



## WEEK ONE – SEPTEMBER 2024 – PRESCHOOL

**Bible Story:** *Jesus Is The Light* | John 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5

**Key Question:** *Who can love like Jesus?*

**Bottom Line:** *I can love like Jesus*

**Memory Verse:** *“How you made me is amazing + wonderful.”– Psalm 139:14  
ESV*

**Basic Truth:** *Jesus wants to be my friend forever*

**Series Overview:** The LiteBrite was an instant hit of a toy and has remained such a favorite for all these years that families are still having fun making pictures with light. This month, we’re talking about a different kind of bright light. We’re talking about THE light that God sent into the world to shine bright for all the world to see. And THIS light has a name. His name is Jesus! Each time we choose to love like Jesus, we become a bright light. Just like each LiteBrite peg lights up to make a picture, each and every act of love is a bright light that makes a beautiful picture for the world to see Jesus.

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## 9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY

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### Opening Small Group Activity

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

**What You Need:** White butcher paper; yellow and orange highlighters; pink highlighter, one per child; painter's tape; and a permanent marker

### What You Do:

- Lay the butcher paper on a table or the floor.
- In the middle of the paper, use the permanent marker to write: “Jesus Is the Light • John 1:4-5, 8:12, 9:5.”
- Then, use the permanent marker to draw outlines of smiley faces, suns, and hearts all over the paper, at least two hearts per child.
- Use the yellow highlighter to color the smiley faces and the orange highlighter to color the suns, but leave the hearts blank.
- Give each child a pink highlighter.
- Ask them to color two hearts to make them as bright as the smiley faces and suns are.
  - Ask children to color any additional hearts.
- Hang the paper near your group.
- Introduce the Bible Story.

### What You Say:

- *“Let me show you the cool banner I have been working on! (Point.) I want it to shine super-bright! I have faces and suns all filled in, but I need help with the hearts. Will you help me make all the hearts super bright too? (Pause.) Yay!” I have a really special marker for you to use today. It's called a highlighter. See how bright the suns and smiley faces are? (Pause.) Everyone ready to make the banner even brighter? Color in two (hold up two fingers) hearts. If we have more to fill in when everyone is finished with their two, then we can keep going. I can't wait to see how bright our finished banner will be! (Pause.) WOW! You have helped me make the banner*

*SUPER-bright!” Hearts remind me of love, and in today’s Bible Story, we’re going to learn about how we can love like Jesus.”*

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**9:20 - 9:50 | 11:15 – 11:45 – LARGE GROUP**

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**Story Focus: Jesus is the Light of the World.** God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World. Jesus is not a light like a nightlight or a glow stick. Jesus is a light that helps us see how amazing God is. When Jesus helped people, He was a bright light showing us how God helps people. When Jesus forgave people, He was a bright light showing us how God forgives people. When Jesus loved people, He was a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too.

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**9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 – SMALL GROUP**

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**Memory Verse With Motions**

**[Hear From God | Memory Verse Review]**

*Move: an activity that uses a preschooler’s natural desire to move to help them learn*

**What You Need:** N/A

**What You Do:**

- Say the memory verse and teach the motions to the children
- Repeat the verse with the motions and invite the children to do it with you.
- Repeat several times.
- Review the Bottom Line.

**What You Say:**

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*

- “Friends, come stand with me and let me tell you our brand-new Memory Verse! Ready to hear it? It goes like this. ‘You (*point to others*) are the light (*twinkle fingers*) of the world,’ (*make a circle with your arms*) Matthew 5:14.” (*Open hands like a book.*)
- **DURING THE ACTIVITY**
  - “Now let’s learn the motions. The first part of our verse says, ‘You.’ (*Point to others.*) Point to all of our friends like this (*demonstrate*) and say, ‘you’ with me. (*With children.*) You. (*Point to others.*) “The next part of our verse says, ‘are the light.’ (*Twinkle fingers.*) Put your hands in the air, make fists, and then open and shut them like this (*demonstrate*) and say, ‘are the light.’ (*With children.*) ‘Are the light.’ (*Twinkle fingers.*) Wonderful! Now, let’s put that together. ‘You (*point to others*) are the light.’ (*Twinkle fingers.*) Great job! The next part says, ‘of the world.’ Make a circle in front of you with your arms like this. (*Make a circle with your arms.*) Then say, ‘of the world.’ (*With children.*) Of the world. (*Make a circle with your arms.*) Can we do all three together? ‘You (*point to others*) are the light (*twinkle fingers*) of the world.’ (*Make a circle with your arms.*) Now the last part is, ‘Matthew 5:14.’ (*Open hands like a book.*) Put your hands together in front of you, and open them like you are opening a book. (*Demonstrate.*) Then say, ‘Matthew 5:14.’ (*With children.*) Matthew 5:14. (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job! I think we’re ready to do it all together! Ready, friends? ‘You (*point to others*) are the light (*twinkle fingers*) of the world,’ (*make a circle with your arms*) Matthew 5:14. (*Open hands like a book.*) Nice job. Let’s do it again.” (*Repeat several times.*)
- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**
  - “The Bible teaches us that God sent His Son, Jesus, to be the Light of the World and to show us how to love others. Jesus is a bright light who helps us see how amazing God is. We can love like Jesus and be a bright light too. **Who can love like Jesus? [Bottom Line] I can love like Jesus.** Let’s say that one more time, friends. **Who can love like Jesus? [Bottom Line] I can love like Jesus.**”

## Light Up The World

### [Live for God | Application Activity]

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

**What You Need:** Painters Tape / Flashlight

#### What You Do:

- Create a simple, large outline of the world on the floor using tape.
- Ask the children to jump inside the world, and act out different ways to show love.
- When you see the children showing love, shine the flashlight on them.
- Then, encourage all the children to lift their hands in the air, twinkle their fingers, and say, **[Bottom Line] “I can love like Jesus.”**
- Review the Bottom Line.

#### What You Say:

- **BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**
  - “Hi, friends! Look at the world on the floor! Let’s gather around it together and play a game.”
- **DURING THE ACTIVITY**
  - “Everyone, when I say, ‘Bright light!’ I want you to jump in the world. Ready? One, two, three, BRIGHT LIGHT! *(Pause.)* Super-duper! Today, we learned that God sent Jesus to be the Light of the World who shows us how God loves people and how we can love people too. Let’s walk around inside the world. *(Pause.)* Okay, freeze! Show me what it looks like to ask a friend to play. *(Shine the flashlight at the children who are acting it out. Be careful not to shine the light in their faces.)* Look! Our friends [child’s names] are loving like Jesus! See the light? Everyone, put your hands above your head and twinkle your fingers. *(Pause.)* Shout it out: **[Bottom Line] ‘I can love like Jesus.’ [Bottom Line] I can love like Jesus.** Great job! Put your hands down. *(Repeat with as many of the kids who are acting it out.)* Okay, walk around the world again. *(Pause.)* And freeze! *(Continue saying different ways to show love: hug a sad friend, share*

*your toys, say ‘please’ and ‘thank you,’ draw a picture for someone who is sick, forgive someone for knocking over your block tower, etc.)*  
Wow! That was amazing watching you love like Jesus!”

- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
  - “When Jesus helped people, He was a bright light showing us how God helps people. When Jesus forgave people, He was a bright light showing us how God forgives people. And when Jesus loved people, He was a bright light showing us how God loves people and how we can love people too. **Who can love like Jesus? [Bottom Line] I can love like Jesus.**”