

# 3-5's April W3

## Today's Suggested Schedule—April 2026, Week 3

**Today's Bible Story:** Great Commission • Matthew 28:16-20  
I can tell others about Jesus.

**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**

Walkie Talkie and Move

On the Move

Where Will You Go?

### **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**

Parachuting Memory Verses

Bible Story Actions

Go and Tell STEM\*

Go and Tell a Friend

Share the News 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**

Great Commission • Matthew 28:16-20  
I can tell others about Jesus.

### **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

## Walkie-Talkie and Move | Made to Move \*Uses Minimal Supplies

### What You Need

 Preschool-safe walkie-talkies sets 2



### EveryChild tips

- Use simple, one-step commands (e.g., "clap," "stomp," "wave").
- A leader can model the action for children who may have trouble understanding the audio command alone.

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Divide the room into two halves. Have one leader and half of the children go to one side, and another leader with the other half of the children go to the other side. Give each leader a walkie-talkie.

*During the Activity:* The first leader will give a simple movement command over the walkie-talkie (e.g., "Jump up and down!"). The second group will listen and perform the action. Then, the second leader will give a command for the first group to follow. Let children have turns speaking into the walkie-talkie to give a command.

*After the Activity:* Introduce the Bible Story.

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "Hello, friends! Today, we're going to play a game with these cool walkie-talkies! We're going to send messages to our friends across the room."

*During the Activity: (To your group, quietly.)* "Okay, team, what should we tell our friends to do? How about ... touch your toes? *(Press the button and speak clearly.)* Friend team, can you please touch your toes? Over. *(Listen for the other team's response and action, then for their command.)* They want us to spin around! Let's spin!

*(Spin with the children.)* This is so fun! We're listening and doing what our friends tell us to do."

*After the Activity:* "Great job listening and moving! In our Bible Story today, Jesus tells His friends something very important to do. He gives them a special job. Let's go hear all about it!"








10 min

# Groups

5 min

## Share the News | Made to Create \*Uses Minimal Supplies

### What You Need

	"Share the News Stickers" Activity Page	3
	"Fun at Home" Activity Page	1
	Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent	Several
	Envelopes, one per child	1
	Crayons	Several
	Fun stickers	Several
	Scissors	1

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Copy "Share the News Stickers" on label paper, three stickers per child. Copy "Fun at Home" on cardstock and cut one note per child.

*During the Activity:* Encourage children to decorate their envelopes. Ask children to place their stickers inside the envelope along with their note

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

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "Jesus told His friends to go and tell everyone about Him. We can do that, too! Let's make something special to help us share the good news."




*During the Activity:* "First, let's decorate this envelope. This will hold our good news! (*Allow time to decorate.*) Now, let's put the good news inside. I have stickers of our Memory Verse! (*Show stickers.*) They say, 'I have called you friends.' Let's put some inside your envelope. (*Help children add stickers.*)"

*After the Activity:* "Now you can take this home and give these stickers to people you love, like your family or your friends! You can be just like Jesus' friends and 'go and tell' everyone that **[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!**"

5 min

## Journal and Prayer | Made to Reflect \*Uses Minimal Supplies

### What You Need

-  Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible 1
-  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.*

Encourage the children to march with you 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 all the different places they go.

*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 march all the way to our Small Group spot. *(March as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)* March ... march ... march ... we made it! Whew! Good moving! 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 went up a mountain to tell His friends a very important message. Jesus told His friends to go everywhere and tell everyone that He loves them and that Jesus wants to be their friend forever. Wow! That is a very important job! The world is a BIG place, and Jesus wants everyone in the entire world to know about Him. The best news is that Jesus wants to be OUR friend forever! And Jesus wants us to share that news with everyone, everywhere too! Yes! Jesus wants to be your friend forever, and **[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.**

"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 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!** 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 told His friends to go everywhere and tell everyone about Him. Let's make a list of all the places we go. Then we can use the list when we pray and to help us remember to tell people about Jesus wherever we go. When I say your name, tell me the name of one place you like to go, 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:* "We go to a lot of different places! (*Hold up journal.*) Do you know what? Jesus wants you to tell everyone about Him in ALL of those places! What an important job!! Let's pray 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 all of the places we get to go, like (read each place on the list), please help us remember to tell people about You everywhere we go! We are so glad that Jesus wants to be our friend forever! We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen."

# Supplies

## Walkie-Talkie and Move | Made to Move \*Uses Minimal Supplies

- |                                       | Quantity |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Preschool-safe walkie-talkies sets | 2        |

## Share the News | Made to Create \*Uses Minimal Supplies

- |  | Quantity |
|--|----------|
| 1. "Share the News Stickers" Activity Page | 3        |
| 2. "Fun at Home" Activity Page             | 1        |
| 3. Avery® Labels #22830 or equivalent      | Several  |
| 4. Envelopes, one per child                | 1        |
| 5. Crayons                                 | Several  |
| 6. Fun stickers                            | Several  |
| 7. Scissors                                | 1        |

## Journal and Prayer | Made to Reflect \*Uses Minimal Supplies

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