

April Weeks 2 and 3



April 11th/12th
April 18th/19th

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:

Jesus wants to be everyone's friend.

The Great Commission

Matthew 28:19-20

Coloring Page:

Jesus makes a promise.

Music:

Go

My Best Friend

Shout

Bible Lesson:

God's Story for Me Bible

The Ascension

Pages 441 to 445

Story:

I know Jesus Loves Me

by P.K. Hallinan

Service Time:

71 minutes (week 1)

66 minutes (week 2)

Memory Verse –

"Go and make disciples of all nations."

Matthew 28:19, NIV

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ACTIVITY 1

**Jesus wants
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Red Light, Green Light

Big Idea:

“Red Light, Green Light” is an activity that incorporates movement and repetition to teach the Bible story concept of Go and Tell.

What You Need:

Red and green construction paper, Paint sticks

What You Do:

Cut the red and green construction paper into circles the same size. Write “Go” on the green circle and “Stop” on the red circle. Attach the circles to paint sticks so that you have green on one stick and red on the other. Have the children stand in a circle in the middle of the room. When you hold up the green circle, have the children run in place as fast as they can. When you hold up the red circle, have the children stop, freeze and say the Bottom Line (“Jesus wants to be my friend forever”) together.

What To Say:

Before the activity: Explain to the children that we are going to play a fun game where we have to “Go” or run really fast while the green light is showing and “Stop” and “Tell” everyone that “Jesus wants to be my friend forever” when the red light is showing.

After the activity: Remind the children of our lesson. Ask the children who told us to Go? What did Jesus want us to Go and Tell? Explain to the children that Jesus wants us to “GO” and tell everyone about His love for us. Ask them to think of someone that they would like to tell about Jesus’ love. God wants us to Go and Tell EVERYONE that Jesus wants to be their friend, too! **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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ACTIVITY 2

**Jesus wants
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Everyone, Everywhere Parachute

Big Idea:

"Everyone, Everywhere" is an activity that introduces this week's Bible story and theme while utilizing children's gross motor skills and hand-eye coordination.

What You Need: A beach-ball-sized inflatable globes and parachute

What You Do:

Before the activity: Inflate the globe.

During the activity: The children will play a game where, together as a group, they must keep the globes on the parachute and off of the floor.

At the end of the activity: Hold on to the ball and sit down with the kids. Review the Bible lesson.

What You Say:

Before the activity: (Hold up the globe.) "I have a really fun game for us to play with this earth ball. Spread out a little. (Pause.) Super!"

During the activity: "I'm going to place these globes on our parachute. That's what we call this earth ball—a globe. We're going to start shaking the parachute but we have to try and keep the globes from touching the floor. Are you ready? (Pause.) Let's play!" (Continue as long as there is interest.)

At the end of the activity: "You did a great job keeping the globes off of the floor. That was fun! Look at this globe with me for a moment. There is a lot of water and these green parts are land where people live. We live right here. (Point to where you live.) In our Bible lesson today, we heard how we can Go and Tell other people all over the world about a very special person. Do you remember who that was?"

Memory Verse –

"Go and make disciples of all nations."

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ACTIVITY 3 – 2's/3's/4's

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Everyone

Big Idea:

"Everyone" is an activity that uses listening, communication, and classification skills to review the Great Commission.

What You Need: As many Fisher-Price® Little People® as you have.

What You Do:

Before the activity: Hide the Little People around the room in easy-to-find places.

During the activity: Encourage children to find all the hidden figures. Once they have, invite them to come sit down with you. Identify all the people. As you do, arrange them in a heart shape.

What You Say:

At the start of the activity: "We are on a hunt—a people hunt! I've hidden all the Little People around the room, and I need you to find them. When you've found them, come back and sit with me."

After kids have found the figures: "Great people finding! Who did you find? (Let children tell you who they found as you arrange them into a heart shape.) "We need to tell everyone about Jesus' love, the (insert the type or category of person, such as 'Mommy' or 'policeman') and the (insert the type or category of person) and the (insert the type or category of person). Jesus wants us to GO and TELL everyone 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 –

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ACTIVITY 3 – 5's

Jesus wants to be my friend forever!

Come Over!

Big Idea:

"Come Over!" is an activity that uses large motor movement and social skills to introduce the Bible story idea of telling others about Jesus.

What You Need: No supplies needed.

What You Do:

During the activity: Lead the children in playing a variation of the traditional game "Red Rover." The children will not run and break hands in this game. They will simply run, skip, or hop to the other line.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "I want to teach you a new game today. You may have heard of it. It's called 'Red Rover.' Have any of you ever played 'Red Rover?' (Pause.) Well, this is how you play. We will make two lines facing each other. Each line will hold hands. One line will say, 'Red Rover, Red Rover ask (child's name) right over.' Then that person has to run, skip, or hop to the other line and join hands with them. The lines will go back and forth asking for friends to join their line. You'll get the hang of it when we play!"

During the activity: "Red Rover, Red Rover ask (child's name) right over! Yay! (Child's name) is with us now!" (Both lines will take turns saying this. Continue playing as long as there's interest.)

At the end of the activity: "Jesus kind of asks his friends to play some 'Red Rover' in our Bible lesson today. He wants them to Go and Tell everyone about His love for them and ask them to be his 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 Week 1 Activity Pages on the Website, a light-colored cardstock, scissors, and the megaphones the children made in the “Mega Loud” activity

What You Do:

During the activity: Lead the children in saying the “Go and Tell Cheer” through their new megaphones as they march around the room.

What You Say:

Before the activity: “We like cheering for Jesus and now we have cool megaphones to help us say our cheer really loud so everyone can hear us! We want 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.** Now let’s do some cheering!”

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

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Hop the Hoops

Big Idea:

"Hop the Hoops" is an activity that uses repetition and movement to teach the Memory Verse.

What You Need: Four Hula-Hoops™.

What You Do: Place the Hula-Hoops™ in a row on the floor. Show the children how to jump from one hoop to another while saying the words of the Memory Verse each time they hop to a different hoop. (Options: Zigzag the hoops, put more distance between each hoop, jump sideways rather than straight forward, etc. Keep changing it up and playing as long as the children are interested.)

What You Say:

During the activity: "Watch what I can do! (Jumping from hoop to hoop as you say the words of the Memory Verse) Go- And Make- Disciples- of all Nations! Can you jump from hoop to hoop while saying Go- And Make- Disciples- of all Nations? Sure you can!"

Memory Verse –

"Go and make disciples of all nations."

Matthew 28:19, NIV

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ACTIVITY 6

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Memory Verse –

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CRAFT – WK 1

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Mega Loud

Big Idea:

“Mega Loud” is an activity that uses fine motor movement to make a take-home craft that encourages the children to share the Bottom Line.

What You Need: “Story Reference” from the Activity Pages on the Website, a variety of colored cardstock, Avery® labels #5160 or equivalent, crayons, tape, and stickers (*optional*) (*Note: You will also need one completed megaphone to use as an example.*)

What You Do:

Before the activity: Make enough copies of “Story Reference” on the labels so each child will have one.

During the activity: The children will make a megaphone out of cardstock. Let them decorate one side of the cardstock. Then assist them in rolling the cardstock into a megaphone shape and taping it together. Give each child a story reference sticker to go on his megaphone.

What You Say:

Before the activity: “We like cheering for Jesus! Today we’re going to make something that will help us cheer super loud! We’re going to make megaphones! (*Hold up a completed megaphone.*) We can use our megaphones to let everyone know that Jesus wants to be their friend forever like this! (*Speak into your megaphone.*) **Who wants to be your friend forever?** (*Pause.*) **Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**”

During the activity: “Let’s all use the crayons and stickers to decorate one side of our papers. (*Pause.*) Now watch me and I’ll show you how to make your megaphone. (*Demonstrate.*) First, roll your paper like this. Then we’ll tape it in place just like this. I have a story sticker for each of you to go on your megaphone, too! This sticker lets your parents know where they can find today’s Bible story. Perfect! Now you’re ready to tell everyone the good news that Jesus wants to be their friend forever!”

Memory Verse –

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Matthew 28:19, NIV

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CRAFT - WK 2

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Go and Tell Hearts

Big Idea:

"Go and Tell Hearts" is an activity that reintroduces the Bible story while children make and decorate a card to remember our special job.

What You Need: "Go and Tell" from the Activity Pages found on the Website, cardstock, crayons, scissors, and stickers

What You Do:

Before the activity: Copy "Go and Tell" onto cardstock and cut apart. You need one card per child.

During the activity: Talk about the Bible story as kids decorate their cards.

At the end of the activity: Say the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the activity: "We learned today that we have a super important job to do. We need to tell others that Jesus wants to be their friend forever!"

During the activity: "Jesus told His friends to go and tell everyone about Him and how He wanted to be their friend forever. We can do that, too! Lets decorate your card with crayons and stickers. (Pause.) Look at your cards. They are amazing!"

At the end of the activity: "We can use this card to help us remember our special job and that special job is to tell others 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 –

"Go and make disciples of all nations."

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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 we learned about how Jesus wants to be everyone’s friend forever. He wants to be your friend and my friend and your neighbor’s friend and your coach’s friend and your doctor’s friend—EVERYONE’S friend! Do you remember who Jesus told to GO and TELL everyone that He wants to be their friend forever? *(Pause.)* He told US to do it! Jesus wants you and me to GO and TELL everyone that He wants to be their friend forever. **Who wants to be your friend forever?**”

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

SGL: “He sure does! And that’s why we’re learning this Bible verse: Go and make disciples of all nations, Matthew 28:19. Say it with me!”

CHILDREN and SGL: “Go and make disciples of all nations, Matthew 28:19.”

(Repeat the verse a few times together.)

SGL: “A disciple is someone who follows Jesus. On our “Small Group” Posters, let’s make a list of people we can GO and TELL that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. That way they can be disciples, too!

(Write down the children’s names and the person’s name they tell you. Remember to print the words so they can recognize their names and letters.)

“This is a great list! We know lots of people who need to hear that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. Let’s pray and ask God to help us GO and TELL them. Would anyone like to say your own prayer before I pray? *(Pause.)*

(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