

June Week 2
Backyard
Ready, Set, Move!

June 11

CRAFT

Friend Postcards

SUPPLIES: Postcards (4 per child), Stickers, Stampers, Crayons, Parent Note

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather children at the table and pass out 4 postcards per child. Put the crayons, stamps, and stickers on the table.**

- *“Friends, join me here at the table. When we first learned about Paul, he was not a friend of Jesus or Jesus’ friends. But that all changed one day after Paul saw a bright light that caused his eyes to not see. Then Jesus spoke to him. Jesus sent a friend named Ananias to help Paul. Ananias was Paul’s friend and helped Paul’s eyes see again. Paul knew Jesus wanted to be his friend forever. So right away, Paul went to tell everyone and help people here, there and everywhere.*
- *We can tell people here, there, and everywhere that Jesus wants to be their friend, just like Paul in our Bible story today, by sending these postcards!”*

⇒ **Have children decorate the postcard. Show them the area where the stamp and address go, and leave that part blank.**

- *“You each have four postcards to decorate. Let’s use markers, stamps, and stickers to decorate both sides of the postcards to make them bright and colorful.”*

⇒ **Put them in children’s bag with a parent note and explain what to do.**

- *“These look great! Let’s put your postcards in the bag. Here is a special note to your parents to explain what these are. The note says to think of people you know in different places around the world or in your neighborhood to send these postcards to.”*

⇒ **Complete activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus**

- *“We can tell people here, there, and everywhere that Jesus wants to be their friend forever!*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”***

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ACTIVITY #1

Parachute

SUPPLIES: heart and globe squishies

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather children around the parachute and have them each take a handle.**

- *“Let’s have some fun with the parachute! Everybody grab a handle. I have some fun squishies for us to play with. These hearts are to remind us that Jesus loves us and wants to be our friend forever! These globes are to remind us that we can follow Jesus here, there, and everywhere loving others like he does!”*

⇒ **Toss the squishies on the parachute. Have children make waves until they have all popped off.**

- *“Are you ready? Ok ready, set, MOVE! Let’s make little waves with our parachute. Now big ones! Can we pop them all off!*
- *Now go get them and toss them back on!*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”***

⇒ **Play as long as children are interested, complete the activity and bring it back to Jesus.**

- *“That was fun! We can know with confidence that Jesus wants to be our friend forever. We can follow him here there and everywhere because he is trustworthy! Friends, tell me..*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”***

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ACTIVITY #2

Ready, Set, Move Freeze Dance

SUPPLIES: CD player, worship CD

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather children in the center of the room.**

- *“Friends! Join me over here. We are going to play a fun game of freeze dance. I want you to spread out. When the music plays, I want you to dance. When the music stops, I want you to freeze!”*

⇒ **Push play and encourage children to dance. Push pause and encourage children to freeze.**

- *“Alright everybody. Get your dance moves ready! **READY, SET, MOVE!**”*
- *Now **FREEZE!***
- *Nice work everybody! **Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***

⇒ **Repeat as long as children are interested.**

⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *“Great moves, everybody! We can move here there and everywhere as we follow Jesus because **HE** is worth following!”*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever.”***

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ACTIVITY #3

Memory Verse Follow the Leader

SUPPLIES: Reward stickers (*optional*)

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children join you in the center of the room.**
 - *“Friends, we have an awesome memory verse to practice! I want to try saying it in lots of different ways! Because we are talking about following Jesus, we are going to play a game of follow the leader! Can you make a line behind me so you can follow me?”*

- ⇒ **Be the leader. Say the memory verse and then have children follow you around the room doing a different action. Let children take turns being the leader.**
 - *“Jesus said, “Come follow me.” Now follow me and let’s....*
 - *Hop like a bunny*
 - *March*
 - *Tiptoe*
 - *Bear walk*
 - *Crab walk*
 - *Crawl*
 - *Walk in slow motion*
 - *Speed walk*
 - *Pat our head*
 - *Rub our belly*
 - *Etc.*

- ⇒ **Repeat until each child has had a turn to say the memory verse and be the leader. Optional: give them a sticker for their turn being the leader.**

- ⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**
 - *“Nice work, my friends!*
 - *Who wants to be your friend forever?*
 - *Jesus wants to be my friend forever!*

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READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY JUNE WEEK 2

PASS OUT MOON SAND

READ

⇒ *A Changed Man*, The Beginner's Bible, p. 488

REVIEW *(You may choose to pass out stickers as kids answer!)*

⇒ Key Question and Bottom Line

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

⇒ Memory Verse

- **“Jesus said, ‘Come follow me.’” Matthew 4:19**

CONNECT IT AND PRAY

⇒ “Jesus gives us people to help us, just like Jesus gave Ananias to help Paul. And Jesus gave Paul to A LOT of people to help them. That’s why we’re going to make a list of some of the people who help us. When I say your name, **tell me one person who helps you.**

⇒ Look at all the people who help us! Let’s pray and thank God for the people who help us. **Let’s pray:** “

- *“Dear God, Thank You for giving us people to help us, like (Name the people the children listed.) And thank You for giving us Jesus to be our friend forever. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”*