



## 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

Jesus says to tell others about Him.

**GREAT COMMISSION**  
**MATTHEW 28:18-20**

### MEMORY VERSE

"Let your light shine."

**MATTHEW 5:16, NIV**

### KEY QUESTION

Who can do what Jesus says?

### BOTTOM LINE

I can do what Jesus says.

### BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

### 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.  
Light in the Dark

### LARGE GROUP

**20**  
MIN

#### WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

#### STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"You Love Me"  
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.

Shine in the Dark  
Lights On, Lights Off  
Journal and Prayer

#### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home  
Memory Verse Card  
Parent Cue Card (print or email)  
Parent Cue App



WEEK  
**TWO**  
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**PRE-K**  
STARTER

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      GROUPS      HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts



### LIGHT IN THE DARK

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Tent, flashlights, and children's books; Optional: table and flat sheet or blanket in place of the tent

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Set up the tent in your activity area and place children's books and flashlights inside. Option: Spread a flat sheet or blanket over a table to create

a tent-like structure.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Invite children to play and read books using the flashlights with you in the tent.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends! Look at the cool tent we can explore today! Let's go in and check it out!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "I put some books and flashlights in here for us to play with. Watch this. If I turn the flashlight on, shine it at the side of the tent, and put my hand in front of the light, I make a shadow! (*Make different simple shadows, like holding two fingers up for a bunny.*) You give it a try. (*Let each child have a turn making a shadow.*) That was fun! Let's look at these books using the flashlights. (*Pause.*) That was a lot of fun exploring the tent with the flashlights."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today we're going to hear a Bible Story about shining OUR light and helping other people know Jesus. Let's go hear our story!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by encouraging children to follow the flashlight as you point it.

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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



## SHINE IN THE DARK

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Shine in the Dark Label" Activity Page, Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent, black cardstock, washable neon or glow-in-the-dark paint, paper plates, paintbrushes, smocks, tablecloth, baby wipes, and white crayon or pencil

### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Shine in the Dark Label" on label paper, one label per child. Write each child's name on their paper using the white crayon or pencil. Cover a table with tablecloth. Place a few different colors of paint on several plates and place them on the table with the paintbrushes.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Help each child put a smock on. Encourage children to create a beautiful bold painting with the bright paints. Ask children to add a label and set aside to dry.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible Story.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends! Come sit at the table with me. Let's paint!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Paint a picture with these fun neon colors. (Pause.) Look how beautiful and bright the colors are on your paper! Add this label to your paper—it has our Memory Verse on it. Let's say our verse together. 'Let your light shine.' Matthew 5:16. Great job!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today we heard a story about doing what Jesus says and shining our light. Jesus gave His friends, the disciples, an important job to do. Jesus told His friends to go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus is alive and Jesus wants to be their friend forever. Jesus told them to GO and TELL. And friends, we can do what Jesus says too! **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.** One more time! **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.**"

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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



### LIGHTS ON, LIGHTS OFF

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Flashlight, music player, and this month's music

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Gather children in an open area.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Play lights on, lights off freeze dance. Play the music with the lights on and encourage children to dance. Turn a flashlight on to keep the area from becoming too dark. Pause the music and turn the lights off. Ask children to freeze and say the Bottom Line together. Start the music, turn the lights on, and ask the children to dance. Repeat as desired.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Hey friends, come join me over here and spread out. We are going to play a lights on, lights off freeze dance game. When the lights are on and the music is playing, you dance. When the lights are off and the music stops, you freeze."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Everybody ready to play? Let's dance! (Start the music.) Great dancing! (Turn the flashlight on, pause the music, and turn the lights off.) Lights and music are off—that means everyone should freeze. Now tell me: **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.** Great job! (Start the music, turn the lights on, and turn the flashlight off.) Here we dance! (Repeat as desired.) That was so much fun!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today, we learned that Jesus said to go and tell people that Jesus is alive and Jesus wants to be their friend forever. We can shine our light and do what Jesus says. **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says.**"

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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" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a 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. Place one card in your Bible at Matthew 5:16. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage the children to skip as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the Memory Verse and motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of people we can go and tell about Jesus.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to skip like this (*demonstrate*) to our Small Group spot. Just do the best you can and follow me! (*Skip as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) That was a fun way to get to our Small Group spot! Now let's sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story today, Jesus said to go and tell everyone everywhere that Jesus is alive and Jesus wants to be their friend forever. You can skip to go and tell. You can run to go and tell. You can even hop to go and tell! The important thing is to do what Jesus says. And: **Who can do what Jesus says? I can do what Jesus says!** That's right!"

"And when we do what Jesus says, we shine our light, which is what Jesus says for us to do in the Bible verse we are learning. It says: 'Let (*move flat hands forward from hip*) your light (*palms facing forward*) shine,' (*twinkling hands moving out*) Matthew 5:16. (*Open hands like a book.*) Stand up and say Jesus' words with me! Just say what I say and do what I do. 'Let (*move flat hands forward from hip*) your light (*palms facing forward*) shine,' (*twinkling hands moving out*) Matthew 5:16. (*Open hands like a book.*)"

"Yay! (*Clap.*) Now it's time to write in our prayer journal and talk to God, so let's sit down. (*Open journal.*) Today, we're going to make a list of people we can go and tell about Jesus. When I say your name, tell me the name of one person, and I will write it in our journal. (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)"

**BIBLE STORY**

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## (JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Look at all of these people! (*Hold up journal.*) Let's use our list when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, You are the BEST! Thank You for giving us Jesus to be our friend forever. Help us to go and tell (*read the list the children made*) that Jesus is alive and He wants to be their friend forever. We want to do what Jesus says and shine our light! We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."



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SOCIAL

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STORY

GROUPS

HOME

## 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 the following activity as your preschoolers arrive. Let one teacher lead the activity while another teacher greets parents and children at the door.*

#### LIGHT IN THE DARK

**Made to Explore:** An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Tent
- Flashlights
- Children's books
- *Optional: table and flat sheet or blanket in place of the tent.*

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Set up the tent in your activity area and place children's books and flashlights inside.
- *Option: Spread a flat sheet or blanket over a table to create a tent-like structure.*

### 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 children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.*

### SHINE IN THE DARK

[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:

- "Shine in the Dark Label" Activity Page
- Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent
- Black cardstock
- Washable neon or glow-in-the-dark paint
- Paper plates
- Paintbrushes
- Smocks
- Tablecloth
- Baby wipes
- White crayon or pencil

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Shine in the Dark Label" on label paper, one label per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper using the white crayon or pencil.
- Cover a table with tablecloth.
- Place a few different colors of paint on several plates and place them on the table with the paintbrushes.

### LIGHTS ON, LIGHTS OFF

[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:

- Flashlight
- Music player
- This month's music



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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" Activity Page from Week One in Bible
- Journal (Check out the Ollie journal at [bit.ly/3B4Z71j](https://bit.ly/3B4Z71j).)
- Fun-shaped pen (Check out the Ollie Pen at [bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh](https://bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh).)

#### 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. Place it in the Bible at Matthew 5:16. *NOTE: Keep the Memory Verse Card in your Bible all month.*

### HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy the memory verse card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it 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\\_Shine](https://bit.ly/FL_Shine)