

Preschool | W4 April

Leader Summary

Jesus promises to make a home for all of His friends, and He shows John what heaven is like—it's God's perfect home with no sadness, crying, or pain. We will live with God forever and never say goodbye! Jesus is preparing a place for everyone who loves and follows Him. One day we'll live forever with Him in heaven—the most wonderful home ever—all because Jesus wants to be my friend forever!

Connect Time (20 minutes)

Welcome Time

Small Group connect

Large Group Time (25 minutes)

Count Down & Welcome

Worship

Memory Verse

Bible Story Intro

Bible Story Video

Wrap Up & Prayer

Small Group Time (25 minutes)

Activity One

Activity Two

Memory Verse with Motions

Prayer

Parent Pick Up Activity

Take Home

First Look Placemat



Bible Story

Heaven • John 14:3; Revelation 21, 22:1-5
Jesus is preparing a place for us.

Key Question

Who wants to be your friend forever?

Bottom Line

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Memory Verse

"I have called you friends." • John 15:15 NIV

20 min

Connect Time

15 min

Welcome Time

What You Need

No supplies needed

5 min

Small Group Connect

What You Need

No supplies needed

What You Do: Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

SLIDE: Theme Slide

What You Do:

Small Group 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...

12 min

Large Group Time

4 min

Countdown & Welcome

What You Need

No supplies needed

6 min

Worship

What You Need

No supplies needed

2 min

Memory Verse

SLIDE: Countdown

"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.*)

SLIDE: Three Rules

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?"

SLIDE: Basic Truths

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.*)

"Let's continue celebrating Jesus through song and dance. Please stand up right where you are and get ready to move your body and sing as we worship Jesus!"

SONG: "Give Me Oil in My Lamp" Preschool Video is available from *Amazing Music*.

"Great singing, friends! That was a fun song! We are going to do one more song together... everyone get ready to sing and dance, one more time!"

SONG: "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus" Preschool Video is available from *Amazing Music*.

"Great singing, friends! Now, let's learn some of God's words from the Bible. (*Open hands like a book.*) Are you ready? Watch me say the words from the Bible and do the motions, and then you can do them with me!"

What You Need

No supplies needed

14 min

Large Group Bible Story

2 min

Bible Story Intro**What You Need**

-  Story Box 1
-  Aquarium Picture 1

9 min

Wonder Bible Story (Video)**What You Need**

No supplies needed

3 min

Wrap Up & Prayer**VIDEO:** Memory Verse Video*"I (point up)***have called you** *(Hands like binoculars, open and shut.)***friends."** *(Hook index fingers twice.)***John 15:15** *(open hands like a book).***SLIDE:** Memory Verse*"Can you do that with me?**Lead the children to say the Memory Verse with motions once or twice.*

"You guys all did a great job with our memory verse and with our worship songs! Now it's time to turn around (spin around)... sit down (sit down).. Shake the wiggles out (wiggle hands)... so we can hear (cup hands behind ears) what today's Bible Story is all about!"

SLIDE: Theme

"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 aquarium picture) look at this cool aquarium! Wow, someone worked hard to make sure that aquarium was special place for their pet fish to live. (Point out some of the cool features of the aquarium.) Wow, that's a pretty cool fish to have such a special place to live!"

"We are going to watch our Bible story, and we are going to hear about another special place that someone is preparing."

SLIDE: Bottom Line

"Wow! Jesus showed His friend John a little bit of what heaven will be like, and John wrote it down so we get to read about it in the Bible. Heaven is where God is. In heaven, there are no more boo-boos, and

What You Need

No supplies needed

no one gets sick or sad. That is worth celebrating! Hip, Hip, Hooray for heaven! (*Throw arms in the air.*)

SLIDE: Basic Truth

"Let's look at what our Basic Truth says for today.... I am loved by God no matter what, so I can belong in God's family forever! When we love and follow Jesus, we get to be His friend and live with him forever in Heaven.

Prayer

"Dear God, thank You for loving us so much that we get to be in heaven with You. Help us love and follow our friend Jesus every day. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

LGL dismiss to Small Group

25 min

Small Group Time

8 min

Activity 1- Friends with Jesus

What You Need

-  "Friends with Jesus" Activity Page 1
-  Smiley face stickers Several

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Friends with Jesus" on cardstock, one per Small Group. Say the Memory Verse with the motions together.

During the Activity: Play a version of "Pin the Tail on the Donkey." Have a child stand a few feet away from the picture. If they are comfortable, gently spin them twice. Then they walk toward the picture and try to place a smiley face sticker on the wall next to Jesus. As you spin them, say, "I have called you friends! or Jesus wants to be my friend forever."

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come stand with me and let's say our verse and do the motions. 'I (point up) have called you (point to others) friends,' (hook index fingers twice) John 15:15.' (Open hands like a book.) Great job! Now let's play a game to remember our verse! Jesus calls us His friends so we're going to play a game called 'Friends with Jesus!'"

During the Activity: " Look at this picture (hold up picture of Jesus.) It is a picture of Jesus! In just a moment, you are each going to get a smiley face sticker. When it's your turn, you get to pick verse or bottom line. I will spin you two times and then you walk to the picture and put your smiley face beside Jesus and we will all say this month's verse (I have called you friends) or bottom line (Jesus wants to be my friend forever.) (Let each child have a turn.)

After the Activity: "Look at all these happy faces next to Jesus! Jesus loves having you as His friend. That's why **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Who wants to be your friend forever? **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever."**

8 min

Activity 2- Heaven, Hip, Hip, Hooray!

What You Need

-  Bubble 1
-  Smiley Face Stickers 1

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Our Bible Story tells us some amazing things about Heaven. Heaven is the best place ever! We are going to do some moving around to help us remember how special Heaven is.

During the Activity:

- "The Bible says Heaven is a very special place! Let's catch some shiny bubbles! (Blow a few bubbles for the kids to pop- using one finger, and staying seated.) Yay, bubbles!
- "Heaven is full of love. Give yourself a great big hug! (Hug yourself.) Nice Job.
- "In Heaven, there are no boo-boos. Everybody, pretend to fall down. (Gently fall tot he floor.) Ouch! But wait! In Heaven, no ouchies!

5 min

Memory Verse with Motions & Prayer

What You Need

 "Memory Verse Card" 1

4 min

Parent Pick Up Activity

What You Need

 Beginner's Bible marked at the correct page 1

 Week 4 coloring Sheet 1

 Crayons Several

- "Everyone stand back up. (stand up) Yay! And in Heaven, there are no more tears. Everyone show me a big happy smile! (*Smile super big!*)
- "Because Heaven is a happy place, let's shout, 'Hip, Hip, Hooray!' (*with the kids*) 'Hip, Hip, Hooray!'"

Repeat a second time if the kids are into it.

- "Each of you is going to get one of these smiley face stickers to remind us that Heaven is a special place where there's lots of happy smiles!" (*Give each child s smiley sticker to wear.*)

After the Activity: "Heaven is the most special place! Jesus is getting Heaven ready for us because **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.** Who wants to be your friend forever? **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

What You Say:

"All month long we have been working on our memory verse. Does anyone want to try and say it all by themselves? (Pause to see if anyone wants to try, praise their effort)

"Let's all say it together:

**'I (point up)
have called you (point to others)
friends.'** (*hook index fingers twice*)
John 15:15. (*Open hands like a book.*)

"Did you hear that? Jesus called us His friend! Jesus called me friend and Jesus called you, and you, and you friend! And that is the message we can share with everyone, everywhere! Jesus wants to be your friend forever, and **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever** too!

"Today has been a lot of fun! Let's calm our bodies and get ready to talk to God.

"Dear God, thank you for today and for our friends in KidCity. Thank you for Jesus and for loving us so much that we get to be in Heaven with you. Help us love and follow Jesus with how we live our lives. Amen."

Coloring Page.

While the kids are coloring, open up the Beginner's Bible to today's story (Jesus is Coming , page 504) and read it to your small group.

Supplies

Bible Story Intro Quantity

- | | | |
|----|------------------|---|
| 1. | Story Box | 1 |
| 2. | Aquarium Picture | 1 |

Activity 1- Friends with Jesus Quantity

- | | | |
|----|------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | "Friends with Jesus" Activity Page | 1 |
| 2. | Smiley face stickers | Several |

Activity 2- Heaven, Hip, Hip, Hooray! Quantity

- | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|
| 1. | Bubble | 1 |
| 2. | Smiley Face Stickers | 1 |

Memory Verse with Motions & Prayer Quantity

- | | | |
|----|---------------------|---|
| 1. | "Memory Verse Card" | 1 |
|----|---------------------|---|

Parent Pick Up Activity Quantity

- | | | |
|----|---|---------|
| 1. | Beginner's Bible marked at the correct page | 1 |
| 2. | Week 4 coloring Sheet | 1 |
| 3. | Crayons | Several |