



FLY A KITE | WEEK 4 | APRIL 24-25, 2021

2s-3s Lesson

Great Commission

Bible Story: *I can tell others about Jesus. Great Commission • Matthew 28:16-20*

Memory Verse: “How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.” Ephesians 3:18, NIV

Key Question: Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God.

**KID CONNECT:
30 MINUTES**

**LARGE GROUP:
15 MINUTES**

**SMALL GROUP:
15 MINUTES**

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

This month, we are going to be talking about something that is high and wide and deep. Do you know what it is? Yes, it's the love of Jesus. Jesus' love for each of us is so wide and long and high and deep that we can't even measure it! And, we are going to have so much fun introducing this truth to our preschoolers this month! We start the month with the best Sunday of the year—Easter! How exciting that we get to share the story of Easter with our youngest friends this month. Some of them will be hearing for the very first time that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. Yes! Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever! We want to share the good news that Jesus is alive with our preschoolers all month long. We want them to hear over and over again that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. We want this foundational truth of Jesus' great love for them to live in each preschooler's heart.

Story Focus: I can tell others about Jesus. We finish up the month with the great commission. Yes, Jesus wants to be my friend forever, but the awesomeness doesn't stop there! Jesus wants to be everyone's friend forever, and He told us to make sure everyone knows it. Young and old, we can all tell others about Jesus, and He will always be with us to help us.

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

("Helper Match" Activity Page -Pre cut)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Helper Match" on cardstock and cut on the dotted lines. You will cut each helper out then cut each helper in half vertically.

During the Activity: Place all of the pieces of the cutouts in a pile in the activity area. Sit with the children and help them pick out the pieces and work to put them together.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hello, friends! Come sit with me. Look at all these puzzle pieces. Let's see if we can put them together."

During the Activity: "When you find a piece, help your friends find the other half. I can't wait to see what the pictures are! (*Do activity.*) WOW! I see a fireman, mailman, teacher, police officer, doctor, and a construction worker. These people all have very important jobs!"

After the Activity: "Today, we'll hear a Bible story about Jesus' very important job for us! I am very excited for our Bible story today!"

Transition to Large Group...

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

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

SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE: BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE)

LARGE GROUP LEADER (LGL) enters, carrying the treasure box. Inside is a Bible and scarves for Worship.

LGL: Hello my friends! How are you today? Come sit with me. I am so glad to see you here. I love being here with you!

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 speaking voices, by staying on our blankets (or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders' directions.
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*)

LGL sits with the treasure box in front of him/her.
NOTE: You can choose to put any large group props that fit inside the box and pull them out for a dramatic reveal.

LGL: Do you see this box? This is a beautiful box, isn't it? It looks special. I wonder what's inside. Do you want to see what's inside? Let's see. *LGL opens the box and pulls out a Bible.* It's a Bible! (hugging the Bible) Oh, I love the Bible! It's so special. Everybody pretend to hug your Bible. Go ahead! (pause) Very good! I wonder...what's in the Bible? The Bible is God's Big Story, and it tells us all about God! We are going to hear a true story from the Bible today. I wonder what else is in this special box? *Pull out scarves for worship time and pass them out to the children.*

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: VERY BEST FRIEND, I KNOW HE LOVES ME, WORSHIP SCARVES)

Pass out the scarves to the kids and sing the worship songs

INTRO SKETCH

(Megaphone, Story box)

LGL brings the story box with the megaphone inside to the middle.

"Hey friends, we have another awesome, true story from the Bible today. Let's see what's in the story box today to help us learn more about it. (*Pull out megaphone*) Whoa...a megaphone. Have you guys ever seen one before? I wonder if you can guess what it's for? I'm going to say our Bottom Line once without it, and then once with it, and let's see if you can figure out what it's for. Ready? (*Say 'Jesus wants to be my friend forever' once without the megaphone and once with it*)

Raise your hand if you think you know what it does. OK, hands down. Now, who can raise their hand and tell me their guess? I'm looking for someone who is sitting crisscross apple sauce with their hand raised. (*Choose a kid who is following directions*) That's right! It makes your voice

sound louder. In our story today, Jesus told His friends that they had a very important thing to tell people. Let's watch our story and see what that was.

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

"Wow! That was a cool story! We can tell people that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. Let's practice together. Turn and tell the person sitting next to you that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. *(Pause)* Nice! Now put your hands around your mouth like a megaphone *(demonstrate cupping your hands around your mouth)* and tell me, Jesus wants to be your friend forever. Ready? Go! *(Pause)* YES! That's good news, friends.

WRAP UP AND BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE, BOTTOM LINE)

God made us for a purpose to tell others about Him. That's our Basic Truth today, *[Basic Truth]* **am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God.** We can tell everyone how much God loves us and how He wants to be our friend forever.

PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

(CG: MEMORY VERSE)

Let's say our memory verse together. I will say it first and then you will say it with me.

"How wide *(hold arms out wide)*
and long *(raise one hand high and hold one hand low)*
and high *(jump)*
and deep *(crouch)*
is the love *(hug yourself)*
of Christ," *(point up)*
Ephesians 3:18. *(Open hands like a book.)*

Say it once while doing the motions and then invite the kids to do it with you.

PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Bible Story: *I can tell others about Jesus. Great Commission • Matthew 28:16-20*

Memory Verse: “How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.” Ephesians 3:18, NIV

Key Question: Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Basic Truth: I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God.

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 trying.

“How wide (*hold arms out wide*)
and long (*raise one hand high and hold one hand low*)
and high (*jump*)
and deep (*crouch*)
is the love (*hug yourself*)
of Christ,” (*point up*)
Ephesians 3:18. (*Open hands like a book.*)

BRUSH THE SAND AWAY

(“Jesus in Heart” Activity Page, Tape, Play Sand or Pom Poms, Paint Brush)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Jesus in Heart” on cardstock, one per small group.

During the Activity: Tape the “Jesus in Heart” picture on the bottom of a tray. Cover the picture with sand or pom poms. Give a paint brush to each child and tell them to brush the sand away to find the special message.

After the Activity: Talk about how Jesus wants everyone, everywhere to know that He loves them and wants to be their friend forever.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “I’m so happy you’re here today! Come sit with me.”

During the Activity: “Jesus gave all of His friends an important job to do in our Bible story today. He told them to go and tell everyone, everywhere a special message. Will you help me brush the sand away so we can see the special message?”

(After everyone can see the picture.) “You did it! Look! It’s Jesus and a red heart! Jesus told His friends to go tell everyone, everywhere that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever. Yay! Jesus loves you and wants to be your friend forever!”

After the Activity: “Who wants to be your friend forever? **[Bottom Line]** Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”

OPTIONAL: COLOR THE WORLD

(“Color the World” Activity Page, Crayons)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Color the World”, one per child. Write child’s name on their paper. Place crayons in reach of kids.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color their world.

After the Activity: Review the Bible story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hey, friends! Tell me, who made the earth and everything in it? *(Pause.)* That’s absolutely right! God did! And God gave us His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever.”

During the Activity: “Let’s color a picture of the earth. *(Pause)* You did a really nice job on your picture.”

After the Activity: “In our Bible story, Jesus told His friends He had a really important job for them to do. Jesus told them to go tell EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE that Jesus wants to be their friend forever! Jesus wants us to do that same important job! We can tell everyone that Jesus is alive and wants to be their friend forever. **Who wants to be your friend forever? [Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**”

BOTTOM LINE SONG

Sing the following words to the tune of “Ring Around the Rosie”.

“Jesus is your friend.
“Jesus is your friend. a
“He’s my friend. He’s your friend.
“Let’s all shout, ‘Hooray!’
“Hooray!”

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.