



WHEELS ON THE BUS | WEEK 3 | FEBRUARY 16, 2025

Preschool Lesson

Philip and Nathanael

Bible Story: *Philip and Nathanael* • I can tell my friends about Jesus • *John 1:43-49*

Memory Verse: “Love each other in the same way I have loved you.” John 15:12, NLT

Key Question: Who does Jesus love?

Bottom Line: Jesus loves everyone.

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

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Have you ever been on a bus filled with people? There are grandparents, kids, teenagers, people going to the store, people going to work, people going to school. They may not know each other, but do you know what they all have in common? Jesus loves every one of them. Every. Single. One! Think about it this way, if Jesus was driving a bus, everyone would be invited to get on. EVERYONE! This month, you get to tell preschoolers that Jesus loves them. Jesus loves their family. Jesus loves their friends. Jesus loves everyone! And Jesus wants everyone to follow Him! So, crank up that bus! Get those wheels turning! There is a great big world that needs to hear that Jesus loves everyone!

Story Focus: I can tell my friends about Jesus.

Jesus wants to be Philip’s friend, so he goes up to Philip and says, “Follow Me!” Philip is so excited that he looks for his friend Nathanael. Philip tells Nathanael all about Jesus and that he should come and see Him. Nathanael talks with Jesus, and right then, Nathanael knows that Jesus is God’s Son and that Jesus loves everyone. Philip and Nathanael become friends with Jesus because Jesus loves everyone.

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



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.

SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

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

LGL: "Hello my friends! How are you today? Come and sit with me. I am so glad you are here! My name is [your name]. I'm excited to spend time with you today! 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.

‘Love *(cross arms over chest)*
each other in the same way *(point to others)*
I have *(point up)*
loved you,’ *(cross arms over chest)*
John 15:12.” *(Open hands like a book.)*

“Ok, now let’s sing and worship God!”

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: COME ON WITH ME, WHEREVER HE GOES)

Sing the worship songs together.

INTRO SKETCH

(Bus [Printed or Little People], ‘People on the Bus Picture’ for Current Week [W1 Peter, Andrew, James, and John, W2 Matthew, W3 Philip and Nathanael, W4 The Twelve Disciples], Beginner’s Bible and Story Box)

*LGL brings the story box with the prop and Bible to the center of the room.
You should have a Bus and ‘People on the Bus’ picture for the current week’s story.*

“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 the Bible

“What is this? *(Pause for responses.)* Yes, it’s the Bible! The Bible is God’s word and God’s word is always true. The Bible has many stories that make one BIG story, and we (you and me) are part of that story. Let’s see what else is in our story box today.

Pull out Bus with ‘People on the Bus Picture’ for the current week.

“What is this? *(Pause for responses.)* YES, it’s a bus! Has anyone been on a bus before? A bus can hold a lot of people. Let’s see how many people are on our bus today. *(Pause and hold up W3*

picture of Philip and Nathanael). How many people do you see? *(Pause for responses.)* That's right, there are 2 people on the bus today. We're going to hear about these 2 people in our story. Let's get ready to listen and find out who they are.

"Let's click on our listening ears (tug on each ear, one at a time, as you make a click, click sound), let's put on our looking eyes (bring your hands, one at a time, to your eyes like binoculars as you say shook, shook) and let's put our hands that have been move and praising Jesus quietly in our laps.

Now we are ready. Let's watch today's true Bible story."

WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

"Wow! That was a great story! Who were the two friends in our story today? *(Pause for responses.)* YES, Philip and Nathanael. Philip was so excited that Jesus said, "Follow Me!", that he told his friend Nathanael. This month we are learning that *[Bottom Line]* Jesus loves everyone."

When I ask, 'Who does Jesus love?' I want you to say, *[Bottom Line]* 'Jesus loves everyone.' Are you ready? *(Pause for responses)*. 'Who does Jesus love?' *[Bottom Line]* 'Jesus love everyone!' YES! *[Bottom Line]* Jesus loves everyone!"

SAY THE BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE)

"Let's look at our Basic Truth for today. It says, 'I am made for a purpose so I can tell people about God.' Just like Philip told his friend Nathanael about Jesus, we can tell our friends about Jesus too!

PRAY

"Let's get our hands ready to pray. *Open them close them, open them close them, give a little clap. Open them, close them, open them, close them, fold them in your lap.*

"Dear God, thank You for loving us and for loving everyone. Please help us to tell our friends about Jesus because Jesus loves them too! In Jesus' name. Amen."

TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Bible Story: *Philip and Nathanael* • I can tell my friends about Jesus • *John 1:43-49*

Memory Verse: “Love each other in the same way I have loved you.” John 15:12, NLT

Key Question: Who does Jesus love?

Bottom Line: Jesus loves everyone.

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

TELL MY FRIENDS (2's-5's)

(“Tell My Friends Sticker” - 4 per child, “Tell My Friends Fun at Home” - 1 note per child, Plastic Sandwich Ziplock - 1 per child)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Tell My Friends Sticker” on Circle Labels, four per child. Copy “Tell My Friends Fun at Home” on regular paper and cut, one note per child. Remove the border of the label paper and cut into individual stickers. Decorate one sticker for each child. Write each child’s name on their bag.

During the Activity: Give each child three stickers that say “Jesus Loves Everyone, Jesus Love You.” (Keep the decorated sticker for each child to give out later.) Encourage children to color their three stickers. Ask children to place their three stickers in their bag with the note. Give each child the sticker you decorated and let them wear it home.

After the Activity: Review the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends! Come join me at the table. I have something neat for you to make that you can share with your friends!”

During the Activity: “We are going to decorate these stickers today! They all have a heart and say “Jesus Loves Everyone, Jesus Loves You.” Color your stickers to make them extra-special! (Pause.) Fantastic! Now add them to your bag with this note that says to share these stickers with a friend and tell them that [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone! Now that you have your stickers put away, I have something special for you. I decorated these stickers for you, because Jesus loves [child’s name] (give child a sticker) and Jesus loves [child’s name]!” (Continue with each child.)

After the Activity: “In our Bible Story, we learned about some friends named Philip and Nathanael. One day Philip met Someone super-amazing! It was Jesus! Jesus wanted to be Philip’s friend, so He said: ‘Follow Me!’ Philip was so excited that he went to his friend Nathanael and told him all about Jesus and that he should come and see Him. Philip told his friend Nathanael about Jesus. We can tell our friends about Jesus too because [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone!”

EVERYONE GAME (2's-5's)

(“Everyone Bus” Activity Page - 1 Bus Image per group, “Everyone Game” Activity Page - 1-2 sets per group, Paper Bag - 1 per group)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Everyone Bus” and glue/tape one bus image to a paper bag. Copy “Everyone Game” and cut, one-two sets per small group so each child has a card. Fold “Everyone Game” images in half and place in paper bag.

During the Activity: Ask children to take turns pulling a card from the ‘bus’ (paper bag). Encourage children to tell who is on the card and show it to everyone. Ask all the children to say to the person on the card: “Jesus loves you!” Continue with each child. Reset the cards and repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come over and sit on the floor with me.”

During the Activity: “Look at this neat bus I have! It has cards inside. I’m going to call you one at a time to pull a card from the bus, and you can tell us who is on your card. [Child’s name], come pick a card. (Pause.) Tell us who is on your card. Then, show us the picture. (Pause.) Wow, hello [person on card]! Let’s tell [person on card] Jesus loves them. Ready? ‘Jesus loves you, [person on card]!’ Fantastic! (Continue with each child. Reset the cards and repeat as desired.) That was so much fun!”

After the Activity: “Look at all the people who were on the bus. (Spread out all the cards.) There are so many different people, and Jesus loves each and every one of them because [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone! Who does Jesus love? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone!”

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.

‘Love (cross arms over chest)
each other in the same way (point to others)
I have (point up)
loved you,’ (cross arms over chest)
John 15:12.” (Open hands like a book.)

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 and for loving everyone. Please help us tell our friends that You

love them too! In Jesus' name. Amen."

EXTRA TIME - MEMORY VERSE FUN!

(No Supplies Needed)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Do the motions as you say the verse together.

During the Activity: Play a game of Red Light, Green Light, Yellow Light. When you say, "Green light!" everyone says the Memory Verse. When you say, "Red light!" everyone says the Memory Verse and does the motions. When you say, "Yellow light!" everyone says the Memory Verse very slowly. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, I have a very fun game for us to play. But first let's remember our Memory Verse and motions. 'Love (cross arms over chest) each other in the same way (point to others) I have (point up) loved you,' (cross arms over chest) John 15:12. (Open hands like a book.) Great job, everyone!"

During the Activity: "We're going to play a game called Red Light, Green Light, Yellow Light. If I say, 'Green light,' we'll only say the words to our Memory Verse. If I say, 'Red light,' we'll say the words and do the motions. If I say, 'Yellow light,' (slowly say the following) we'll say our verse super slow. Okay, are we ready to play? (Pause.) Great! GREEN light! (Encourage the children to say ONLY the Memory Verse.) 'Love each other in the same way I have loved you,' John 15:12. Fantastic! RED Light! (Encourage the children to do the motions as they say the verse.) 'Love (cross arms over chest) each other in the same way (point to others) I have (point up) loved you,' (cross arms over chest) John 15:12. (Open hands like a book.) YELLOW light! (Encourage the children to say the Memory Verse words very slowly.) 'Love each other in the same way I have loved you,' John 15:12. Good job! You, my friends, are such great listeners. Let's play again!" (Repeat as desired.)

After the Activity: "The Bible teaches us that Jesus said to love others the way He loves us. You can love everyone you see because [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone. Who does Jesus love? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone."

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)

Hand out placemats and encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.