



WEEK ONE – FEBRUARY 2025 – TODDLERS

Bible Story: *The Twelve Disciples* | *Matt. 4:18-22, 9:9-10, 10:2-4; John 1:43-49*

Key Question: *Who does Jesus love?*

Bottom Line: *Jesus loves everyone*

Memory Verse: *“Love each other in the same way I have loved you.”- John 15:12*

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

Series Overview: Have you ever been on a bus filled with people? There are grandparents, kids, teenagers, people going to the store, people going to work, people going to school. They may not know each other, but do you know what they all have in common? Jesus loves every one of them. Every. Single. One! Think about it this way, if Jesus was driving a bus, everyone would be invited to get on. EVERYONE! This month, you get to tell preschoolers that Jesus loves them. Jesus loves their family. Jesus loves their friends. Jesus loves everyone! And Jesus wants everyone to follow Him! So, crank up that bus! Get those wheels turning! There is a great big world that needs to hear that Jesus loves everyone!

LARGE GROUP

Story Time

Gather children at the tables 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

What You Say:

“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 twelve men who were Jesus’ friends. They were called the disciples.

“Peter and Andrew were friends with Jesus. They were brothers who were fishermen. James and John were friends with Jesus too. They were brothers and fishermen too! Jesus had another friend named James. Matthew was a friend of Jesus. He was a tax collector. Phillip and Nathanael were friends with Jesus. And Thomas, Judas, Thaddeus, and Simon were friends with Jesus. The disciples were from different places. They had different families and different jobs. Jesus loved every one of them because **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone.**”

SMALL GROUP

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: ““Jesus Loves the Twelve” Activity Page, cardstock, red dot markers, glue sticks, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

What You Do:

- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Encourage children to fill the heart on their paper using the dot marker.
- Help children rub glue on the back of the cutout and glue the disciples to the heart.
- Clean hands as needed.

What You Say:

“Look! There's Jesus standing next to a great big heart! Hearts make us think of love! Let's fill the heart with dots from the marker. (Pause.) Fantastic! Now let's add Jesus' friends, the disciples, to the heart. (Help rub glue on the back of the cutout and press the cutout on the heart.) Great! Look at all the disciples in the heart. The disciples were from different places. They had different families and different jobs. Jesus loved every one of them, and Jesus loves each one of us because [Bottom Line] Jesus loves everyone.”