

July Week 1
Backyard
Ready, Set, Move!

July 2

CRAFT

Gift for Everyone

SUPPLIES: Gift box, crayons, Jesus print-out, double-sided tape, tiny gift bows

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Pass out Jesus print-out and crayons.**

- *“Today we are going to make a special gift. Let’s get started by coloring that special gift – Jesus! Jesus is the best gift of all! Jesus is a gift for everyone!”*

⇒ **Help children fold Jesus on the lines. Direct them to place a piece of double-sided tape on the top “X” section and stick it to the underside of the lid. Tape the bottom “O” section to the inside bottom of the box.**

- *“Now it’s time to attach your picture. I will help you tape the top part to the top of the box and the bottom part to the bottom of the box. Great!”*

⇒ **Close the box and add a tiny bow to the top.**

- *“Now let’s close the gift and put a bow on top. Now watch what happens when we open it! It’s Jesus! He is our most special gift!”*

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

- *“In our story today, we learned that Jesus is a gift for everyone because Jesus wants to be everyone’s friend forever. Jesus is the best friend because Jesus loves us, no matter what. That’s a really special gift! Jesus wants to be your friend forever!”*
- **Who wants to be your friend forever?**
- **Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”**



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July 2

ACTIVITY #1

Jesus is a gift for EVERYONE

SUPPLIES: Gift for everyone poster, stickers, jumbo dice, wall tape

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Attach the gift poster to the wall with wall tape. Have children gather around the poster.**

- *“Friends! Let’s play a game! What is this picture on the wall of? That’s right! A gift! We learned today that Jesus is a free gift for EVERYONE! Let’s take turns rolling the die. Whatever number it lands on will be the number of stickers you get to put on the gift to decorate it!”*

⇒ **Have each child roll the die. Help them to count the number of dots to figure out how many stickers they need. Rip off the number of stickers from the roll and let them stick them onto the gift.**

- *“Roll the die and let’s see what number you land on! Wow! You got _____. Here are _____ stickers. You can to add them to the gift!”*

⇒ **Complete the activity and bring it back to Jesus.**

- *“Look how beautiful our present looks! It’s so special. But do you know who was the most special gift ever? And Jesus is a gift for EVERYONE!”*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”***

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ACTIVITY #2

Look and Find

SUPPLIES: Gift Bows

What You DO and SAY:

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

- *“Friends, join me in the center of the room. Take a look in my basket and tell me what you see...bows! And what do we put these kinds of bows on? Presents! That makes me think of our Bible story today. We learned that Jesus is a gift for EVERYONE!*
- *We are going to scatter these bows all around the room and you are going to bring them all back to me. Are you ready?”*

⇒ **Scatter the bows and have children find them and bring them back. Then ask the bottom line question.**

- *“Let’s go!*
- *Great job everybody! Jesus is a free gift for everyone!*
- *Friends, **Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***

⇒ **Continue as long as children are interested!**

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

- *“Friends, Jesus’ love for us is a gift. And it is a free gift for everyone, everywhere! Jesus wants to be our friend forever!*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever.”***

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ACTIVITY #3

Everyone Memory Verse

SUPPLIES: Floor tape

SET-UP: Put one long piece of floor tape on one side of the room and one on the other.

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children line up on one of the lines on one side of the room.**
 - *“Friends, we have been working on our memory verse all summer long and today we are going to play a fun game to practice it!*
 - *Let’s all line up on this line. I am going to stand on the other side of the room on the far line. I want you to listen closely and I am going to call out a description of what you are wearing. So, I might say: everyone wearing a red shirt! If you are wearing red shirt, then when I say ‘Jesus said,’ I want you to say ‘Come, follow me’ as you cross the room to the other line. Are you ready to try it?”*

- ⇒ **Call out a color or clothing item. Then say, “Jesus said,” and have them join you saying “Come, follow me” as they cross the room to the opposite line. When everyone is across you can go back the other way.**
 - *Everyone wearing a red shirt! Jesus said... “Come follow me!”*
 - *Everyone wearing sandals! Jesus said... “Come follow me!”*
 - *Everyone wearing shorts! Jesus said... “Come follow me!”*
 - *Everyone wearing a dress! Jesus said... “Come follow me!”*
 - Continue with any other descriptors you think of and can see in the room.

- ⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**
 - *“Nice work, my friends! Jesus doesn’t just want one or two people to follow him...he wants everyone! He came to be everyone’s friend forever!*
 - ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
 - ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***

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READ, REVIEW, CONNECT IT, & PRAY
JULY WEEK 1

PASS OUT MOON SAND

READ

⇒ *If Jesus Came to Visit Me*, by J. Lord

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

⇒ “Today we will make a list of ways Jesus loves us – things like Jesus is a good friend or Jesus is always with me or Jesus listens when I pray. When I say your name, **tell me one of the ways Jesus loves you.**

⇒ This is a great list! Jesus really loves us! Let’s thank God for giving us Jesus. **Let’s pray:**

- *Dear God, thank You for giving us Your Son, Jesus. Jesus is the best friend we could ever have. We know Jesus loves us because Jesus...(Read the list the children made). Please help us go here, there, and everywhere loving people the way Jesus loves us. In Jesus’ name, amen.”*