

April Week 4 & May Week 1



April 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup>  
May 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>

# OVERVIEW CARD

**Jesus wants  
to be my  
friend forever!**

**Key Question:**

Who wants to be your friend forever?

**Bottom Line:**

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

**Memory Verse:**

"Go and make disciples of all nations."

Matthew 28:19, NIV

**Bible Story Focus:**

God helps me tell others about Jesus.

Peter Put in Jail

Acts 12:1-17

**Coloring Page:**

An angel frees Peter.

**Music:**

Go

I Can Do All Things

Shout

**Bible Lesson:**

God's Story for Me Bible

Peter Escapes from Prison

Pages 482 to 487

**Story:**

Jesus and His Friends

The Beginner's Bible

**Service Time:**

70 minutes (week 1)

68 minutes (week 2)

## Memory Verse –

**"Go and make disciples of all nations."**

**Matthew 28:19, NIV**

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# ACTIVITY 1

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## Around the World

### Big Idea:

*“Around the World” is an activity that uses repetition and movement to teach the memory verse.*

**What You Need:** Beach-ball-sized inflatable globe

### What You Do:

*Before the activity:* Have the children stand in a circle around you. Say the verse as a class.

*During the activity:* Using your hand, hit the ball to a child and have them say the verse. Then encourage them to hit it back to you. Continue hitting the ball to all of the children and encouraging them to say the verse each time.

*At the end of the activity:* Say the verse together one last time. Tell the children that they should tell people all around the world about Jesus.

### What You Say:

*Before the activity:* “Do you remember our Memory Verse for this month? *(Pause.)* Of course you do! Let’s say it together! ‘Go and make disciples of all nations,’ Matthew 28:19. Nice job! Now everyone stand in a circle.” *(Help the children form a circle.)*

*During the activity: (Hold up the ball.)* “This is a ball that shows the ENTIRE world! I am going to hit the ball to you and when I do I want you to say our verse. Are you ready? *(Pause.)* Here we go! *(Hit the ball to each child and help them say the verse.)* Great job!”

*At the end of the activity:* “That was awesome! Do you know why I chose to play with a ball that has the whole world on it? *(Pause.)* Well, our verse tells us that God wants us to tell people that Jesus wants to be their friend forever, all around the world. He wants people who live in all of the countries of the world to be His friend! He wants us to tell EVERYONE that Jesus wants to be their friend! **Who wants to be your friend forever?** *(Pause.)* **Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Now let’s say our verse one more time together. ‘Go and make disciples of all nations,’ Matthew 28:19. Awesome!”

## Memory Verse –

**“Go and make disciples of all nations.”**

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## ACTIVITY 2

### Jesus wants to be my friend forever!

#### Wake Up!

##### Big Idea:

*“Wake Up” is an activity that uses imaginary play, large motor movement, and communication skills to review the Bible lesson.*

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:** Lead the children in acting out the lesson. Tell the children they are going to pretend to be asleep in jail, just like Peter was. You will pretend to be an angel and go around tapping everyone on the shoulder. The children will wake up as they are tapped on the shoulder and follow you as you tip-toe quietly around the room, like you are sneaking out of jail. You will stop after you have tip-toed around the room and lead the children in cheering, “We’re free! We’re free! GO and TELL!” several times. Once you have led the children in doing this twice, choose a child to be the angel and play again. Let each child have a turn being the angel.

##### What You Say:

*Before the activity:* “Today’s Bible lesson was so exciting! God helped Peter get out of jail so he could tell others about Jesus. I have something fun we can do. I’ll pretend to be the angel and you can pretend to be asleep in jail. When I tap your shoulder, I want you to follow me like Peter followed the angel. We’re going to sneak out of jail!”

*During the activity: (As you wake up the children)* “Be very, very quiet. Follow me. *(Continue saying this until time for the cheer.)* We’re free! We’re free! GO and TELL!” *(Repeat several times. Choose a child to be the angel and play again.)*

*At the end of the activity:* “God helped Peter get out of jail so he could tell others about Jesus. God wants everyone to know that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. **Who wants to be your friend forever?** *(Pause.)* **Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** And guess what! God will help you tell others about Jesus, just like He helped Peter.”

#### Memory Verse –

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## ACTIVITY 3

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### Praying for Play-Doh

#### Big Idea:

"Praying for Play-Doh" is an activity that uses fine motor skills and creativity to explain today's memory verse concept of Go and Tell.

**What You Need:** Play-Doh, rolling pins and people shaped cookie cutters

#### What You Do:

Show the children how to roll the Play-Doh out flat and then allow them to choose a cookie cutter from the basket. While playing, talk about our memory verse and how Jesus wants us to Go and Tell everyone about him.

#### What You Say:

*Before the activity:* "Today we are going to use this Play-Doh to make the people we want to Go and Tell that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. That way they can be disciples, too!"

*During the activity:* "Let's go around the table and you can all show me the friends you made today. Can you tell me the name of your friend that you want to tell about Jesus? Jesus wants us to GO and TELL everyone that Jesus wants to be their friend forever! He sure does! And that's why we're learning this Bible verse: Go and make disciples of all nations, Matthew 28:19.

*After the activity:* "A disciple is someone who follows Jesus. We made lots of people who need to hear that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. **Who wants to be your friend forever? (Pause) Jesus wants to be your friend forever.**"

### Memory Verse –

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# ACTIVITY 4

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## Go and Tell Cheer

### Big Idea:

*“Go and Tell Cheer” is an activity that uses large motor movement as well as listening, cooperation, and fine motor skills to celebrate Jesus.*

**What You Need:** “Parent Cheer Handout” from the Activity Pages, a light-colored cardstock, scissors, and an assortment of preschool musical instruments such as rhythm sticks, sand blocks, tambourines, triangle, maracas, hand tom-tom, etc.

### What You Do:

*Before the activity:* Make enough copies of the “Parent Cheer Handout” so parents who did not get one during lessons 1 and 2 can have one.

*During the activity:* Lead the children in saying the “Go and Tell Cheer” while marching around the room and playing instruments.

### What You Say:

*Before the activity:* “We like cheering for Jesus and we like making music. Let’s do both! We want everyone to hear us when we say Jesus wants to be their friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? (Pause.) Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**”

*During the activity:* “Say this cheer with me!

GO and TELL! GO and TELL!  
Who wants to be your friend, your friend?  
Who wants to be your friend? *(Pause.)* JESUS!  
Who wants to be your friend, your friend?  
Who wants to be your friend? *(Pause.)* JESUS!

*(Repeat as long as there’s interest.)*

## Memory Verse –

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# ACTIVITY 5

## Jesus wants to be my friend forever!

### You're in Jail

#### Big Idea:

*"You're in Jail" is an activity that reinforces the Bible lesson with a fun song and game.*

**What You Need:** Two Pool Noodles

#### What You Do:

*Before the activity:* Have two adult or teenage helpers stand facing each other in the middle of the play area with the pool noodles laying on the floor on the outer sides of the adult's feet.

*During the activity:* The two adult helpers sing the song below to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb" with a quick tempo.

We're on the road to go and tell, go and tell, go and tell.  
We're on the road to go and tell. Oops, you're in jail!

The children will walk in a single file line in between the two adults and step over the pool noodles. When the adults get to the part of the song that says, "Oops, you're in jail," they will lift the pool noodles and hold the noodles around the child that happens to be passing through them at the time. They will "lock up" the child and gently swing the pool noodles. When they have a child "locked up" they will sing the following verse of the song:

[Child's name] has been put in jail, put in jail, put in jail.  
[Child's name] has been put in jail. Now let's set her free!

When the song comes to the "let's set her free" line, the adults will lower the pool noodles and allow the child to walk away and the line of the children will continue to pass through as they begin the song again.

*At the end of the activity:* Continue with the game until each child has had a turn to be locked up.

#### What You Say:

*Before the activity:* Let's play a game! Everyone line up in a straight line. Great job! Now [Leader's name] and I will stand here (*demonstrate*) and you will walk with your line in between us. We will be singing a song. Listen carefully to us and you can learn the song and sing with us, too! When we get to the end of the song something SILLY happens! Are you ready to play and find out what it is?"

*During the activity:* (*Start singing and have the children start walking*) "We're on the road to go and tell, go and tell, go and tell. We're on the road to go and tell. Oops, you're in jail?" (*"Lock up" child.*) [Child's name] has been put in jail, put in jail, put in jail. [Child's name] has been put in jail. Now let's set her free. (*Release the child.*) I told you something silly would happen at the end of the song!"

*At the end of the activity:* "Great job! That was a really fun game! Today in our lesson someone really did get put in jail and it is no fun at all! Do you remember who that was?"

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## ACTIVITY 6

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### Line Tangle

#### Big Idea:

*"Line Tangle" is a critical thinking activity that uses fine motor skills while reinforcing the ending of the Bible lesson.*

**What You Need:** "Line Tangle" from the Activity Pages, white paper, fine tip markers, and crayons

#### What You Do:

*Before the activity:* Copy the "Line Tangle" Activity Page onto the paper.

*During the activity:* Give each child an Activity Page and a marker. Ask the children to trace each line from the top to the bottom.

*At the end of the activity:* Have the children tell you which line leads to the lower picture. Allow the children to color each picture.

#### What You Say:

*During the activity: (Give each child an Activity Page.)* "There is a picture of Peter and an angel on the top of the page. On the bottom of the page is a picture of Peter telling everyone that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. In our lesson today we learned that the angel got Peter free from jail so he could go and tell everyone about Jesus. I see a big tangle of lines in between the pictures. Use your markers to trace each line. Let's see which line tells the lesson correctly!"

*At the end of the activity:* "Nice work! Now can you tell me which line leads to the picture? (Pause.) Was it the first line? You're right! It was not the first line. How about the second line? No not the second one. The third one? (Pause.) YES, it is the third one! You are so smart! The angel helped Peter get out of jail so that he could tell people that Jesus wants to be their friend FOREVER! Who wants to be your friend forever? (Pause.) **Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

### Memory Verse –

**"Go and make disciples of all nations."**

**Matthew 28:19, NIV**



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# CRAFT – WK 1

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## Tell the World

### Big Idea:

*“Tell the World” is an activity that encourages the use of fine motor skills as children construct a heart shape earth.*

**What You Need:** “Tell It” from the Activity Pages, white cardstock, blue and green crayons, glue, and red tissue paper

### What You Do:

*Before the activity:* Copy “Tell It” on cardstock.

*During the activity:* Say the Memory Verse together as children color the earth with blue and green crayons. Glue red tissue paper inside the heart.

*At the end of the activity:* Say the Bottom Line with the kids and put the pictures aside to dry.

### What You Say:

*Before the activity:* “Today as we say our Memory Verse, we are going to make something special that you can take home to help you remember what Jesus wants us to do.”

*During the activity: (Point to the heart.)* “What shape is this? *(Pause)* It is a heart! And it’s inside the earth. Jesus loves everyone so much, and He wants us to tell everyone! Color your earth with the blue and the green crayons. As you are coloring, let’s say our Memory Verse together. ‘Go and make *(repeat)* disciples *(repeat)* of all *(repeat)* nations’ *(repeat)*, Matthew 28:19 *(repeat)*. Great job! Now, let’s glue some red tissue paper inside the heart. *(Demonstrate.)* Great! And there you have a beautiful heart in the earth that helps us remember to go and tell the whole wide world about Jesus!”

*At the end of the activity:* “These turned out amazing! Jesus wants us to go and tell everyone everywhere all about Him, even when it’s hard. Jesus loves us and wants to be our friend forever!

**Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever.”**

## Memory Verse –

**“Go and make disciples of all nations.”**

**Matthew 28:19, NIV**



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## CRAFT - WK 2

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### Memory Verse Picture Frame

#### Big Idea:

“Memory Verse Picture Frame” is an activity that uses fine motor and listening skills as they make a take home craft that shows next month’s memory verse.

#### What You Need:

Picture Frame, stickers and/or stampers, magnets and memory verse.

#### What You Do:

Have the children decorate the picture frame with stickers and/or stampers.

#### What You Say:

*Before the activity:* “We have a new Memory Verse starting next week. It is: ‘Be kind and loving to each other,’ Ephesians 4:32. Now let’s say it together! ‘Be kind and loving to each other,’ Ephesians 4:32. Awesome! Again!” *(Repeat several more times.)*

*At the end of the activity:* God wants us to help others, to think of others before ourselves, so we are going to learn how to do just that! Our verse next month tells us that God wants to be kind to everyone and help them!”

### Memory Verse –

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# SMALL GROUP

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## Small Group Time:

**What you Need:** Provide a “Small Group” poster, marker and stickers for each classroom.

**SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL):** “Today’s Bible lesson was AMAZING! Some mean people thought Peter couldn’t GO and TELL about Jesus anymore if they put him in jail. Boy, were they wrong! God sent an angel to help Peter get out of jail so he could GO and TELL everyone that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. **Who wants to be your friend forever?**”

**CHILDREN and SGL:** “Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”

**SGL:** “God will always help you do what He tells you to do. And God tells us in our Bible verse that He wants us to GO and TELL others about Jesus. That means God will help you tell others about Jesus, just like He helped Peter. Let’s practice saying our Bible verse together.”

**CHILDREN and SGL:** “Go and make disciples of all nations’, Matthew 28:19.” *(Repeat several times.)*

**SGL:** “God helped Peter tell others about Jesus when he was in jail, and He will help you tell people about Jesus, too. All you have to do is ask. And that’s what we’re going to do today on our “Small Group” poster. I’ll write your names and then I want you to tell me a place that you need God to help you tell others about Jesus. Maybe it’s at your school or the playground or even your house. So tell me, where do you need help telling others about Jesus? *(Pause.)*

*(Write down the children’s names and the places they say beside their names. Remember to print the words so they can recognize their names and letters.)*

**SGL:** “This is a great list. Let’s pray and ask God to help us tell others about Jesus when we go to these places. Would anyone like to say your own prayer before I pray?”

*(Give each child that wants to pray the opportunity to do so and then close with a prayer that includes the list the children made.)*

## Memory Verse –

**“Go and make disciples of all nations.”**

**Matthew 28:19, NIV**