

April Week 4 / May Week 1



April 26th/27th
and May 3rd/4th

Overview Card

A Place for Us

Key Question:
Bottom Line:
Memory Verse:

Who is your good friend?
Jesus is my good friend.
“A friend loves at all times.”
Proverbs 17:17, Nlrv

Bible Story:

Jesus wants to be with me forever.
A Place for Us
John 14:1-4

Coloring Page:

Jesus makes a promise.

Music:

We're All Singing
Great Big God
Give Your Heart to Jesus

Bible Lesson:

God's Story for Me
The Ascension
Pages 441 to 445

Service Time:

68 minutes

Story Time:

God gave us Heaven
by Lisa T. Bergren

April Memory Verse -
“A friend loves at all times.”
Proverbs 17:17 Nlrv

April Week 4 / May Week 1



April 26th/27th
and May 3rd/4th

ACTIVITY

A Place for Us

Building Houses

What You Need: Different types of building blocks such as LEGOs[®], wooden blocks, and box blocks.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Distribute the different kinds of blocks in stations around the play area.

During the activity: Allow the children to play freely with the blocks. Encourage the children to play and build houses together.

At the end of the activity: Ask the children to work together and put the blocks away.

What You Say:

Before the activity: “There are so many different kinds of blocks in our room today. I bet we can build a lot of different kinds of houses with this many blocks!”

During the activity: “Can you work together with your friends and see how many different kinds of houses you can build? (*Pause.*) Working with a friend always makes things easier and more fun.”

At the end of the activity: “Wow! These houses are AH-MAZING! In our Bible lesson we heard about another AH-MAZING house! And even better it is an AH-MAZING house that you and I can live in! Do you remember where it was?”

April Memory Verse -
“A friend loves at all times.”
Proverbs 17:17 NIrV

April Week 4 / May Week 1



April 26th/27th
and May 3rd/4th

ACTIVITY

A Place for Us

At All Times

What You Need: “Clock Numbers” from the Activity Pages on the Website, white cardstock, tape, and reward stickers or hand stamp.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Make a copy of “Clock Numbers” from the Activity Pages on white cardstock. Tape the numbers securely on the floor to look like a large round clock.

During the activity: Walk around the clock circle as you say the rhyme. Each time you finish the rhyme call out a number and the child standing on that number gets a chance to say the Memory Verse for a sticker or hand stamp.

What You Say:

Before the activity: “Come stand on my big clock. I have a fun game for us to play!”

During the activity: “Look at our big clock. It has numbers going all the way around it. Count with me! (*Point to the numbers as you count.*) One, two, three ... twelve! We’re going to walk in a circle. I’ll call out a number when we stop. Whoever is standing on that number gets to say our Memory Verse for a prize! Here we go! (*Say each time you walk around the circle*) ‘Walk, walk around the clock. Say the verse when we stop.’”

At the end of the activity: “A good friend loves at all times and Jesus is a good friend. **Who is your good friend?** (*Pause.*) **Jesus is my good friend.** And that means Jesus loves you all the time!”

April Memory Verse -
“A friend loves at all times.”
Proverbs 17:17 NIrV

April Week 4 / May Week 1



April 26th/27th
and May 3rd/4th

ACTIVITY

A Place for Us

Celebration

What You Need: Music player and the songs from Singin' Praise Tots CD.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Play fun songs from Singin' Praise Tots CD.

During the activity: Encourage the children to dance and be silly. Continue as long as there's interest.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "I am so excited that Jesus has made such a special place for us! I just want to CELEBRATE! When I celebrate I like to dance and be silly! Let's dance!"

During the activity: (Play music.) "Will you dance with me? *(Dance with the children.)* Show me your cool dance moves! We have a lot to celebrate because Jesus has a special place for us!" *(Continue as long as there's interest.)*

At the end of the activity: "I am so glad that Jesus is my friend and that He has a special place for me. Jesus loves us so much and wants to be everyone's friend!"

Who is your good friend? *(Pause.)* Yes, yes, yes! **Jesus is my good friend!"**

**April Memory Verse -
"A friend loves at all times."
Proverbs 17:17 NIV**

April Week 4 / May Week 1



April 26th/27th
and May 3rd/4th

ACTIVITY

A Place for Us

My Friend Jesus

What You Need: “Jesus and Me” from the Activity Pages on the Website, white cardstock, markers, and crayons.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Make a copy of “Jesus and Me” from the Activity Pages on white cardstock for each child.

During the activity: Give each child a copy of “Jesus and Me.” Instruct them to draw a picture of themselves standing with their good friend Jesus.

What You Say:

During the activity: “Jesus is your good friend. **Who is your good friend?**

(Pause.) **Jesus is my good friend.** That’s why I want you to draw a picture of YOU standing beside Jesus. Look at the colors you’re wearing, your hair color, your eye color ... make the picture look as much like you as you can.”

At the end of the activity: “I love the pictures you drew! Way to go! You can take them home and put them on your fridge to remind you that Jesus is your good friend! **Who is your good friend? (Pause.) Jesus is my good friend!**”

April Memory Verse -
“A friend loves at all times.”
Proverbs 17:17 NIrV

April Week 4 / May Week 1



April 26th/27th
and May 3rd/4th

ACTIVITY

A Place for Us

Work Together

What You Need: Two large beach towels and two stuffed animals.

What You Do: Divide the children into two groups and give each group a towel. Place the stuffed animals on the opposite side of the room from the children. Tell each group to hold the towel by the ends. Making sure everyone has a piece of the towel, direct kids to lift their towel about 3 feet off the ground. Instruct them to pull it tight. Encourage them to walk the towel over to the stuffed animal as they work together. When they reach the animal, have an adult place the animal on the towel and tell them to rush back to where they started without letting the animal fall. Repeat by placing the animal back to the original spot. Repeat until the children lose interest.

What You Say: “Wow! You all worked together so well! Things go so much smoother when we work together with our friends. Friends are SO important! In our lesson today, Jesus had to leave His friends. That made them sad, just like you would be if one of your friends had to leave. Jesus is EVERYONE'S friend, and He left to do something very special. He made a place for all His friends in heaven! That is a true friend! **Who is your friend?** (Pause) **Jesus is my good friend!**”

April Memory Verse -
“A friend loves at all times.”
Proverbs 17:17 NIV

April Week 4 / May Week 1



April 26th/27th
and May 3rd/4th

CRAFT

A Place for Us

Stick Houses

What You Need: “House Plans” from the Activity Pages on the Website, white cardstock, craft sticks, glue, paint and paintbrushes

What You Do:

Before the activity: Make enough copies of “House Plans” from the Activity Pages on white cardstock so that each child can use one during the activity.

During the activity: Instruct the children to choose one page of house plans. Show them how to build a house by gluing the craft sticks on the lines of the house on the page. Encourage the children to paint the inside of their houses and make it their very own.

What You Say:

During the activity: “Have you ever wondered what it would be like to build a house? (Pause.) Today we’re going to build a house with these sticks using these house plans. All you have to do is match the sticks to the lines on the paper and glue them on. (Demonstrate.) When you’re done you can paint your house any color you would like!”

At the end of the activity: “It takes time to get a place ready for a person to live! Our Bible lesson today is about a place Jesus is getting ready for us!”

April Memory Verse -
“A friend loves at all times.”
Proverbs 17:17 NIrV

April Week 4 / May Week 1



April 26th/27th
and May 3rd/4th

SMALL GROUP

A Place for Us

Small Group Time

What you Need: Bible, Dry Eraser Board and Marker, and Stickers

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "We've talked a lot about how Jesus wants to be our friend forever. Who wants to be your friend forever?"

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

SGL: "That's right! Jesus wants to be your friend forever! That's why Jesus left us. He went to prepare a place for us so we can live with Him forever. Just like we have to build our houses and move the furniture in before we can live in them, Jesus had to go get our new home with Him all ready. Now THAT is a good friend! **Who is your good friend?**"

CHILDREN and SGL: "Jesus is my good friend!"

SGL: "I don't know exactly what our home with Jesus will look like, but I know it will be wonderful because Jesus loves us. Remember our Memory Verse? 'A friend loves at all times,' Proverbs 17:17. Let's say it together and then anyone who wants to say it for a sticker can give it a try!"

CHILDREN and SGL: "'A friend (*hook your pointer fingers together*) loves (*hug yourself*) at all times' (*stretch your arms out to each side with your palms facing up as you turn in a circle*), Proverbs 17:17." (*Open your hands like a book.*) (*Repeat as many times as desired.*)

SGL: "Yay! I am so proud of you! I hope you always remember how much Jesus loves you and that He wants to be your good friend forever!"

"It's time to pray now. I think this time we should tell Jesus thank You for all He's done for us. We can tell Him thank You for being a good friend, for making a way for us to be with God forever, for coming back, for going to prepare a place for us, or for just always loving us. We can tell Him thank You for all kinds of things, because **Jesus is my good friend. Who is your good friend?**"

CHILDREN and SGL: "Jesus is my good friend!"

SGL: "Who wants to go first?"

Write down the children's names on your dry erase board. Remember to print the words so they can recognize their names and letters.

Prayer

SGL: "God, we have so much we want to say thank You for. Thank You for (*read what the children listed*). You sent us the perfect friend when You sent Jesus. We love Him and we love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

April Memory Verse -
"A friend loves at all times."
Proverbs 17:17 NIV