

2s | W5

Today's Suggested Schedule—May 2026, Week 5

Today's Bible Story: Matthew's Dinner • Mark 2:13-17; Luke 5:27-32
Jesus never stops caring.

Key Question: Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line: Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse: *How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.* • Ephesians 3:18 NIV

Note: This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a special need, learning difference, or disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional EveryChild tips. Check out the additional Special Needs resources included.

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.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Follow Jesus
Coin Press*
Cooking Dinner

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship
Bible Story
Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Stir the Soup
Story Bag
Come to Dinner
You, and You, and You

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Memory Verse Card
Parent Cue App and ParentCue.org

*Allergy Alert



Bible Story

Matthew's Dinner • Mark 2:13-17; Luke 5:27-32
Jesus never stops caring.

Key Question

Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line

Jesus cares about everyone.







Memory Verse

How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. • Ephesians 3:18 NIV

5 min

You, and You, and You | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	"You, and You, and You" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Crayons or washable markers	Several
	People or smiley face stickers	Several
	Permanent marker	1
	Scissors	1



- Provide adaptive coloring tools like chunky crayons or dot markers.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "You, and You, and You" on cardstock, one per child. Fold and cut each child's paper and write their name on it.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color the outside of their heart then ask children to open their heart and decorate the inside with people stickers.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Look at your paper! Wow! It's a heart! Hearts make us think of love. We're going to decorate these hearts today and turn them into something special!"

During the Activity: "Use the crayons/markers to decorate the outside of your hearts. *(Pause.)* Wonderful! Now open your heart and fill it with these people/smiley face stickers. *(Pause.)* Wow! You added lots and lots and lots of people to your heart. Jesus loves all kinds of people because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"

After the Activity: "Today in our Bible Story, we learned about a tax collector named Matthew. Most people stayed away from tax collectors. But not Jesus! Jesus loves and cares about everyone. Jesus went right up to Matthew and said, 'Follow Me!' And Matthew did! Then he had a big dinner with Jesus and invited all his friends. Some people thought Jesus shouldn't be with those people, but Jesus heard them and said that He came because He wants everyone to follow Him! Jesus never stops caring. Look at all the people in your heart. Jesus cares about every single one of them. And He cares about YOU! Who cares about everyone? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"

Getting Ready | 2's Small Group

GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

Social

1. Follow Jesus

Made to Move

What You Need:

- "Follow Jesus" Activity Page, one per Small Group
- Cardstock, one per Small Group
- Jumbo craft stick, one per Small Group
- Masking tape, one roll per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Follow Jesus" on cardstock, one per Small Group.
- Tape the picture of Jesus to the top of the craft stick.

2. Coin Press*

Made to Play

What You Need:

- "Allergy Alert Poster", one per Small Group
- Cardstock, one per Small Group
- Play-Doh®, several per Small Group
- Large toy coins, one per child

What You Do:

- Place a medium-sized blob of Play-Doh and a coin at each spot around the table.

3. Cooking Dinner

Made to Imagine

What You Need:

- Play kitchen, one per Small Group
- Toy pots and pans, several per Small Group
- Toy plates and cups, several per Small Group
- Toy food, several per Small Group
- *Optional: Chef hats*

Groups

1. Stir the Soup

Hear from God | Memory Verse Review

Made to Play

What You Need:

- "Stir the Soup" Activity Page, one set per Small Group
- "Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page, one per Small Group
- Cardstock, three per Small Group
- Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent, one label per child
- Large pot, one per Small Group
- Spoon or ladle, one per Small Group
- Scissors, one per Small Group

- *Optional: Laminate pouches*

What You Do:

- Print "Stir the Soup" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Print "Memory Verse Sticker" on label paper, one sticker per child.
- Place the cards in the pot, put the spoon/ladle in the pot and place in the middle of your activity area.

2. Story Bag**Talk about God | Bible Story Review***Made to Imagine***What You Need:**

- Small bag, one per Small Group
- Toy money, several per Small Group
- Smiley face ball, one per Small Group
- Toy food item, one per Small Group
- Heart (plush or foam), one per Small Group
- *Optional: Ball pit ball and a permanent marker in place of a smiley face ball.*

What You Do:

- Place the items in the bag.

3. Come to Dinner**Live for God | Application Activity***Made to Move***What You Need:**

- Tablecloth or picnic blanket, one per Small Group
- Music player, one per Small Group
- Fun, upbeat preschool music, one per Small Group
- Dinner bell or hand bell, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Spread out the tablecloth or picnic blanket on the floor.
- Have music and a dinner bell ready.

4. You, and You, and You**Live for God | Application Activity***Made to Create***What You Need:**

- "You, and You, and You" Activity Page, one per child
- Cardstock, one per child
- Crayons or washable markers, several per child
- People or smiley face stickers, several per child
- Permanent marker, one per Small Group
- Scissors, one per child

What You Do:

- Print "You, and You, and You" on cardstock, one per child.
- Fold and cut each child's paper and write their name on it.

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue Card.
- Print the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Print "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_HatsOff

Supplies

Follow Jesus Made to Move	Quantity
1. "Follow Jesus" Activity Page	1
2. Cardstock	1
3. Jumbo craft stick	1
4. Masking tape	1

Coin Press Made to Play *Uses Minimal Supplies	Quantity
1. "Allergy Alert Poster"	1
2. Cardstock,	2
3. Muffin tinPlay-Doh®	Several
4. Large toy coins	1

Cooking Dinner Made to Explore *Uses Minimal Supplies	Quantity
1. Play kitchen	1
2. Toy pots and pans	Several
3. Toy plates and cups	Several
4. Toy food	Several
5. Optional: Chef hats	Several

Story Bag Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies	Quantity
1. Small bag	1
2. Toy money	1
3. Smiley face ball	1
4. Toy food item	1
5. Heart (plush or foam)	1
6. Optional: Ball pit ball and a permanent marker in place of a smiley face ball.	Several

Come to Dinner Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies	Quantity
1. Tablecloth or picnic blanket	1
2. Music player	1
3. Fun, upbeat preschool music	1
4. Dinner bell or hand bell	1

You, and You, and You Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies	Quantity
1. "You, and You, and You" Activity Page	1
2. Cardstock	1
3. Crayons or washable markers	Several
4. People or smiley face stickers	Several
5. Permanent marker	1
6. Scissors	1

Stir the Soup | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies**Quantity**

1.	"Stir the Soup" Activity Page	1
2.	"Memory Verse Sticker" Activity Page	1
3.	Cardstock	3
4.	Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent	1
5.	Large pot	1
6.	Spoon or ladle	1
7.	Scissors	1
8.	Optional: Laminate pouches	Several