



MONTHLY OVERVIEW

Have you ever seen a bunch of preschoolers jumping in rain puddles? So many giggles! So much excitement! And do you know that feeling you get when you step outside and feel the sunshine on your face for the first time in a week? Pure happiness! Our preschoolers experience a wide range of emotions every day. They feel sad, happy, afraid, nervous, excited—sometimes all in the same hour!

Our preschoolers will grow up and experience a lot of different situations and emotions. We want children to know that Jesus is a friend that loves them at ALL times. A friend that will never leave them. That's why, this month, we are talking about THE best friend—the One who is ALWAYS a good friend. Rain or shine, **Jesus is always a good friend of mine!**

WEEK ONE

BIBLE STORY
Peter Walks on Water
Matthew 14:22-33

STORY FOCUS
Jesus is a good friend when I am afraid.

WEEK TWO

BIBLE STORY
Jesus Heals Ten Men
Luke 17:11-16

STORY FOCUS
Jesus is a good friend when I am excited.

WEEK THREE

BIBLE STORY
Mary, Martha, and Lazarus
John 11:1-3, 20, 28-36

STORY FOCUS
Jesus is a good friend when I am sad.

WEEK FOUR

BIBLE STORY
Zacchaeus*
Luke 19:1-10

STORY FOCUS
Jesus is a good friend when I am happy.

**Monthly Story for Toddler Curriculum*

MEMORY VERSE

"A FRIEND LOVES YOU
ALL THE TIME."
PROVERBS 17:17, NCV

KEY QUESTION

WHO IS ALWAYS A
GOOD FRIEND?

BOTTOM LINE

JESUS IS ALWAYS A
GOOD FRIEND.

JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER.



Preschool Large Group
January 2025
Week 1

STORY FOCUS:

Jesus is a good friend when I am afraid.

Jesus' friends, the disciples, are on a boat in the water, and they see something coming toward them. They are all afraid until Jesus says, "Don't be afraid." Peter, being the bold one of the bunch, hops out of the boat and begins walking on the water toward Jesus. But, when Peter hears the wind blowing and sees the waves getting bigger, he feels afraid and begins to sink! Jesus holds His hand out and pulls Peter up, helping Peter back into the boat. Jesus is a good friend to Peter when Peter is afraid because Jesus is always a good friend.

MEMORY VERSE

"A friend loves you all the time."
Proverbs 17:17

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is always a good friend.

BIBLE TRUTH

Peter Walks on Water
Matthew 12:22-33

Jesus is a good friend when I am afraid.

NOTES

- All **yellow highlighted text** are cues for audio and visual slides.
- You will do rules, worship, and the Bible verse from the stage, and the Bible story will be on video.

Preschool Teaching Outline: Week 1

1. Opener: Welcome kids, get them excited
2. Big Group Game: **Sink or Float!**
3. Worship
4. Intro: **Rain or Shine**
5. Bible Lesson Video: **Peter walks on water.**
6. Application
 - a. Bottom line: **Jesus is always a good friend.**
 - b. Memory verse: **“A friend loves you all the time.” Proverbs 17:17**
7. Prayer
8. Small Groups



Preschool Large Group
January 2025
Week 1

OPENER

(Welcome kids.)

Show Slide: Preschool Countdown

Friends! I'm SO excited to see you today! My name is (your name), and it's my favorite time of the week! I love to sing and worship our amazing God with you! God sent His only Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever! What a good, good friend! When I ask, "**Who is always a good friend?**" I want you to say, "**Jesus is always a good friend!**"

(Ask "Who is always a good friend?")

(Kids and leaders respond: "Jesus is always a good friend!")

Yes! Jesus is always a good friend!

BIG GROUP GAME

Are you ready to have some fun? Good! Me too! Let's play a game. It's called **Sink or Float!** Shout that with me. **Sink or Float!** It's a game where you decide what will sink and what will float when I drop an item into this large tub of water. (Point to water.) Sink means the item will go **under** the water, and float means the item will stay **on top** of the water.

Are you kids ready to play the game? (Pause for responses.) Awesome.

(Pull items out of bin or toy box.) Check out our first item today. (Walk around stage showing off the item.) If you think this will float, I want you to give a big double thumbs up. If you think it will sink, I want you to give a big double thumbs down. Ok, let's try it out! What do you think? Thumbs up or thumbs down? (Pause for responses.) Let's find out! (Put item in water.)

Boys and girls, (Say whether the item sank or floated). Great job guessing!

Let's grab the next thing. (Repeat this format with all items in bin or toy box.)

Wow, that was fun! In today's story, will hear about 2 people who walked **on top** of the water!

WORSHIP

But first, everyone join in and let's worship! Stand up and let's do our best singing and dancing, and let God know how much we love Him!

Show Worship: Jesus is My Best Friend

Show Worship: I Get Down

Great job, friends! Thanks for worshipping with me today! Now it's time to turn around, sit down, and shake the wiggles out (Wiggle hands.) so we can hear (Cup hands behind ears.) all about our Bible story!

INTRO

Show Series Graphic: Rain or Shine

(Open the Bible for children to see, then set it down.)

Today's true story from the Bible begins when Jesus tells his friends, the disciples, to get on a boat. Let's visit Ollie and our friends to hear what happens when they are on the boat.

BIBLE TRUTH

Show Video: Video_WK1

APPLICATION

Show Series Graphic: Rain or Shine

Jesus was a good friend to Peter when Peter felt afraid. Jesus will be a good friend to you and me too, because **[Bottom Line] Jesus is always a good friend.**

(Ask "Who is always a good friend?")

(Kids and leaders respond: "Jesus is always a good friend!")

Bible Verse

Show Verse: Proverbs 17:17

(Open Bible.) The Bible teaches us in Proverbs 17:17 that **“A friend loves you all the time.”**

Let’s learn our Memory Verse together. Everyone stand up! Are you ready? Watch me say it and do the motions, then you can do it with me!

“A friend (Hook index fingers twice.)

Loves you (Cross arms over chest.)

All the time.” (Tap wrist.)

Proverbs 17:17 (Open hands like a book.)

(Practice verse a couple of times using whisper voices, silly voices, loud voices, slow, fast, etc.)

Great job, everybody! Now, let’s sit, bow our heads, and close our eyes so we can pray.

(Have kids sit back down, get quiet, fold hands, and close their eyes.)

PRAYER

God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Just like Jesus was a good friend to Peter when he was afraid, we know that Jesus will be a good friend to us too. Thank You for Jesus! In Jesus’ name. Amen.

SMALL GROUP TIME

Show Graphic: Small Group

And now it’s time for more Bible fun. There’s always more to learn! Let’s use our walking feet please and find your small group!