should hold two thumbs up while jumping up and down. If you call out a bad choice, the children should hold two thumbs down and squat to the ground.

What You Say:

During the activity: "Okay, if I say something that is a good choice, I want you to give me two thumbs-up and jump and down. If I say something that is a bad choice, I want you to give me two thumbs-down and squat to the floor. Got it? Here we go!"

At the end of the activity: "You sure do know the difference between a good and bad choice! Way to go! The woman in our Bible story today had made some very bad choices. That caused her not to have many friends. However, there was someone who was her good friend and loved her very much."

2. What Is That Smell?

What You Need: A sliced orange or orange juice, an onion, toothpaste, dish soap, a cut lemon or lemon juice, small bowls, and aluminum foil.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Place each food item, toothpaste, and dish soap in a separate bowl. Cover each of the five bowls with foil so you cannot see what is inside. Tear a small hole in the foil on top of each bowl.

During the activity: Carry the first bowl around, allowing each child to smell. Tell them not to say their guesses of what it is just yet. After everyone has had a turn, ask if anyone has any guesses of what the smell might be. Listen to all the suggestions, and then take off the foil and show them what is inside. Repeat this with each of the bowls.

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: "Today we are going to play a game using our noses. Everyone wiggle their noses. (Laugh.) Good job. What do we do with our noses? (Pause.) Yes, we smell with our noses. In this game, we are going to use our noses to smell something and then try to guess what it was that we smelled. Please do not guess until everyone has had a turn to smell. Are you ready?"

At the end of the activity: "You guys did a wonderful job using your noses for our game. Today we are going to listen to a Bible story about a woman who put something on Jesus that smelled. I wonder if it was a good smell or a bad smell? I cannot wait to find out what it was! Are you ready to hear a true story from the Bible?"





Clean Feet



What You Need: Scented lotions and wet wipes.

What You Do: As you review the Bible story, allow the children to wash their own feet with a baby wipe and then rub scented lotion all over their feet. They may want to rub some on their legs and arms as well.

What You Say:

During the activity: "The woman in our Bible story today showed a lot of love for Jesus. Do you remember what she did first? She knelt down on her knees at Jesus' feet and cried so many happy tears that they washed His feet clean! I have some wet wipes so you can wash your feet clean too! (Hand everyone a wet wipe.) Wash, wash, wash. The woman washed Jesus' feet. Wash, wash, wash.

"After the woman dried Jesus' feet with her hair, she pulled out her very special bottle of perfume. She opened the bottle (pop the lid to the lotion) and poured it all over Jesus' feet. (Give each child a squirt of lotion for their feet.) It smelled so good! I just gave each of you some good smelling lotion. You can rub it in like the woman did on Jesus' feet. There! Now your feet are clean and smell so good, just like Jesus' feet."

At the end of the activity: "The woman in our story loved Jesus, and He loved her, even though she had made some bad choices. She new Jesus had forgiven her and still wanted to be her friend. Do you know that Jesus still wants to be your friend, even when you make bad choices? It's true! Jesus is the best friend EVER! Who is your friend? [Bottom Line] Jesus is my good friend."





What You Need: foam feet, foam stickers, bottom line sticker, magnets



We will adapt this game by using 2 different color placemats instead of chairs and construction paper. This way you can throw them down on the floor easily to play!

<u>Caring For Jesus</u>

I Love Jesus Luke 7: 36-50

STORYTELLER: "I have the sweetest Bible story to tell you today. No, it doesn't have candy in it, but it does have so much love that it will just make you smile from ear to ear. (Point from ear to ear.) The best part of this story is that it's about our good friend Jesus. Who is your friend?"

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus is my good friend."

STORYTELLER: (Opening your Bible) "One day, some men asked Jesus to eat dinner with them. It was a nice dinner with lots of yummy food. Can you pretend to eat some yummy food with me? (Pretend to feed yourself food.) Mmm ... this food is so good!

"As Jesus and the people were eating and talking, a woman came in and got on her knees at Jesus' feet. (Get on your knees and begin talking with a lot of sadness in your voice.) None of the people at the dinner would be her friend. They just looked at her with mean faces because they knew she had made many bad choices. Can you make a mean face? (Look around.) Ooh, those are some mean faces! But Jesus wasn't mean like the other people. He knew she had made bad choices too, but He loved her anyway. This made the woman's heart fill up with so much love for Jesus that she couldn't help but cry when she saw Him. She cried so many happy tears that they made Jesus' feet wet! She didn't wait for a towel. She just took her loooong hair and wiped Jesus' feet dry. Can you pretend to dry Jesus' feet with your long hair? (Pretend to wipe Jesus' feet with long hair.) There you go, Jesus. Your feet are all dry now.

"The woman wasn't done showing Jesus how much she loved Him. She was so thankful that she wanted to give Jesus the most special thing she had. So, after she dried Jesus' feet with her hair, she took out her very best bottle of perfume (holding up the bottle) and poured it all over His feet! Everyone at the dinner table could smell the special perfume. Can you pretend to pour perfume on Jesus' feet? (Pretend you can smell the perfume as you 'pour' it on Jesus' feet.) Ooh, that smells so good!

"The woman could have kept her special perfume all to herself, but instead she chose to use it to show Jesus how much she loved Him. The woman showed so much love for Jesus that some of the other people began getting mad. They told Jesus that this woman had done bad things and that He should not be her friend. But Jesus didn't care what they said. He was a good friend to her anyway. He knew she was sorry for doing bad things and that she loved Him with all her heart.

"Okay, I saved the very best part of this story for last. Are you ready for it? (Pause dramatically.) Jesus is YOUR good friend too, no matter what! Who is your friend?"

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: [Bottom Line] "Jesus is my good friend."

STORYTELLER: "That's right! Jesus is your good friend, even when you do something bad. That should make you love Jesus even more! I mean, let's tell the truth here, we all do something bad every now and then, right? Doesn't it make your heart feel so full of love knowing that Jesus loves you anyway?

"I have an idea! When I count to three, let's say 'I love Jesus' as loud as we can. Here we go! One ... two ... three ... "

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: "I LOVE JESUS!"

STORYTELLER: "See? I told you it was a sweet story. (Smiling) Let's pray.

"Jesus, we love You. We love you. We LOVE you. Thank You for loving us all the time, even when we do bad things. Help us to show You love every day. Amen."