

July Week 3
Backyard
Ready, Set, Move!
July 16

CRAFT

Follow Jesus Compass

SUPPLIES: Compass, Jesus arrow, crayons, metal brad

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Pass out compass and crayons.**

- *“Friends, there is a special tool that people use to help them know what direction they are going. Does anyone know what it’s called? It’s called a compass. Today we will make our very own compass.*
- *The first thing we are going to do it decorate our compass with crayons. Can you decorate your compass?”*

⇒ **Help children attach the arrow to the center of the compass using a metal brad.**

- *“Your compass looks beautiful! Let’s add the arrow now. This arrow says JESUS. We will attach the arrow with a metal brad right through the center. I can help you. Nice job.*
- *Now let’s practice using our compass. We can point the Jesus arrow in every direction. If we point it to the top N which stands for North it says ‘I can follow Jesus’. Now let’s find the letter E which stands for East. It says ‘Here’. Now let’s point the arrow to the S which stands for South. It says ‘There.’ Now move it to the W which stands for West. It says ‘Everywhere.’ You can follow Jesus here, there, and everywhere!”*

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

- *“You can use this compass to remind you that you can follow Jesus here, there, and everywhere!*
- ***Who wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”***

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ACTIVITY #1

Boat, Water, Island

SUPPLIES: Boat, Water, Island pictures, wall tape

SET-UP: Tape each of the pictures up on three different walls

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Gather children in the center of the room. Point out the pictures.**

- *“Join me over here in the center of the room. Let’s take a look around. I see three different pictures. Do you see the boat? How about the island? And what about the water? These are three different things from our true Bible story today.*
- *I am going to call out a picture and an action and I want you to go to that picture when I say Ready, Set, Move!”*

⇒ **Call out different pictures and actions. Review the Bible story at each location.**

- ***BOAT:*** *“First I want you to hop to the boat. Ready, set, move! Hop to the boat! Great job! When Paul was on a boat during the storm, he helped the people on the boat not to be afraid. He told them Jesus was their friend forever. **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***
- ***WATER:*** *“Now let’s gallop to the water. Ready, set, move! Gallop to the water. Even when Paul was out in the middle of the water, he knew that God was with him and that Jesus wanted to be his friend forever. **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***
- ***ISLAND:*** *“Can you find the island? Let’s all dance our way over to the island. Ready, set, move! Dance to the island! When their boat hit land, they weren’t where they were supposed to be. Paul chose to love like Jesus and helped the people who were sick. He prayed for them and told them that Jesus wants to be their friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***

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

- *Great job, friends! No matter where we go, Jesus is with us and he 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 #2

Musical Chairs

SUPPLIES: Chairs, CD player, worship music CD

SET-UP: Set chairs up in a circle with their backs facing in to the center of the circle. Use one less chair than the number of kids you have playing.

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children make a circle around the outside of the circle of chairs. Explain the game musical chairs.**
 - *“All summer long we have been moving our bodies and following Jesus here, there, and everywhere! Today we are going to play a game of musical chairs. When I turn the music on, we are going to all walk the same direction around the chairs. When I turn the music off, I want everyone to try to find a chair to sit on. If you don’t find a chair to sit on, you get to be the one to ask everybody the question ‘Who wants to be your friend forever?’ And then I want all my friends to answer ‘Jesus wants to be my friend forever!’ Are you ready to try it?”*

- ⇒ **Start the music and point out the direction you want the kids to walk. Pause the music and have the child who is “out” say the memory verse.**
 - *“Alright here comes the music....Ready, set, move!”*
 - [Pause the music]. Alright can you say the memory verse?
 - **Jesus said, ‘Come follow me,’**
 - Let’s go everybody, Ready, set, MOVE!

- ⇒ **OPTION: With older classes you can consider removing a chair each time and having children sit out. Assess your group and whether this competition would be more fun or more challenging 😊**

- ⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**
 - *“Great job, everybody! That was fun! I’m so glad you know 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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ACTIVITY #3

Parachute

SUPPLIES: Parachute, blue scarves

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children circle up around the parachute and grab a handle. Toss the blue scarves on the parachute and make waves.**
 - *“Friends, today in our true Bible story Paul was sailing on a boat. While he was on the boat a BIG storm came! The storm got bigger and bigger and bigger and bigger!”*
 - *Can you help me make? Let’s start with little waves and see if we can make them bigger and bigger and bigger and bigger!”*
- ⇒ **Pop all of the scarves out. Tell the next part of the story.**
 - *“All of the people in the boat were very afraid, except Paul. Paul knew God would take care of them. He told them Jesus wanted to be their friend forever.*
 - ***Friends, who wants to be your friend forever?***
 - ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”***
- ⇒ **Play again. This time, have all of the children freeze when the boat hits land and tell the next part of the story.**
 - *“Let’s play again. Let’s make really big waves! But then. Boom! The boat hit land. Everybody freeze! Can you bring the parachute all the way down to the ground with me? The boat landed and the people were safe. Once the people were on the island, Paul chose to love like Jesus again. He healed people and told everyone that Jesus wants to be their friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***
- ⇒ **Repeat and play with parachute as long as children are interested.**
- ⇒ **Complete the activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus.**
 - *“Jesus wants to be your friend forever and help you love like Him, too!”*
 - ***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 3

PASS OUT MOON SAND

READ

- ⇒ *The Beginner's Bible: Paul's Journeys*, p. 494
 - Today in our true Bible story we heard about a time when Paul was on a journey and he was shipwrecked. Let's read a little more about some of his journeys.

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

- ⇒ "Paul loved like Jesus even when it was hard – like during a storm, after a shipwreck, and in a strange place. Let's make a list today of things that are hard. When I say your name, **tell me one thing that is hard.**
- ⇒ We all have times when things are hard, but Jesus is always with us, helping us love like He does. **Let's pray:**
 - *Dear God, Thank you for sending Jesus to always be with us. Help us to love like Jesus during the hard times, like (Read the list the children made.). I pray we will remember how much Jesus loves us so we can go here, there, and everywhere telling everyone that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. In Jesus' name, amen."*