

April Week 4

We Go Together

April 24

CRAFT

Friend Forever

SUPPLIES: Friend Forever cardstock, crayons, children stickers

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 a handful of 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 wants to be your friend forever?***
- ***Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”***

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ACTIVITY #1

One fish, Two Fish

SUPPLIES: Plush Fish Toys, Fishing Net

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 wants to be your friend forever?
Jesus wants to be my friend forever!***

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ACTIVITY #2

Parachute

SUPPLIES: Parachute, Plush Fish toys

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 wants to be your friend forever?
Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”*

- ⇒ **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 wants to be your friend forever?
Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”***

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Read – Ask – Practice – Pray

Here are some ideas to try in a group or one-on-one.

2-year-olds are all at different stages of development! Some are ready to answer big questions and say the memory verse, while others aren't ready to talk yet. Even if they aren't ready to answer, they are listening!

READ A BIBLE STORY or STORY BOOK

- ⇒ *The Beginner's Bible*
 - "The True King", p. 427
- ⇒ *The First Easter*
- ⇒ *The Easter Story*
- ⇒ *This is Easter*
- ⇒ *Good News! It's Easter!*

ASK A QUESTION

Who wants to be your friend forever?

Jesus wants to be my friend forever!

PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

"I am with you always." Matthew 28:20

SAY A PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for making me.

Thank you for loving me.

Thank you for sending Jesus to be my friend forever.

Amen.