



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

4s-5s 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

(Paper, Crayons, Envelops, Mailbox - Optional)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Set the paper, crayons, and envelopes on the table.

During the Activity: Encourage the children to use the crayons to write or draw on a piece of paper. Show them how to fold their papers and place them in an envelope. If time allows, children may write more letters and place them in envelopes.

After the Activity: Collect the letters and messages. If providing a mailbox, encourage the children to place them in the mailbox.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Have you ever received a letter in mail? Maybe you got a card for your birthday or a special note from your grandma. Writing a letter is one way we can tell someone something. Let's write some messages on our papers then we can fold them to put inside an envelope!"

After the Activity: "Look at all these messages! Great job, friends. Today, we'll hear about a very special message that we can share with everyone, everywhere! Would you like to hear that very special message? Let's go!"

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; Sparkly Foam Letters [Or other eye-catching craft supplies], Balloons, Streamers)

LGL brings the kite and crafting supplies out with them.

The script references specific crafting items, but just sub in with what you have.

"I have this kite here, and I'm kind of stuck. I'm not sure how to decorate it! Do you think you can help? *(Pause.)* Great! The thing is, I want my kite to look REALLY special. I want it to look like no other kite in the history of kites!

"And when I fly it, I want everyone to say, 'Hey look, It's [*your name*]'s kite!"

"So, I have a few ideas.

Hold up the sparkly foam letters or stickers.

"How about sparkly letters?"

Hold up the balloons.

"Or maybe adding some balloons?"

Hold up the streamers.

“Wait, how about streamers?”

“As you can see, it’s a tough decision. I wonder if our story today can help me decide what to put on my kite. Let’s watch.

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

“Wow, it’s really important to tell people that Jesus wants to be our friend forever. You know what I think I’m going to do with my kite? I’m going to put a big ‘J’ on it, because when people see it, I want them to think about Jesus and not about me.

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]* **I 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.

LOVE THE WORLD

(Globe that Spins [Or regular globe and adapt lesson])

What You Do:

During the Activity: Gather the children to sit on the floor of your activity area. Place the globe in front of you. Spin the globe then put your finger on a spot to stop it. Name the place where your finger rests and use the dialogue below to talk about how Jesus loves and wants to be a forever friend to the people who live in that place. Repeat, spinning the globe again and again as time allows.

After the Activity: Set the globe aside.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Do you know what this is? It’s the earth. We live right here. (*Point to where you live on the globe.*) Let’s spin the globe and see where we land.

(*Spin and stop the globe with your finger.*) “Oh look, it’s [*location*]. We can tell the people in [*location*] that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever.” (*Repeat with each kid taking a turn*)

After the Activity: “Jesus loves you. Jesus loves me. Jesus loves the children and grown-ups living in ALL the places we found on our globe! Jesus loves everyone and wants to be their friend forever! **Who wants to be your friend forever? [Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**”

HOW WIDE?

(Measuring Tape, Paper, Marker)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Get a piece of paper- the larger the better. Make two columns and title the one on the left “Name” and the one on the right “How Wide.”

During the Activity: Have children stretch their arms out to their sides. The leader measures and documents how wide their wingspan is (fingertip to fingertip). Talk about the similarities and differences in each friend’s measurements. Then have everyone say the memory verse together. (*See verse below*)

After the Activity: Say the Bottom Line together.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “How wide do you think your arms can reach? *(Pause.)* That’s really wide! Let’s measure and see how wide they really are.”

During the Activity: “When I come to you, stretch your arms out really wide like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Okay, [child’s name], arms out. *(Stretch tape measure from the tip of one middle finger to the other.)* Your arms stretch [number of inches] wide! Let’s write that down on our chart. *(Pause.)* Next up! *(Continue with each child.)* Let’s look at the measurements. *(Pause.)* I see some friends have similar measurements. Let’s see who has the biggest measurement. *(Pause.)* Wow! [Child’s name], stretch out your arms for us. *(Pause.)* That is wide! Now, everybody stretch your arms out wide, and let’s say our memory verse together. ‘How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,’ Ephesians 3:18. *(Repeat.)* Arms down. That was fantastic!”

After the Activity: “Jesus loves you, and He wants to be your 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, we want everyone, everywhere to know that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever. Please help us go tell *everyone* about Jesus. 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.