



GO TEAM! | WEEK 1 | MARCH 3, 2024

Preschool Lesson

Woman at the Well

Bible Story: Woman at the Well. Jesus wants to be friends with everyone, everywhere•
John 4:1-30

Memory Verse: “I have called you friends.” John 15:15, NIV

Key Question: Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can belong in God’s family forever.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Waiting to be picked by a team in grade school is agonizing. If you’re some of the last people chosen by a team, it means while everyone else is cheering, “Go team!” you’re probably thinking something like, “They don’t want me, and I don’t want to be here.” The truth is, we don’t all have the skills to hit home runs or run really fast. And that’s okay. What’s not okay is being unwanted. Thankfully, for all of us, Jesus wants EVERYONE on His team! Jesus wants everyone everywhere to follow Him and be His friend forever. No matter what we can do or can’t do, what we have done, what we look like, or where we live, Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend...FOREVER! And that kind of Good News makes us all want to say, “GO TEAM!”

Story Focus: Jesus wants to be friends with everyone everywhere. The woman at the well had made wrong choices and those choices left her walking to a well, all alone, in the middle of the day. Top that with the fact that she was from a town where the people were not friends with the people in the town Jesus was from. So, the woman was shocked when Jesus asked her for a drink of water. But soon, everything changed, because Jesus told her that He is God’s Son. Jesus wanted to be her friend forever because Jesus wants to be EVERYONE’s friend forever.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → • You’re in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → • A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow

Doors
Open
9:15/11:00

Kid
Connect
9:35/11:20

Large Group
Starts
9:40/11:25

Small Group
Starts
10:05/11:50

KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

OPENING ACTIVITY

(No Supplies)

Kid Connect time is spent building relationships with the kids. Gather your small group together for some intentional connecting time before Large Group. You can do small activities while you chat together (like coloring or building with blocks) or just sit and listen to each other. Ask your kids relationship-building questions like:

- How old are you?
- Do you have a favorite stuffed animal?
- Do you have a brother, sister, or pet? What are their names?
- What do you like to play at home?
- What's your favorite food/color/animal/ice cream flavor?

Transition to Large Group...

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

(SLIDE: PJ DAY)

LGL: "Hello my friends! How are you today? Come sit with me. I am so glad you are here! My name is [your name]. I'm excited to spend time with you today! I have a FUN announcement. It's almost that time of year when we have to set our clocks forward an hour. Next week, we will have PJ Day in KidCity! Because you have to wake up a whole hour earlier, why bother putting on real clothes? Go ahead and wear your PJs to church!

SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE, BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE, MEMORY VERSE VIDEO; BIBLE)

LGL: "Okay, let's get started! We are getting ready to sing and dance and hear a true story from the Bible. Before we do let's go over our rules and truths.

"Here in KidCity we have three rules. How many rules do we have? (Kids respond.) That's right! Three rules. Let's go over our rules now. (List rules while counting on fingers)

1. Be kind. We can be kind by using our indoor speaking voices, by staying on our blankets

(or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders.

2. Be safe. We can be safe by walking around the classroom and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. Have fun! We are going to have SO much fun, and that's because you are here!

"Can everybody follow those rules today? (Kids respond.) Great! KidCity is a place where we learn about God and Jesus! And there are three big truths that we want you to know. Let's say them all together! Are you ready?"

1. I am made by God. What is it? (Kids repeat.)
2. I am loved by God no matter what. What is it? (Kids repeat.)
3. I am made for a purpose! What is it? (Kids repeat.)

"It's time for our memory verse. Let's watch our memory verse motions and do it along with them!"

Show memory verse motion video and then practice without it.

'I (point up)
have called you (two fingers on top of two fingers)
friends,' (hook index fingers twice)
John 15:15. (Open hands like a book.)

"Ok, Now let's sing and worship God!"

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: NEVER BETTER, VERY BEST FRIEND)

Sing the worship songs together.

INTRO SKETCH

(Yay Jesus Flag, Prop or Picture, Story Box)

LGL brings the story box with the props to the center of the room. You should have a Yay Jesus Flag and Prop/Picture for current week (water bottle).

"I have my story box ready. I'm SO excited to see what we are learning about God today. Let's see what I have in here..."

Pull out flag and prop/picture

Hold up the flag. What do I have here? (Pause for responses). YES, it's a flag! A team flag! It has letters and words on it. I'm going to read them, and I want you to repeat them. The first part has letters, J-E-S-U-S. Now you say the letters. J-E-S-U-S. Those letters spell Jesus. The next part has words. It says Yay Jesus! Now you say it. Yay Jesus! Let's say it altogether now. J-E-S-U-S, Yay Jesus! Jesus wants everyone to be on his team and be his friend! Isn't that Awesome? Yay Team Jesus! There was one more item in our story box. What is this? (Pause for responses). YES, water! There is water in our story today.

Let's watch our Bible story to see how Jesus is a friend to a woman getting water.

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

Wow! Was that a great story? Yes! Jesus wanted to be friends with the woman at the well because Jesus wants to be friends with everyone!

When I ask, 'Who wants to be your friend forever?' I want you to say, [Bottom Line] 'Jesus wants to be my friend forever' Let's try that! Who wants to be your friend forever? (Jesus wants to be my friend forever.)

SAY THE BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE)

Let's look at our Basic Truth for today. It says, 'I am loved by God no matter what so I can belong in God's family forever.' When we choose Jesus as our friend, we are on Jesus' team and part of his family forever.

PRAY

"Let's pray together. (Have kids "put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.")

"Dear God, we love you. Thank you for Jesus. Thank you that Jesus was a friend to the woman at the well and is a friend to us too! Jesus is the best friend because He is our forever friend! Help us to tell everyone, everywhere about what a good, good friend Jesus is to us. In Jesus' name, we pray, amen.

PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Bible Story: Woman at the Well. Jesus wants to be friends with everyone, everywhere • John 4:1-30

Memory Verse: “I have called you friends.” John 15:15, NIV

Key Question: Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can belong in God’s family forever.

FRIENDS ALL OVER

(“Yay Jesus Flag” – 1 per small group, “Friends All Over” Activity Pages – 1 per environment (10 or less kids) or 1 per small group (more than 10 kids))

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place “Friends All Over” Activity Pages around your environment or around your small group area.

During the Activity: Give each child an opportunity to lead the group with the “Yay Jesus Flag” as you travel from one “Friends All Over” picture to another. At each picture you will identify who/what is in the picture, do a movement and repeat that Jesus loves everyone, everywhere.

After the Activity: Review the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends! I am so happy to know that Jesus wants to be our friend forever! I have a fun activity today! Come stand with me and we’ll get started.”

During the Activity: “We are going to take turns leading our group with our “Yay Jesus Flag” as we look for pictures of the world and friends Jesus loves. When we find the pictures, we’re going to share that Jesus loves everyone, everywhere. Okay, [Child’s name], can you lead us to the first world picture. What is this a picture of? (Demonstrate the movements below that go along with each picture you visit). Jesus loves everyone, everywhere! Now you say it: Jesus loves everyone, every! Awesome job! Let’s find another picture. [Next Child’s name], can you lead us to the next world picture? Repeat the process of identifying the picture, doing the motion, and saying Jesus loves everyone, everywhere.

Picture and Motions:

Someone who lives somewhere HOT (wipe your forehead like you are sweating)

Someone who lives somewhere COLD (hold your arms across your body and shiver)

Someone who lives in a SMALL building (squat to the floor to make yourself small)

Someone who lives in a TALL building (stand on your tiptoes and raise your hands high)

After the Activity: “In our Bible Story today, Jesus told the woman at the well that He is God’s Son and He wanted to be her friend forever! The woman was so excited she left her bucket at the well and went and told EVERYONE in town to come see Jesus, because she knew Jesus wanted to be their friend forever too! And that means Jesus wants to be my friend forever and your friend

forever . . . Jesus wants to be EVERYONE'S friend forever! No matter where you live, Jesus wants to be your friend forever, because Jesus loves everyone, everywhere. Who wants to be your friend forever? [Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.'"

EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE

("Everyone, Everywhere" Activity Page - 1 per child, "Woman" Activity Page - 1 cut image per child, Crayons, Glue Stick)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Prepare "Everyone, Everywhere" activity page for each child and "Woman" cut out for each child.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color their paper and the woman. Use the woman cut out to review the Bible story, then glue the woman to the paper.

After the Activity: Review the bottom line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hello, friends! Come sit with me. I have something for you to make that will help us review today's Bible Story."

During the Activity: "Who is this? (Hold up the cutout of the woman.) This is the woman from our Bible Story. Color your cutout. (Pause.) Now look at your paper and tell me what you see. (Pause.) Yes! There are lots and lots of people on your paper. What else do you see on your paper? There is a big sun in the sky and some tall and small buildings. Color all the things on your paper. (Pause.) Now that you've colored everything, let's make the woman move as we tell the story."

"Move the woman next to Jesus. Today in our Bible Story, Jesus told the woman at the well that He is God's Son and He wanted to be her friend forever! The woman was so excited, she left her bucket at the well and went and told EVERYONE. Move the woman to the people on this side (left) of your paper, now move the woman to the people on the other side (right) of your paper. (Pause.) She told all the people in town to come see Jesus because she knew Jesus wanted to be their friend forever too! Now let's glue your woman to the paper so you can take her home and share how she told everyone Jesus wants to be your friend forever! Thank you for helping tell the story.

After the Activity: Jesus wants to be my friend forever and your friend forever and your neighbor's friend forever . . . Jesus wants to be EVERYONE'S friend forever! Who wants to be your friend forever? [Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!'"

MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

(Memory Verse Motions Poster – 1 per group)

Say the memory verse using motions from the Memory Verse Motions poster. Repeat several times and encourage children for their efforts.

'I (point up)
have called you (two fingers on top of two fingers)
friends,' (hook index fingers twice)
John 15:15. (Open hands like a book.)

PRAYER

"Let's pray together. (Have kids "put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.")

"God, thank you for sending your Son Jesus to be our friend forever! Help us to tell everyone, everywhere about Jesus, the best friend ever! In Jesus' name, we pray, amen.

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)

Hand out placemats to parents as they arrive. Encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.