



FLY A KITE | WEEK 3 | APRIL 17-18, 2021

4s-5s Lesson

Early Church

Bible Story: *Jesus taught us how to love one another.* Early Church • Acts 2:42-47

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 by God to worship Him.

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: **Jesus taught us how to love one another.** Week three is all about what Jesus wants us to do now that He has gone to get Heaven ready for us. Jesus wants us to love one another. Loving one another looks like helping one another, sharing with one another, and being kind to one another. When we love like Jesus, people will believe us when we tell them that Jesus is alive and He wants to be their friend forever.

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)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Have the children stand in front of you.

During the Activity: Ask the children to act LIKE they are doing different actions. Actions are: barking like a dog, meowing like a kitty, hopping like a bunny, jumping like a frog, and crawling like a baby. Be sure to use the word LIKE when asking the children to do each action.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I will tell you some fun things to do. Everyone, listen very closely so you will know what to do!"

During the Activity: "First, let's bark LIKE a dog! *(Pause.)* Nice job! Now, let's meow LIKE a kitty. *(Pause.)* Yay! Can you hop LIKE a bunny? *(Pause.)* Great! Let's jump LIKE a frog. *(Pause.)* Way to go! Lastly, let's crawl LIKE a baby. *(Pause.)* Whew! That was so much fun!"

After the Activity: "Great job! It was so much fun doing things like the animals and the baby. Today, we'll hear a Bible story about how we can love LIKE Jesus. Yay!"

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; BIBLE)

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 holds up Bible in front of him/her.

LGL: Do you know what this is? *It's a Bible!* (hugging the Bible) Oh, I love the Bible! It's so special. 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.

WORSHIP

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

Sing the worship songs together.

INTRO SKETCH

(Kite; Red, Blue, Purple Construction Paper and Markers)

LGL brings the kite and crafting supplies out with them.

"I'm so glad to see you today. You can help me get ready for a BIG party! Can you guess what kind of party?"

Hold up your kite.

"It's a kite decorating party! My friends and I are having SO much fun flying our kites that we want to make sure everyone we know has a kite. So, we are ALL meeting at the park for a special kite party. I can't wait. We invited my neighbor, Sean.

Set the kite down. Pick up the red marker and red construction paper.

"I think he'll decorate his kite RED, since that is his very favorite color! We also invited my Grandma Annie

Pick up the blue marker and blue construction paper.

“She will definitely decorate her kite with blue! She LOVES anything blue. And we invited Molly’s cousin, Marie.

Pick up the purple marker and purple construction paper.

“I think Marie will make her kite bright purple, and it will be beautiful! I’m so excited. We are going to have so much fun together. And I’ll bet we can even share some of our crafting supplies to make something awesome.

“There were people who followed Jesus that gathered together and helped each other. Let’s watch our story today.”

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

“Jesus’ friends were super-sharers because that is how Jesus loved people. He shared with everyone. Jesus’ friends spent lots of time together. They ate and talked and laughed and sang worship songs. They loved each other because Jesus loved them.

“I want to do that, too! I want to be a friend like Jesus. I want to share with my friends so they know Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever.

“Raise your hand if you want to be a friend like Jesus. *(Pause and look at one child.)* You do? *(Look at another child.)* You, too? *(Look at another child.)* What about you?

“Yes! Let’s do it. Let’s be friends like Jesus and share so that everyone knows how much Jesus loves them. Tell me, **who wants to be your friend forever?**” *(Jesus wants to be my friend forever)*

WRAP UP AND BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE, BOTTOM LINE)

“We can show people around us how great God is by worshipping Him. That’s our Basic Truth today, **[Basic Truth] I am made by God to worship Him.** Not only can we worship and praise God by singing, but we can also do it by sharing with others.”

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: *Jesus taught us how to love one another. Early Church • Acts 2:42-47*

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?

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I CAN HELP

(“Food Circle Stickers,” “Clothes Circle Stickers,” and “Home Circle Stickers” Activity Pages; Online Labels’ #OL1025WX or equivalent; butcher paper; tape; and a marker)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Food Circle Stickers,” “Clothes Circle Stickers,” and “Home Circle Stickers” Activity Pages on the label paper, a few of each label per child.

During the Activity: Tape a strip of butcher paper to the wall at preschooler level. Draw three large hearts going across the butcher paper. Write “Food” in the first heart, “Clothes” in the second heart, and “Home” in the third heart. Give each child a sheet or section of a sheet of the food, clothes, and home stickers. As the leader reviews the Bible story, they will invite the children to place their stickers in the appropriate hearts.

After the Activity: Talk about how Jesus showed us that helping each other is one way to love one another.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hi, friends! I need your help filling these hearts with things that show people we love them. Will you help me?”

During the Activity: “Jesus showed us that helping people is one way we can love people. I gave you some stickers that show ways we can help people. The first way we can help people and show them we love them is by giving them food when they’re hungry. Look at your stickers and find food. When I say your name, you can put your food stickers in this heart. (Point to the food heart and allow each child the opportunity to put their food stickers inside the heart.) Good job!

“A second way we can help people and show them we love them is by giving them clothes to wear when they don’t have what they need. Look at your stickers and find clothes. When I say

your name, you can put your clothes stickers in this heart. *(Point to the clothes heart and allow each child the opportunity to put their clothes stickers inside the heart.)* Wonderful!

“Another way we can help people and show them we love them is by giving them a place to live or helping make their home better. Look at your stickers and things that go with a home. When I say your name, you can put your home stickers in this heart. *(Point to the home heart and allow each child the opportunity to put their home stickers inside the heart.)* Look at all of the ways Jesus taught us to love one another and be a good friend, just like Him!”

After the Activity: “Jesus is such a good friend that He taught us how to be a good friend, too! I am so happy that Jesus wants to be our friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever?** *[Bottom Line]* Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”

LOVE OTHERS LIKE JESUS

(“Love Others Like Jesus” Activity Page, Multi-colored Happy Face Stickers)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Love Others Like Jesus”, one per child. Write child’s name on their paper.

During the Activity: Give each child a sheet of happy face stickers. Encourage children to put a happy face sticker around Jesus on each child’s paper.

After the Activity: Review the Bible story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Hey, friends! Come over and sit with me. What makes you happy? *(Pause.)* Those are all great things! When you’re happy and you know it, what does your face do? *(Pause.)* You smile! Everyone gets some of these happy face stickers that we’ll share with each other.”

During the Activity: *(Hand out the happy face stickers.)* “Everyone gets some happy face stickers. When we love like Jesus, it makes us happy. Go to each friend’s paper and put one happy face sticker around the picture of Jesus. *(Pause.)* Make sure to put one sticker on each paper. *(Pause.)* Great job! Look at all those happy faces around Jesus!”

After the Activity: “In our Bible story, Jesus’s friends wanted to love people like Jesus loved them, so they shared! They were super-sharers and shared anything that people needed. Jesus’ friends spent lots of time together. They ate, talked, and laughed together. They also praised God. This showed everyone that they were friends with Jesus. We can share with our friends so they know that Jesus loves them and wants to be their 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 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.*)

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”*)

“Dear God, thank You for giving us the clothes and food we need. Help us give people clothes and food so they will know how much Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever. We love You, God. 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.