

Today's Suggested Schedule—February 22, 2026

Today's Bible Story: Jesus Forgives a Woman • John 8
Jesus loves me no matter what.

Key Question: Who loves you?

Bottom Line: Jesus loves me.

Memory Verse: *Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."* • Matthew 19:14 NLT

First Look Pinterest Page

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.

https://bit.ly/FL_SweetTreats

SERVICE DURATION (75-80 MINUTES)

9:15am/11:00am thru 10:35am/12:20pm

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING SMALL GROUP (30-35 minutes)

SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Early Arriver /

Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP (10-15 minutes)

WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways

- Introduce Monthly Theme Poster
- Review Monthly Bottom Line Poster
- Play video:
 - a. Worship (Songs-Video)
 - b. Teaching (Clubhouse - Video)
 - c. Review Monthly Memory Verse

SMALL GROUP: (25-30 minutes)

- Reinforcement Activities

TAKE HOME:

- Monthly Placemat

Social

Providing Time for Fun Interaction

1. Ice Cream Pass

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Brown construction paper
- Ball pit balls
- Clear tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Roll brown paper into a cone and tape to secure, one per child.

During the Activity: Give each child a paper cone and talk about how it looks like an ice cream cone. Give a third of the children a ball pit ball and explain the ball is the ice cream. Encourage the children to find someone to share their ice cream with. Have them tip their cone to allow the ball to roll out into the friend's cone. Continue passing and sharing the ice cream. If desired, stand in a circle and have the children pass and share one ice cream.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Hey, friends come play a game with me!"

During the Activity: "Everyone gets one of these. (*Hold up a cone.*) What do these remind you of? (*Pause for responses.*) They look like ice cream cones! Hold your cone like this. I'll give a few of you a ball pit ball. They will be the ice cream for your cone. To play the game, you need to share your ice cream with someone who doesn't have ice cream. To share it, tip your cone like this so it will roll into their cone. (*Demonstrate.*) Ready, set, share! (*Pause.*) Wow, great job, friends! Let's play again. (*Repeat as desired.*) Uh oh, some of the ice cream dropped on the floor. Pick it up and put it back in your cone. (*Pause.*) Let's keep playing pass the ice cream! (*Pause.*) That was fantastic sharing!"

After the Activity: "Today we're going to hear a story about how Jesus loved a woman even when she did something that God didn't want her to do. Jesus loves us too, no matter what! Like when we play and have fun together, or drop our ice cream, Jesus loves us! Let's go hear all about today's story!"

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to hold the ice cream cones and pass the pretend ice cream to each other.

Play February 22nd Videos.

Groups

Creating a Safe Place to Connect

1. Follow the Arrows

Hear from God | Memory Verse Review

Made to Move

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need:

- “Follow the Arrows” Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Painter’s tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Follow the Arrows” on cardstock, ten per Small Group. Arrange on the floor in different directions and tape to secure. Do the motions as you say the Memory Verse together.

During the Activity: Encourage children to jump facing the direction of the arrows and at the end of the arrows line, say and do the motions to the Memory Verse. Continue with each child. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come let’s say our Memory Verse together as we do the motions. Are we ready? Here we go! ‘Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) “Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,” (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14. (*Open hands like a book.*) Super-duper! Look at all these arrows on the floor. We are going to jump and face the way the arrow is pointing. You can jump from one arrow to the other until you get to the end and then we will say our verse together.”

During the Activity: “[Child’s Name] you can start jumping. (Pause.) Great job! You made it to the end. Let’s say the verse together. ‘Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) “Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,” (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14. Now it’s your turn [child’s name]! (Continue with each child.) Woo-hoo! We did it! Let’s say our verse and do the motions together one more time. ‘Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) “Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,” (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14. Great job!”

After the Activity: “The Bible teaches us that Jesus loves us no matter what. Just like Jesus loved the woman in our story even though she did something that God didn’t want her to do. Jesus wants us to come near Him because He loved them, and He loves us too. **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me!**”

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- Instead of jumping, walk, roll, move to follow the arrows.

2. Heart Catapult

What You Need:

- Craft sticks
- Rubber bands
- Strong plastic spoons
- Foam hearts or Red/Pink Pom Poms
- Plastic bin

NOTE: You'll need 7 craft sticks, 1 plastic spoon, and at least 5 rubber bands per catapult. We suggest making 1 catapult per every 5 children.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Stack 5 craft sticks on top of each other and secure both ends with a rubber band. Then, stack 2 craft sticks on top of each other and secure *one* end with a rubber band. Keeping the rubber band in place carefully pull the 2 craft sticks apart and slide the stack of 5 craft sticks in between. Lay the plastic spoon on top of the angled craft stick. Secure both ends of the spoon to the craft stick with rubber bands. Then add a final rubber band to form an "X" across the center where the two stacks meet. See our Pinterest page for an example.

Place a foam heart in the spoon, pull the craft stick down with your pointer finger and release to launch the heart. Make sure to test each catapult to make sure it works, and everything is secure. Set the catapults on the table with a stack of foam hearts near each one.

During the Activity: Gather the children in groups of five around each catapult. Show the children how to place a heart on the spoon, push down on the end with their pointer finger and launch the heart! Encourage each child to launch three hearts before giving another friend a turn. Make sure children know that hearts can go anywhere and everywhere in the room! Set the plastic bin in the center of your activity area. Explain to the children that they will have 30 seconds to pick up all the hearts and place them in the bin. Count down from 30 and then celebrate when all the hearts have been picked up!

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, I have something SUPER fun for you! We're going to launch hearts here, there, and everywhere using these awesome catapults!"

During the Activity: "Let me show you how they work. (*Demonstrate.*) Isn't that so cool!? Let's take turns! When it's your turn, you can shoot THREE hearts. (*Select children to catapult.*) Ready, set, launch your hearts! (*Pause.*) Launch another one. Ready, set, launch your hearts! (*Pause.*) Launch the last one. Ready, set, launch your hearts! (*Pause.*) Switch and let another friend go. (*Continue with each child.*) That was so fun!"

After the Activity: "WHOA! Look, your hearts went here, there, and everywhere! Let's see if we can pick them ALL up in 30 seconds and put them in this bin. Ready, set, PICK UP! (*Count down from 30*) Way to go, friends. Look at all the hearts, and hearts make us think of love. Jesus showed the people in our Bible Story that He really wanted to keep God's rules and show God's love. God did not send Jesus to punish us. God gave us Jesus to show us how much He loves us. **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me. Jesus loves everyone!**"

3. Sand Heart Art

What You Need:

- “Sand Heart Art” Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Craft glue
- Play sand in a variety of colors
- Disposable bowls
- Plastic spoons
- Plastic tablecloth or butcher paper
- Baby wipes
- Permanent marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Sand Heart Art” on cardstock, one per child. Write each child’s name on their paper. Cover the tables. Pour sand into the disposable bowls and place around the table and place several spoons in each bowl.

During the Activity: Encourage children to trace the heart with glue. Ask children to shake sand over the glue. Shake off the excess sand. Encourage children to fill in the center of the heart with glue and ask children to add other colors of sand on the inside then shake off the excess. Set aside to dry and clean hands as needed.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, I am so happy to see you today! Come find a place to sit at the table.”

During the Activity: “I have a super cool picture for you to create today! Look at your paper. What big shape do you see in the middle of your paper? *(Pause for response.)* That’s right! It’s a big heart! Hearts make us think of love and tell me; **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.** That’s right! And that’s what these words say on your paper! Follow/trace the lines of the heart with glue. *(Pause.)* Great! Scoop up some sand and sprinkle it over the glue lines. *(Make sure all the glue is covered well. Gently shake off the excess.)* Now add some glue inside your heart. You can make squiggles, or other shapes or completely cover the inside with glue. *(Pause.)* Great! Sprinkle some sand over the glue. *(Pause.)* Let’s shake off the extra sand to reveal your beautiful hearts. *(Make sure all the glue is covered well. Gently shake off the excess.)* Wow! These look amazing. We’ll let your papers dry, and then you can take them home.” *(Clean hands as needed.)*

After the Activity: “Jesus taught people about God, how God loves them, and how God wants them to love others. In today’s true story from the Bible, Jesus was teaching when some people brought a woman to Him. They wanted her to be punished. She had done something God didn’t want her to do, and they wanted to know if Jesus would keep God’s rules or show God’s love. Jesus loved the woman and told her: ‘Go and do what God wants you to do, because God loves you!’ Jesus showed the people that He really wanted to keep God’s rules and show God’s love. God did not send Jesus to punish us. God gave us Jesus to show us how much He loves us. **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.** Jesus loves everyone!”

4. Journal and Prayer

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect

What You Need:

- “Memory Verse Card” from Week One in Bible
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen
- Reward stickers or handstamps

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the “Memory Verse Hand Motions” PDF and video, included in the Prelude folder and on Pinterest.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: If you do not have the “Memory Verse Card” in your Bible, copy “Memory Verse Card” on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Matthew 19:14.

Encourage children to link arms with a friend as you walk to your Small Group spot together. Sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity: Review the Memory Verse and hand motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of places we can spend time with Jesus.

After the Activity: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “It’s Small Group time! Today we’re going to link arms with a friend like this (*demonstrate*) while we walk to our Small Group spot. Link arms with someone and follow me! (*Link arms with one or two children as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) That was fun! Now let’s sit down so we can talk about today’s Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!”

During the Activity: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) “In our Bible Story today, we learned that Jesus loves us no matter what! Jesus was teaching a crowd of people about God when some people brought a woman to Him to be punished. She had made a lot of bad choices. They wanted to know if Jesus would keep God’s rules or show God’s love. Jesus loved the woman and told her: ‘Go and do what God wants you to do, because God loves you!’ Jesus showed the people that He really wanted to keep God’s rules and show God’s love. God did not send Jesus to punish us. God gave us Jesus to show us how much He loves us. **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.** Jesus loves everyone!”

“The Bible verse we are learning says, ‘Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) “Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,”’ (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14.” (*Open hands like a book.*) Let’s stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do! ‘Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) “Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,”’ (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14.” (*Open hands like a book.*) Yay! (*Clap.*) That was fantastic! Let’s sit down so anyone who wants to say that Bible verse can give it a try. I have my stickers ready! (*Give each child the opportunity to try and say the Bible verse.*) Everyone, clap for [child’s name]! Here is your sticker! (*Say this with each child as they try to say the Bible verse.*)

“I am very proud of you for trying to say that Bible verse! When I count to three, I want everyone to stand up and show me your sticker/handstamp. One, two, three! *(Pause to look.)* Yay! *(Clap.)*”

“Now, let’s sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. *(Open journal.)* Jesus loved the woman even though she had done things that God didn’t want her to do because Jesus loves everyone. Sometimes people make bad choices, but we can love them like Jesus loves us. Have you ever played at the park, and someone jumped in front of you and took your turn swinging on the swings? Or maybe someone knocked you down when you were playing tag? Those aren’t very nice things, but we can still love those people like Jesus loves us. Let’s make a list of people or different times you loved like Jesus. When I say your name, tell me one person or a time you loved like Jesus, and I will write them in our journal.” *(Remember to print, as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

After the Activity: (Hold up journal.) “This is such a good list! Let’s use this list when we talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? *(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)* Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus not to punish us, but to show us how much You love us! Please help us love *(read the names in the journal)* like Jesus loves us. Jesus loves you, **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves me**, Jesus loves everyone, and so should we. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”