

Copy of 3-5's | W2

Today's Suggested Schedule—April 2026, Week 2

Today's Bible Story: Breakfast on the Beach • John 21:1-14

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

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

Loud sounds, bright lights, and large groups can be overwhelming or overstimulating for some children. To create a more inclusive large group experience, consider offering adaptive tools like noise-canceling headphones, sunglasses, sensory-friendly items, or access to modified spaces.

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 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Carry the Food
Hot Potato
Sand and Water

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

Keepy Uppy
Picasso Bible Story
Picnic with Jesus
Friend, Friend, Forever!
Party in a Bag
Journal and Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

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

***Allergy Alert**



Bible Story

Breakfast on the Beach • John 21:1-14

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

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




5 min

Social

5 min

Carry the Food | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

- | | |
|--|---|
|  Spatulas | 2 |
|  Beanbags or foam cutouts (shaped like fish or bread) | 2 |
|  Painter's tape | 1 |



EveryChild tips

- Use a small plate instead of a spatula for easier balancing.
- Allow children to carry the beanbag in their hands if balancing is too challenging. The goal is participation and fun.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Create a start line and a finish line with the painter's tape on opposite sides of the room.

During the Activity: Divide children into two lines. Give the first child in each line a spatula with a beanbag "fish" on it. Explain that they need to walk carefully to the finish line and back without dropping the food. If they drop it, they pick it up and keep going. Then they hand the spatula to the next person in line.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hello! I'm so glad you're here today. Come play a fun balancing game with me!"

During the Activity: "Today we're going to pretend we are carrying food to our friends! The first person in each line will get a spatula with some food on it. Your job is to walk all the way to the other line and back without letting it fall! Ready? Go! (*Cheer for the children.*) That's it, nice and steady! Great job! Now pass it to your friend."

After the Activity: "You all did such a great job carrying the food to your friends! Our Bible Story today is about a time Jesus made a special breakfast for His friends. Let's hear all about it!"








10 min

Groups

5 min

Party in a Bag | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

	"Party in a Bag Note" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Paper lunch bags, one per child	1
	Crayons	Several
	Scissors	1
	Stickers	Several
	Small party items: a few pieces of confetti, one party horn, and a small streamer	Several

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy "Party in a Bag Note" on cardstock and cut one note per child. Have the party items pre-sorted to easily place in each child's bag. Write each child's name on their bag.

During the Activity: Give each child a paper bag and let them decorate it with crayons and stickers. When they are done, help them put one of each party item inside their bag to take home.

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

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Knowing that Jesus wants to be our friend forever is the best news ever! It makes me want to have a party! Let's make a 'Party in a Bag' to take home and celebrate!"




During the Activity: "First, let's decorate our party bags! Use the stickers and crayons to make them look super fun—like a party! (*Allow time to decorate.*) These look amazing! Now, every party needs some fun things. Let's add some confetti, a party horn, and a streamer to your bag. (*Help children add items.*) Now you have a party ready to go!"

After the Activity: "You can take your party bag home to celebrate the happy news with your family! What are we celebrating? That **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!** Hip, hip, hooray! Who wants to be your friend forever? **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

5 min

Journal and Prayer | Made to Reflect

What You Need

-  "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in 1 Bible
-  Journal 1
-  Fun-shaped pen 1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder on cardstock and cut one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at John 15:15. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*

Encourage the children to pretend they are swimming to Jesus as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity: Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions, then ask the children to help you make a list in the journal of their friends.

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 are going to pretend we are swimming. Can you move your arms like this? (*Demonstrate a simple swimming motion.*) Let's swim all the way to our Small Group spot. (*Pretend you are swimming as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Just keep swimming, just keep swimming ... we made it! Now we can 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 made breakfast for His friends, the disciples, on the beach. Do you remember what happened on Easter? (*Pause for responses.*) Yes! Jesus died on the cross and came back to life three days later so He could be our friend forever! When His friends saw Jesus on the beach, they were so excited! Jesus cooked for them, told them He would be their friend forever, and told them He had special things for them to do with Him. The best news is Jesus wants to be our friend forever and has special things for us to do too! Yes! Jesus wants to be your friend forever and **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**

"The Bible verse we are learning talks about how Jesus wants to be our friend. It says, '**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 friend! Jesus called me friend and Jesus called you, and you, and you friend! Jesus wants to be your friend forever and **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever** too! Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do! '**I**(*point up*)**have called you**(*point to others*)**friends.**'(*hook index fingers twice*)**John 15:15.**(*Open hands like a book.*)

"Yay! (*Clap.*) I'm so happy that **[Bottom Line] Jesus wants to be my friend forever!** Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) In our Bible Story, Jesus went to the beach and made a special breakfast for His friends, the disciples.

Then we can use the list when we pray. When I say your name, tell me the name of one friend, 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.)*

After the Activity: "You have some wonderful friends! *(Hold up journal.)* Do you know what? Jesus wants to be friends with all of your friends and with YOU! Let's pray for our friends and talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? *(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)* Dear God, thank You for giving us friends like *(read each friend's name on list)* and thank You for the best friend, JESUS! We are so glad that Jesus wants to be our friend forever! We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Supplies

Carry the Food | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. Spatulas	2
2. Beanbags or foam cutouts (shaped like fish or bread)	2
3. Painter's tape	1

Party in a Bag | Made to Create *Uses Minimal Supplies

	Quantity
1. "Party in a Bag Note" Activity Page	1
2. Cardstock	1
3. Paper lunch bags, one per child	1
4. Crayons	Several
5. Scissors	1
6. Stickers	Several
7. Small party items: a few pieces of confetti, one party horn, and a small streamer	Several

Journal and Prayer | Made to Reflect

	Quantity
1. "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible	1
2. Journal	1
3. Fun-shaped pen	1