

April Week 4

April 27<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup>

# CRAFT

## *Friend Forever*

**SUPPLIES:** Friend Forever picture on cardstock, crayons, children stickers

*TIP: No prior set up needed.*

### **What You DO and SAY:**

- ⇒ **Give each child a Friend Forever cardstock and crayons.**
  - *“Today’s craft is a very special reminder. It’s a reminder to you that Jesus wants to be your friend forever. He wants to be my friend and your friend and EVERYONE’s friend! First, I want you to color the heart and Jesus.*
  
- ⇒ **After children are done coloring, give them each 5-6 children stickers.**
  - *“Look at all of these friends that I have! Jesus loves each and every person so much! He loves us all no matter who we are or where we are or what we do.*
  
- ⇒ **Let children attach stickers while volunteers spread out and assist.**
  
- ⇒ **Complete activity and then Bring it Back to Jesus**
  - *“These look wonderful! I want you to keep this in a special place at home so that you can always remember that Jesus loves you. He wants to be your best friend FOREVER! **Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!***

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# ACTIVITY #1

## *One fish, Two Fish*

**SUPPLIES:** Plush Fish Toys, Fishing Net

**SET UP:** No prior set up needed

### **What You DO and SAY:**

- ⇒ **Scatter fish around the classroom. Place the large net in the center of the room and gather children around it.**
  - *“Let’s go fishing! We have a lot of fish to catch. Can you help me gather all the fish up and put them in our net?”*
  
- ⇒ **Have children collect the fish and bring them back to the net.**
  - *“Nice work fishermen! Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!”*
  
- ⇒ **Repeat as many times as children are interested.**
  
- ⇒ **Complete the activity and Bring it Back to Jesus.**
  - *“Today in our true Bible story the fishermen were out fishing when they looked over and saw Jesus on the beach! Let me see your excited faces!*
  - *Jesus went away, but he came back because he loved his friends the fishermen and he loves you, too!*
  - *Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!”*

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## ACTIVITY #2

### *Pass the Fish Breakfast*

**SUPPLIES:** Picnic Blanket, Fish, CD player, Worship CD

**SET UP:** Double check that the CD is ready to go & CD player is working.

### **What You DO and SAY:**

⇒ **Have the children sit in a circle, close to one another.**

- *“Today in our true Bible story, Jesus and his friends had breakfast together on the beach. Let’s sit together and imagine we are having a picnic. Jesus loved his friends so much and they loved him, too. Let’s say our memory verse together.*
- *A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17.”*

⇒ **Prepare for a hot potato style game using a fish.**

- *“So, Jesus and his friends gathered on the beach for breakfast. And do you remember what they ate for breakfast? Fish!*
- *We are going to pass the fish while the music is playing. If you are holding the fish when the music stops you will say the memory verse for us!”*

⇒ **Have another volunteer hit play on the cd player and then start passing the fish. When the music is paused, encourage the person left holding the fish to say the memory verse.**

⇒ **Repeat as many times as children are interested then Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *“That was fun having a picnic together with you. I’m so glad to know that Jesus wants to be my friend forever!*
- *Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!”*

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## ACTIVITY #3

### *Parachute*

**SUPPLIES:** Parachute, Plush Fish toys

**SET UP:** No prior set up needed

### **What You DO and SAY:**

⇒ **Ask children to stand around the parachute with you and guide them to each pick up a section of the parachute.**

- *“Our bible story today was about catching fish. Everybody grab a piece of the parachute and wait until I tell you to shake!”*

⇒ **Invite children to shake their arms so that the parachute moves very fast. Tell the children that the fish are in the net and you need to bounce them high.**

- *“Let’s catch some fish! Everybody bounce them as high as you can!”*

⇒ **When the fish have all popped out of the parachute...**

- *“Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!”*

⇒ **Repeat as long as kids are interested.**

⇒ **Finish up the activity and Bring it Back to Jesus.**

- *Awesome job, everyone! Jesus wants to be our friend just like He was the fishermen’s friend. Jesus wants to be our friend forever – no matter what. Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!*

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# REFLECTION & REVIEW

*Let's remember: Every moment of time we have with these little ones is precious! Whether these activities are done in a station, during playdoh, while coloring, or otherwise, let's send the kids out the door really confidently and remembering these big ideas!*

## READ

⇒ The Bible

- *God's Story for Me: Breakfast on the Beach, p. 435*

⇒ *Wherever You Are, My Love Will Find You* by Nancy Tillman

- Read the story and then say: We may not be able to see Jesus, but he is always with us! Wherever we are and wherever we go and whatever we do, Jesus will always love us!

## REVIEW

⇒ Key Question and Bottom Line

- **Who is your friend? Jesus is my friend!**

⇒ Memory Verse

- **A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17**

⇒ Basic Truth

- **Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**

⇒ Connect it!

- **Today we are going to make a special list. I want you to say the name of one friend who you want to pray for. Jesus is your friend and he is their friend, too!**

## PRAY

*Dear God, we love you so much. Thank you for loving us, not matter what. Today we want to pray for our friends and that they would know how much you love them. Thank you, Jesus, for being our friend forever. We love You! In Jesus' name, Amen.*