



WEEK
TWO
MAY 2023

SMALL GROUP
PRE-K
STARTER

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

NOTE: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and preschoolers. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your preschoolers for both Large and Small Group time.

BIBLE STORY

God made me
to help my friends.

THE FOUR FRIENDS
MARK 2:1-12

MEMORY VERSE

"We have the Lord
our God to help us."

2 CHRONICLES 32:8, NLT

KEY QUESTION

Who made you
to help others?

BOTTOM LINE

God made me
to help others.

BASIC TRUTH

God made me.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the Getting Ready pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the Prelude folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.

Clip the Way to Help

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Made by You"

Bible Story

Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.

Man on the Rug

Race to Fill

Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)

Parent Cue App



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



CLIP THE WAY TO HELP

WHAT YOU NEED: "Clip the Way to Help" Activity Page; cardstock; spring-loaded clothespins; smiley face or heart stickers; and scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Clip the Way to Help" on cardstock and cut, two sets per small group. Place a sticker on the opening end of each clothespin and place on the table with the cards.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to clip the item(s) that the helper on their card uses or needs to help others. Talk about each of the helpers and how they help. Swap cards and repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how today's Bible story is about helping our friends.

BIBLE STORY

God made me to help my friends.

THE FOUR FRIENDS
MARK 2:1-12

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me at the table. I need your help finding all the items that each of these people use to help us."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "On the cards are big pictures of people who help and small pictures of things that they might use to help us. Take your clothespins and pinch the end without the sticker. (Pause.) Great! Now look at your card and look at the picture of the helper. What helper is on your card? (Pause.) What does that person use to help us? Look at the small pictures on that card and clip a clothespin on the things that person uses to help us. (Pause.) [Child's name] what helper is on your card? (Pause.) And what did you put your clothespin(s) on? (Pause.) Wow! Great job! A [helper's name] uses [items] to help us! What about you, [child's name]? What helper is on your card? (Continue with each child.) Let's swap out our cards for a different helper card. (Repeat as desired.) Awesome job, friends!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "There are a lot of people who help us. Today, we'll hear a story about some friends who helped a friend who couldn't walk."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by asking who uses a [helper's item/tool] to help us. Children move forward as they answer. For example: Who uses a ladder and fire hose to help us? A firefighter! Who helps us by sharing toys? A friend!

MEMORY VERSE

"We have the Lord our God to help us."

2 CHRONICLES 32:8, NLT

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



MAN ON THE RUG

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Man on the Rug" Activity Page; cardstock; dot markers or washable markers; scissors; hole punch; and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Man on the Rug" on cardstock and cut, one set per child. Write each child's name on the back of their rug and man. Punch holes in each mat where designated. Cut yarn into 24-inch lengths, two per child.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to color their man and rug. Guide children to thread one piece of yarn through the holes on one end and the other piece of yarn through the holes on the other end. Tie the four ends together at the top.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we learned that God made us to help our friends. In our story, four friends helped their friend who couldn't walk get to Jesus. Let's make a craft to help us remember our story of the four friends."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "You have two pieces of your craft to color. You have a mat and the man whose legs didn't work. Color those. (Pause.) Nice! Now, see the holes on your mat? Stick one of the pieces of thread in one hole like this and out the other on the same side. (Demonstrate.) Now take the other piece of yarn and do the same thing. (Pause.) Super job! (Take the ends and knot them together.) Let's use these pieces to review our story."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We know that there are so many amazing things to know about Jesus. Jesus is God's Son. Jesus is an amazing teacher. And Jesus can do things only He can do.

"One day, Jesus came to the town where the four friends were. Everyone was so excited to see Jesus that they filled the house where He was. The four friends were excited, too. They knew Jesus could help their friend who couldn't walk. They helped him and carried him to Jesus. But the house was so full of people that they couldn't get in the front door. So they carried their friend to the top of the house, dug a hole in the roof, and lowered their friend to Jesus.

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“Put the man on the mat and hold it up in the air like this. (*Demonstrate.*) Now, let’s lower him down gently. (*Pause.*) Great job, friends! When Jesus saw how much the man and his friends believed that He could help, Jesus did something amazing. Jesus made the man’s legs all better, and he could walk, and even dance! Pick the man up off the mat and make him dance. (*Pause.*) Nice!

“Those four friends did what God made them to do. They helped, and we can help, too. God made you and me to help others. Hooray for helping! **Who made you to help others? God made me to help others.**”



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



RACE TO FILL

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Two medium plastic containers, pom-poms, two large dice, and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place the two containers spaced out on the floor at one end of your activity area. Spread pom-poms on the floor in the middle of your activity area. Tape a straight start line. Place the dice at the start line.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Separate the children into two teams and stand at the start line. Encourage the first child on each team to roll their die and shout the number they rolled. For their turn, children will run to collect that many pom-poms, place them in their team's bucket, then return to the back of the line. Continue with each child until everyone has had a turn and the containers are filled. The first team with the full container wins. Repeat as desired.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how the containers were really full, just like the house in our story where the four friends took their friend to see Jesus.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! Come over here with me, and let's play a game. We need two teams. *(Divide the group into teams.)* Each team has a die. The person in the front of the line will roll the die and shout the number they rolled. Then they'll run and pick up that number of pom-poms and put them in your team's container. You'll come back and get in line at the back. We'll keep going until the containers get full. The first team to fill their container wins. Then we'll play again."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Ready teams? Roll your die! *(Pause.)* What number did you roll? *(Pause.)* Great, go grab that many pom-poms and put them in your team's container. *(Pause.)* Next in line, roll the die! *(Repeat until one container is filled.)* Great job working together to fill the container! Yay to the team who won! Let's play again! *(Repeat as desired.)* It was so much fun rolling the die and filling the containers with you today!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our story, the four friends carried their friend to see Jesus because they knew that Jesus could do amazing things. They knew Jesus could help their friend who couldn't walk. But when they got there, the house was full of people, and they couldn't get in the door. So they carried their friend to the top of the house! They dug a hole in the roof and lowered their friend to Jesus. When Jesus saw how much the man and his friends believed that He could help, Jesus did something amazing. Jesus made the man's legs all better and he could walk, and even dance! The friends did what God made them to do. They helped, and we can help, too. God made you and me to help others. Hooray for helping! **Who made you to help others? God made me to help others.**"

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" from Week One paperclipped in Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per small group. Paperclip one card in your Bible at 2

Chronicles 32:8. You will keep this card in your Bible all month.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lead the children to your Small Group spot, sit down, and gather the children around you. Review the Bible story and memory verse then pray with the children.

WHAT YOU SAY:

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time! Today, we'll count to four as we walk to our Small Group spot. Every time we take a step, count with me! (*Count with each step, "One, two, three four, one, two, three, four . . ."* as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.) Here we are! Let's sit down and talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*)

"God made us to help our friends, and that's what the four friends (*count on your fingers*) one, two, three, four, did in our Bible story. They helped their friend by carrying him all the way to see Jesus! We were made to help our friends, too. That's why when I ask you, '**Who made you to help others?**', we all say, '**God made me to help others!**' Let me hear you say it! **Who made you to help others?**"

CHILDREN AND SGL: "God made me to help others!"

SGL: "Yes, God made us to help others! And the Bible verse we're learning will help us remember that we have someone to help us, too. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'We have the Lord our God to help us,' 2 Chronicles 32:8. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"Did you hear that? We have GOD to help us! Let's stand up, and you can help me say that verse with the motions. Just say what I say and do what I do."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'We have (*bent hands to chest*) the Lord our God (*point up*) to help us,' (*thumb up on palm*) 2 Chronicles 32:8." (*Open hands like a book.*)

(Repeat the verse with motions a few times.)

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(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

SGL: "Thank you for saying that verse with me! Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.*)

"Some men helped their friend in our Bible story today, so we'll make a list of our friends in our prayer journal. When I say your name, tell me the name of one of your friends. (*Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*) Look at all our friends' names! Let's pray and ask God to help us look for ways we can help our friends. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?" (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*)

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, thank You for giving us friends. Please help [child's name] look for ways [he/she] can help [friend's name they listed]. Please help [child's name] look for ways . . . (*Continue with each child.*) We want to help our friends the way You made us to help. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."



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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as Your 3-, 4-, or 5-year-olds arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and kids at the door.

CLIP THE WAY TO HELP

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Clip the Way to Help" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Spring-loaded clothespins
- Smiley face or heart stickers
- Scissors

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Clip the Way to Help" on cardstock and cut, two sets per small group.
- Place a sticker on the opening end of each clothespin and place on the table with the cards.

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

MAN ON THE RUG

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Man on the Rug" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Dot markers or washable markers
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Man on the Rug" on cardstock and cut, one set per child.
- Write each child's name on the back of their rug and man.
- Punch holes in each mat where designated.
- Cut yarn into 24-inch lengths, two per child.

RACE TO FILL

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Two medium plastic containers
- Pom-poms
- Two large dice
- Painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place the two containers spaced out on the floor at one end of your activity area.
- Spread pom-poms on the floor in the middle of your activity area.
- Tape a straight start line.
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STORY

GROUPS

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GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Memory Verse Card" from Week One paperclipped in Bible
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen

WHAT YOU DO:

- If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per small group then paperclip it in the Bible at 2 Chronicles 32:8.

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue app**.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. bit.ly/FL_ToTheRescue