



START THE PARTY | WEEK 5 | JUNE 30, 2024

## Preschool Lesson

# 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Funday!

**Bible Story:** The Greatest Verse! • *Jesus Wants to Be My Friend Forever* • **John 3:16**

### LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Today is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month...let's have a party! Today, we will be emphasizing two of our core values in KidCity: **FUN** and **RELATIONSHIPS**. Whatever your volunteer role, really lean into having fun with the kids...which will then turn into developing a deeper relationship with them. Kids connect through fun! To be at your best, skim through the entire lesson so you know what to expect. **Large group will run longer than normal (approximately 25 minutes) so plan to start exactly on time (9:40 AM/11:25 AM).**

We are having a PARTY this Sunday! Check with your campus on what theme you guys are doing - luau, 90's, or whatever - and come all decked out! This is also the last Sunday before Promotion Sunday (July 14).

### 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<br>9:15/11:00 | Kid Connect<br>9:35/11:20 | Large Group Starts<br>9:40/11:25 | Small Group Starts<br>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

**(“Ollie Around the Room” Activity Page - taped around the room)**

Kid Connect time is spent building relationships with the kids. Gather your small group together for some intentional connecting 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. **Look around the room and try to spot all the hidden Ollies.**

Ask your kids relationship-building questions like:

- Have you been to a party? What kind of party?
- Did you wear anything special? i.e., dress, costume, party hat...
- What kind of games did you play? Did you eat anything special?



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, MEMORY VERSE VIDEO; BIBLE)

LGL: “Hello my friends! How are you on this 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday! Did anyone bring a friend with them? Yay! Welcome! I’m so glad you’re here today! We’re going to have a great morning! My name is [your name]. I’m excited to spend time with you today! We are getting ready to sing and dance, play a game 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 using our walking feet and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. **Have fun!** We are going to have SO much fun, and that’s because you are here!

“Let’s say our memory verse together!”

‘A joyful (brush flat hands upward twice)  
heart (tap chest twice with fingertip)  
is good medicine (move flat hand from chin to palm),’  
Proverbs 17:22. (Open hands like a book.)

“Ok, now it’s time to play a game!”

### JOYFUL HEART GAME

(CG: JOYFUL HEART GAME SLIDE)

(1-2 Party Hats, 1-2 Party Horns, 1-2 Heart Stickers, 1-2 Inflated Balloons and 1 Ollie 11x17 Poster Taped to Wall)...1 item if less than 10 children. 2 items if more than 10 children.

Who’s excited to play a game? I need everyone to get into a circle/line (if more than 10 children, split your group into (2) smaller groups). We are going to help [SGL name(s)] get ready for our Joyful Heart Game. We are all going to pass these 4 items (party hat, party horn, heart sticker and balloon) to him/her! When [SGL name (s)] gets them, he/she is going to...

- Put on the party hat.
- Place the party horn in their mouth.
- Hold the balloon with their knees.
- Then, take the heart sticker to Ollie without dropping any of the items.



Pass one item at a time around the circle or down the line. At the beginning, hold up the item and say what it is. Encourage kids to pass the item to the person next to them. When the item gets to the leader, they can put it on. As soon as the leader has all their items have them move (without dropping anything) to Ollie and place the heart sticker on Ollie's heart. Encourage the children to cheer the leader on. GO [SGL name(s)]!

That was so much FUN! Ollie has joy in his heart which is great medicine! Everyone stay standing because we are going to sing our worship songs!

## WORSHIP

**(VIDEO: PRAISE CJ and Friends)**

Sing the worship songs together.

## INTRO SKETCH

**(Party Hat, Gift Box/Bag with Prop (W5 "Gospel Cube" on Cardstock Assembled), Story Box)**

*LGL brings the story box with the prop and Bible to the center of the room. You should have a party hat and gift box/bag with current week prop.*

"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 and put on the party hat.*

What is this? *(Pause for responses)*. Yes, a party hat! Who has been to a party before? *(Pause for responses)*. Parties are fun because you get to celebrate something and someone special.

*Pull out gift box/bag.*

What else do I have? *(Pause for responses)*. Yes, a gift! Have you ever given a gift to someone or received a gift? Let's see what's inside. **It's a cube with pictures!** I see a heart, a cross, praying hands and a gift. I wonder what our story is about today. We've been celebrating the Good News about God! God is worth celebrating!

Let's watch our Bible story to see what we are celebrating today.

## WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

**(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)**

WOW! God loves us SO much that He gave us Jesus! The pictures on this cube go along with our story today and they are the same pictures that Ollie has been sharing in the classroom.



**(Heart)** On the cube is a heart. Is there a picture of Ollie with a heart in our classroom today? YES! A heart helps us remember that “God Loved” us so much from the very beginning. Can you all say, “God Loved”? (Point to the words on the Ollie picture.)

**(Cross)** Turn the cube to the cross. Do you know what this is? It’s a cross. Do you see a picture of Ollie with a cross? YES! When Jesus came to Earth, he died on the cross for our sins. Three days later, he came back to life! “God gave” us Jesus. Can you say, “God Gave”? (Point to the words on the Ollie picture.)

**(Praying hands)** Turn the cube to the praying hands. These are praying hands. Is there a picture of Ollie with praying hands? YES! They help us remember how important it is to believe that we needed Jesus to come and die on the cross and come back to life to save us from our sins. We believe! Can you say, “We Believe”? (Point to the words on the Ollie picture.)

**(Gift)** Turn the cube to the gift. Finally, this is a gift! Who see a picture of Ollie with a gift? YES! Just like what we get at Christmastime. We receive gifts from family, but the best gift we’ve EVER received is God’s gift of Jesus! When we believe in Jesus and what He did for us, Jesus will be our friend forever! Can you say, “We Receive”? (Point to the words on the Ollie picture.)

“Who wants to be your friend forever?,’ I want you to say, ‘Jesus wants to be my friend forever!’ Ready? Who wants to be your friend forever?” *(Jesus wants to be my friend 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, thank You for loving us so much and giving us the best gift ever! Thank you for giving us your son, Jesus. Jesus wants to be our friend forever! We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

## PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP



## SMALL GROUP

**Bible Story: The Greatest Verse! • Jesus Wants to Be My Friend Forever • John 3:16**

*Today, your small group activities will focus on having FUN and building relationships!*

### **BALLOON BALANCE (2's-5's)**

**(1 Party Hat, 1 Inflated Balloon, "Jesus Wants to Be My Friend Forever" Sticker - 1 per child, Optional: Parachute for 2-3's)**

#### **What You Do:**

*Before the activity:* Place the party hat and balloon at one end of your space.

*During the Activity:* Line children up in a London Bridge Style (two lines across from each other with hands connected over heads). Have one child at a time turn the party hat upside down, balance the balloon on top and slowly walk under the bridge to the other side. Once they finish, have a leader ready to meet them and place a *Jesus Wants to Be Your Friend Forever* sticker on their shirt to remind them that God loves you and wants to be your friend forever. Have the children in your small group help you by saying, "God loves [child's name] and wants to be his/her friend forever!" Have that child join back with the other children in a London Bridge and continue with the next child until everyone has had a turn. **NOTE: For 2-3's you can adapt by having them hold the balloon as they walk under the bridge (or parachute).**

*After the Activity:* Review the gospel bottom line.

#### **What You Say:**

*Before the Activity:* We are going to play a fun game with this party hat and balloon today. Our group is going to create a bridge by connecting our hands over our heads like this. Each friend is going to get a turn to balance the balloon in the party hat. After each friend goes under the bridge we are going to say "God loves you (using their name) and wants to be your friend forever. Are we ready?"

*During the Activity:* Let's make our bridge. [Child's name] it's your turn to balance the balloon. Great balancing! Give [child's name] a *Jesus Wants to Be Your Friend Forever* sticker, then say God loves [child's name] and wants to be his/her friend forever!

*After the Activity:* "That was so much FUN! Who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"



## BALLOON POM RACE (2's-5's)

(1-2 Inflated Balloons, 1-2 Buckets/Cups, (5) Pom-Poms per child)



Scan to See  
Video of  
Concept

**What You Do:** *Before the Activity:* Form a circle with your group and place the bucket/cup in the center of the group so each child can reach it. NOTE: If your small group has more than 10 children, split your group into 2 smaller groups. Give each child (5) pom-poms.

*During the Activity:* Have either one child or one small group leader bounce the balloon in the air. When the balloon goes up, instruct the children to start putting their pom-poms into the bucket/cup that's in the center of the group. For 4/5's you can instruct them to count 1-2-3-4-5 as they add each pom-pom to the bucket/cup. The goal is to keep the balloon in the air until all the pom-poms are in the bucket/cup. Repeat as interest allows.

*After the Activity:* Affirm that you enjoyed watching the children smile and have FUN.

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* I have another fun game to play with balloons. Let's make a circle. I am going to put this bucket/cup in the center of our group so everyone can reach it. Next, I'm going to give each of you (5) pom-poms. Hold onto your pom-poms right now. When I say 'GO' I'm or [child's name is] going to bounce the balloon in the air and I want you to put your pom-poms in the cup as quickly as you can before the balloon comes down to the floor. Please watch for the friends next to you so you don't bump into heads.

*During the Activity:* Is everyone ready? (Pause for responses.) Here we go! The balloon is going up in the air! Start putting your pom-poms into the bucket/cup. 1-2-3-4-5! You did it! Who wants to play again?

*After Activity:* Great job! I enjoyed watching you smile and have FUN as you worked quickly to put the pom-poms in the bucket/cup before the balloon came back down to the floor.

## 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, thank You for loving us so much that you sent Jesus to be our friend forever. Jesus is the best gift! We love you, Amen."

## PARENT PICK UP ACTIVITY - COLORING SHEET (2's-5's)

("Gospel Coloring Page" Activity Page - 1 per child, Crayons)

### What You Do:

- Give each child a Gospel coloring page.
- As parents are picking up, encourage children to color their page as you review the Gospel message (God Loved, Gove Gave, We Believe, We Receive).



- **Color the heart.** A heart helps us remember that “God Loved” us so much from the very beginning.
- **Color the cross.** When Jesus came to Earth, he died on the cross for our sins. Three days later, he came back to life! “God gave” us Jesus.
- **Color the praying hands.** They help us remember how important it is to believe that we needed Jesus to come and die on the cross and come back to life to save us from our sins. We believe!
- **Color the gift.** Just like what we get at Christmastime. We receive gifts from family, but the best gift we’ve EVER received is God’s gift of Jesus! When we believe in Jesus and what He did for us, Jesus will be our friend forever!

Send each child home with their Gospel coloring page and a Lollipop! Say, “We’re so glad we got to spend time with YOU this year!”

## 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.

