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**MONTHLY  
BIBLE STORY**

Zacchaeus

**LUKE 19:1-10**

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**BIBLE WORDS**

"A friend loves you all the time."

**PROVERBS 17:17, NCV**

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**BOTTOM LINE**

Jesus is always a good friend.

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**BASIC TRUTH**

Jesus wants to be  
my friend forever.

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The toddler curriculum provides one monthly Bible Story because we understand that toddlers learn best through repetition. The toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the story and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos. We hope that by sending home a simple toddler craft, you are cueing families to begin having conversations at home with their children.

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**STORY TIME:**

- Show It

**CRAFT TIME:**

- With a Good Friend
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## STORY TIME

Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Preschool Bible, and "Story Pictures" Activity Pages copied on cardstock

**LEADER:** "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today's true story from the Bible (*hold up the Bible*) begins with a man named Zacchaeus (*hold up picture of straight-faced Zacchaeus*) and the time that Jesus came to town.

"Everyone was so happy that Jesus was coming—even Zacchaeus! When Jesus got there, everyone crowded around Him. (*Crowd of excited people around Jesus with Zacchaeus at the back.*) Zacchaeus was small and couldn't see over the crowd, so he climbed a tree and now he could see Jesus! (*Hold up the picture of Zacchaeus in the tree with Jesus next to it.*) Jesus saw Zacchaeus in the tree and told him to come down so they could go to Zacchaeus' house. (*Hold up picture of Jesus and Zacchaeus at Zacchaeus' house.*) Jesus was such a good friend to Zacchaeus that Zacchaeus wanted to love people the way Jesus loved him. Zacchaeus had made a bad choice and taken money that wasn't his, so to love like Jesus, he gave back all the money he had taken! (*Hold up picture of Zacchaeus giving money back to people.*) Jesus was a good friend to Zacchaeus, and Jesus will be a good friend to you and me too, because **Jesus is always a good friend.**"



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## CRAFT TIME

*Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.*

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "With a Good Friend" Activity Page; cardstock; washable, red ink pad; heart stamps; baby wipes; and a permanent marker

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "With a Good Friend" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to stamp hearts all over their paper. Clean hands as needed.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "When Jesus came to town, everyone was so excited and went to see Him. But Zacchaeus couldn't see over the people! So, Zacchaeus climbed a tree. Jesus saw Zacchaeus and called him down from the tree because Jesus wanted to go to Zacchaeus' house. Stamp your paper with these heart stamps. (Pause.) Hearts make us think of love. Jesus was such a good friend to Zacchaeus that Zacchaeus wanted to love people the way Jesus loved him. Jesus was a good friend to Zacchaeus, and Jesus will be a good friend to you and me too, because **Jesus is always a good friend.**"