

# Jesus Visits Friends

### Lesson Objectives

- The children will practice being friendly.
- The children will decide what is friendly behavior and what is unfriendly behavior.
- The children will hear how Mary, Martha and Lazarus were friends to Jesus.

### Bible Story Text

Luke 10:38-42; John 12:1-3

### Bible Truth

A friend always loves.  
(Proverbs 17:17)

### Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Preclass Centers

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Jesus Visits His Friends

Life Application: Learn to  
Be Friendly

Craft: The Wave

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.



# Jesus Visits Friends

## Preclass Centers

As the children arrive, guide them to a preclass center. Have no more than six children at each center.

### Materials

Use the materials previously selected for this unit's preclass centers.

### Preparation

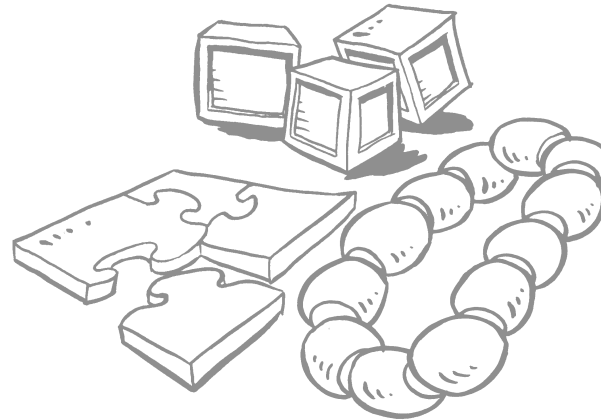
1. Be sure to check the condition of the materials selected for this unit's preclass centers prior to set up. Replace any broken toys, or puzzles with missing pieces as necessary.
2. Set up the centers before the children come into the classroom.
3. Assign a teacher to each center and have the teachers stay in those centers until the singing begins.

### Instructions

Guide the play in each center reinforcing the unit theme.

### Teacher Tips

- **IMPORTANT:** Do not allow any small toys in the classroom. First check all toys for size. You can obtain a "safety cylinder" from a pediatrician. Any object that can fit into the cylinder is too small and could cause a child to choke.
- Be involved in the group play and offer guidance as needed.
- Wear comfortable clothes suitable for sitting on the floor.
- Smile! Be childlike in heart and alert in mind.



# Jesus Visits Friends

## Jesus Visits His Friends

The children will hear the story of Jesus visiting his friends Mary, Martha and Lazarus.

### Bible Story Text

Luke 10:38-42; John 12:1-3

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- Bible
- 4 craft sticks
- glue stick
- 2 small plastic bags
- sponge
- flour
- water
- toy house or doll house (optional)
- small box (optional)

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Color and cut out the figures from the copy of Reproducible Page A.
2. Glue a craft stick to the back of each figure making puppets.
3. Make some "dough" as follows:
  - A. Mix flour and a small amount of water in a plastic bag until it is doughy.
  - B. Put the bag of dough inside the other plastic bag and tie the top so that the dough does not leak out. This second bag is to add protection in case the first bag breaks as the dough expands.
4. Practice telling the story with the puppets and props.

### Instructions

Open the Bible and begin telling the story. *In the Bible, there is a story about Jesus going over to his friends' house to visit them. Look, here's Lazarus! Show Lazarus. Can you say Lazarus? He is a friend of Jesus. Here's Mary! Show Mary. Mary is a good listener. Look, here's Martha! Show Martha. Martha is a good cook. She*

*cleans the house, too! Jesus loves his friends very much and they also love him!*

*If Jesus came to your house, what would you do when he walked in your door? Would you give him a big hug? I bet Jesus would love a hug from you! Let's all pretend to give Jesus a big hug! Hug your arms tightly. Do you think you would help your mommy to clean the house before Jesus came over to your house to visit? That's probably what Martha did! Maybe she washed the floors. Here is a sponge, let's wash the floors for Jesus' visit. Pick up a sponge and pretend to wash the floor. Pass the sponge and let each child pretend to wash the floor.*

*Let's pretend we are preparing to have Jesus come here for a visit. Look, here's a bag of bread dough. It's soft and squishy. This is how you knead bread. Push down on the bread dough, keeping it inside the bag. Pass the bag of dough around to each child. Okay, let's put it in the oven now. Jesus will be here soon! Pretend to put the dough in the oven.*

*Listen, I hear someone coming! Who is it? Is it the mailman? No, It's Jesus! He's here! What do you think Lazarus will do when he sees Jesus? He'll give Jesus a big hug! Have Lazarus give Jesus a big hug. When we give people a hug it makes them feel special. Would you like to give Jesus a hug and thank him for coming to visit? Jesus loves to hug his friends! Pass Jesus around for everyone to hug.*

*Have Mary hug Jesus and say; Hi, Jesus, how are you today? I'm so glad to see you! Are you tired? Can I get you some water? What have you been teaching, I want to hear everything!*

*Mary is being a good friend to Jesus because she is listening to him. Do you know that when you listen to people very carefully you are being a good friend? Let's be friends to each other. That makes Jesus happy. Tell me your name and we can all practice listening carefully!*

Have each of the children say their names. Have the other children respond each time by saying, "hello."

NOTE: Save the stick puppets for the Unit 11 Lesson 4, Bible Story.

Bible Story



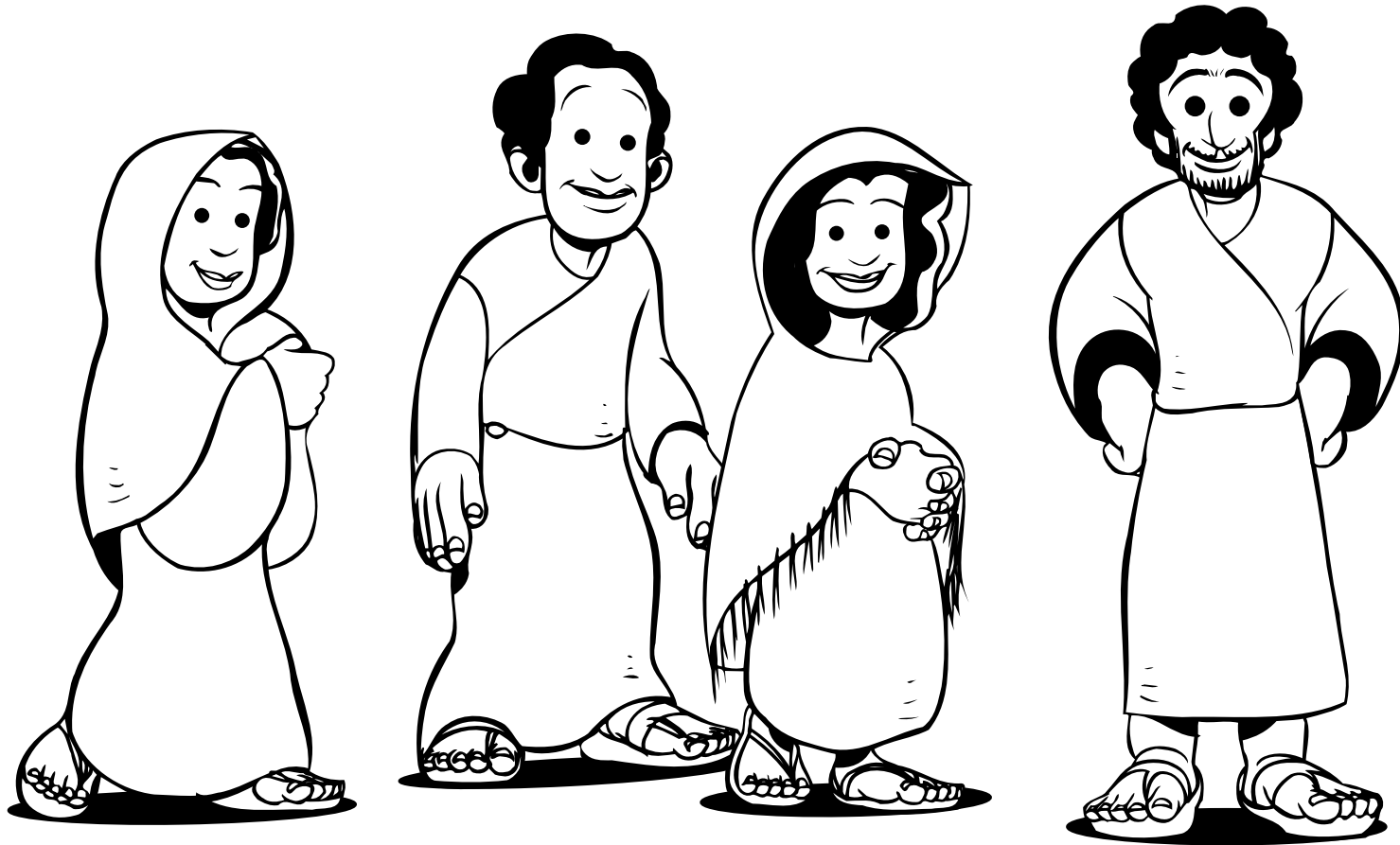
# Jesus Visits Friends

## Conclusion

*Let's all say a prayer to Jesus. Dear Jesus, thank you for coming to visit us today. We love to see you! Thank you for showing us how your friends love you. Thank you for teaching us how Lazarus hugs you. Thank you for showing us how Martha cooks and cleans for you. Thank you for showing us how Mary listens to you. Help us to be good friends to you, too. We love you, Jesus. Amen!*

## Teacher Tips

- If you have a doll house you can use it as a prop for the story.
- Use a small box as a pretend oven.



# Jesus Visits Friends

## Learn to Be Friendly

The children will learn to be friendly to visitors.

### Bible Truth

A friend always loves.  
(Proverbs 17:17)

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- felt board with a black background
- foam board (optional)
- black felt (optional)
- two-sided tape (optional)
- scissors
- markers or crayons
- glue stick
- laminate or clear contact paper
- tape

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page B, 1 copy for teacher

### Preparation

1. If you do not have a felt board, one can be easily made with a piece of foam board, purchased at a craft, office or art supply store. Cut the board to approximately 11" x 17". Cover the board with a piece of black felt, overlapping the material with two-sided tape on the back.
2. Cut out and color the figures from the copy of Reproducible Page B.
3. Cover the figures in clear contact paper to make them last longer.
4. Place a piece of rolled tape on the back of each figure.
5. Familiarize yourself with the song and the story.

### Instructions

Introduce David, Lesli and Mom. *Do you remember this family?* Sing "My Own Loving Family" from the Unit 11 Song Sheet.

Tell the children the following story, moving the figures on the felt board: *Mommy put Baby Sarah in bed for a nap and went to the kitchen to talk to David and Lesli, who were finishing their breakfast.* (Place Mom, David and Lesli on the felt board.)

*"Mrs. Cheryl is coming over with my friend, Marilyn, today to*

*study the Bible. Marilyn is bringing her son, Jeremy," mom said. "He is about your age, and he is coming to play with you. You need to be good friends with him. While we are studying, you need to play quietly with Jeremy. OK?"*

*"OK, Mommy," said David and Lesli.*

*The doorbell rang, and Mommy opened the door. (Place Cheryl, Marilyn and Jeremy on the felt board.) "Hi, Cheryl! How are you?" she asked, giving Cheryl a hug. "Hi, Marilyn! Come in! And this must be Jeremy! Jeremy, this is David, and this is Lesli."*

*But David didn't say hello, he just stood there. Lesli said a very quiet little "Hi."*

*"Hey," said Cheryl. "Where is my hug?"*

*David just stood there. Lesli gave her a very small hug.*

*"Invite Jeremy to go and play in your room," Mommy said.*

*"Come on, Jeremy," said David, not very happily. (Take Mom, Cheryl and Marilyn off of the felt board.)*

*They went to play, but David didn't want to share his toy truck with Jeremy. He didn't want to share his building blocks. Jeremy just stood there, looking like he wanted to cry.*

*"I know," said Lesli. "Let's play hide and seek. You and David hide, and I will try to find you." They began to play, running and yelling loudly. Soon they woke up baby Sarah, and she began to cry. (Place Mom on the felt board and take off Jeremy.)*

*"We need to have a talk," Mommy said, taking David and Lesli into the bedroom. "When Cheryl got here, did you give her a smile and a big hug?"*

*"No," said David and Lesli.*

*"When you met Marilyn and Jeremy, were you friendly? Did you make Jeremy feel like you were happy to meet him and excited to play with him?"*

*"No," said David and Lesli sadly.*

*"David, did you share your toys with Jeremy?"*

*"No," said David.*

*"Lesli, did you play quietly so baby Sarah would sleep and we could study?"*

*"No," said Lesli.*

*Mommy opened her Bible. "The Bible says, 'A friend always loves.' When you see a friend, you give them a hug. You smile at them and make them feel special, right?"*

# Jesus Visits Friends

*"Right," said David and Lesli.*

*"What about toys?" asked Mommy.*

*"You share your toys with them," said David.*

*"What about playing quietly?" Mommy asked*

*"You play quietly while Mommy studies the Bible," Lesli said, "so you do not wake up the baby."*

*"What do you need to say?" asked Mommy.*

*"I am sorry," said Lesli.*

*"I am sorry," said David.*

*They hugged. "I forgive you," said Mommy.*

*What do you think they did next? (Place all of the characters back on the felt board.) They were great friends to Jeremy. They shared their toys and played quietly while their mommies studied the Bible together. They became great friends and had a lot of fun. "Come back soon!" they said to Jeremy when he had to leave and they gave him a big hug and a smile!*

NOTE: Save the felt board figures for Unit 11 Lesson 4, Life Application.

## Bible Truth Activity

*How can we show our friends that we love them? Yes, by giving them a hug when they come to visit, and by sharing our toys with them.*

Ask the children if they remember the Bible Truth. Recite it a few times with them and then choose a few children to recite it alone.

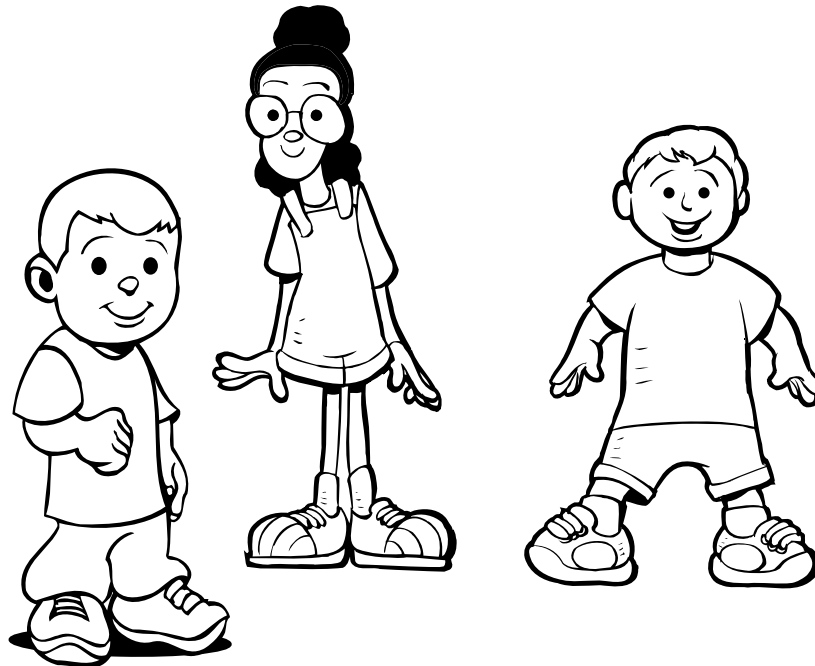
## Conclusion

*Did David and Lesli learn how to be friendly and giving? Yes, they did. We can be friendly just like they were. Let's pray to thank God for friends. Dear God, thank you for giving us friends that we can play with and have fun. Please help us to be friendly and to share with our friends. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

*If we are friendly and loving to our friends, it will help them to know that God loves them.*

## Teacher Tips

- Shorten the story as needed for twos.
- If you have saved the family figures from previous lessons then you will only need to make Cheryl, Marilyn and Jeremy.



# Jesus Visits Friends

## The Wave

This craft reminds the children that Mary, Martha and Lazarus were friends of Jesus.

### Materials

*For each child:*

- crayons
- 1 piece of construction paper
- 3 brass fasteners
- glue stick

*For the teacher:*

- scissors
- 3 small envelopes
- white glue

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page C, 1 copy for each child
- Page D, 1 copy for every five children

### Preparation

1. Cut out the pictures of Martha, Lazarus and Mary from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
2. Cut out the "arms" from Reproducible Page D.
3. On each of the envelopes, write one of the following names Martha, Lazarus and Mary.
4. Place the arms into the corresponding envelopes.
5. Make a model of the craft.

### Instructions

1. Show the children your model of the craft. Say: *Hello children, we're glad you came to visit us. My name is Martha. Wave the arm of the Martha figure. I am a friend of Jesus! My name is Lazarus. Wave the arm of the Lazarus figure. I am a friend of Jesus, too! My name is Mary. Wave the arm of the Mary figure. I am a friend of Jesus, too! Are you all friends of Jesus, too? Have the children respond. Have the children wave to the figures.*
2. Give each child a piece of construction paper and a copy of the picture.

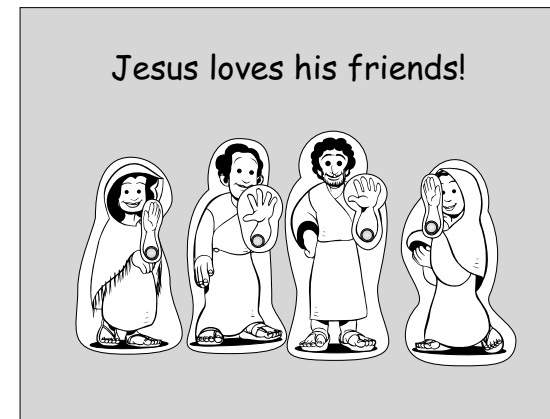
3. Help the children glue their pictures to the center of their construction papers.
4. Have the children color the figures.
5. As the children are coloring, attach the arms to their figures as follows:
  - A. Give them each an arm from one of the envelopes.
  - B. Say to them, *This is Martha's arm. Point to Martha in the picture. Can you put her arm where it belongs?*
  - C. After the arm is aligned, push a brass fastener through the dots in the arm, figure and the construction paper. **IMPORTANT:** Never give brass fasteners to the children. They are a choking hazard and if handled improperly may cause injury.
  - D. Secure the brass fastener by opening the wings on the back of the paper.
  - E. Repeat the steps above for each of the other two figures.
6. Have the children color the arms of their figures.

### Conclusion

Have the children wave the arms of their figures. Remind them that Martha, Lazarus and Mary were friends of Jesus.

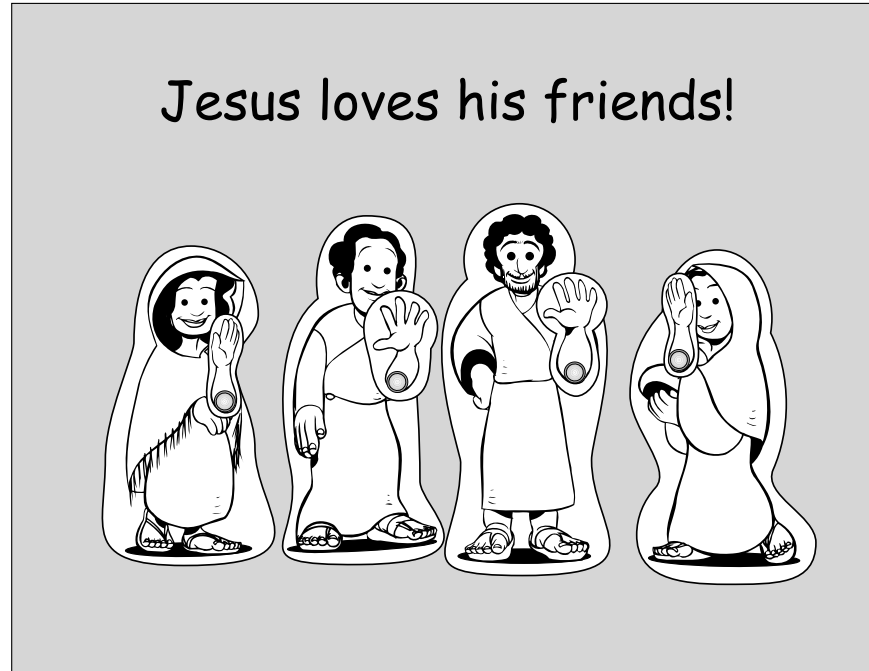
### Teacher Tips

- To save time, poke a small hole through the black dots in the figures and the arms prior to handing out these items to the children.



craft

# Jesus Visits Friends



Finished Craft





# Jesus Visits Friends

## Friendship

Lesson 3

### Lesson Objectives

- The children will practice being friendly.
- The children will decide what is friendly behavior and what is unfriendly behavior.
- The children will hear how Mary, Martha and Lazarus were friends to Jesus.

### Bible Story Text

Luke 10:38-42; John 12:1-3

### Bible Truth

A friend always loves.  
(Proverbs 17:17)

### Preclass Centers

As the children arrive, guide them to a pre-class center. Have no more than six children at each center.

#### Materials

Use the materials previously selected for this unit's preclass centers.

#### Preparation

1. Be sure to check the condition of the materials selected for this unit's preclass centers prior to set up. Replace any broken toys, or puzzles with missing pieces as necessary.

### Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Preclass Centers

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Come to My Party

Bible Story: Jesus Visits His Friends

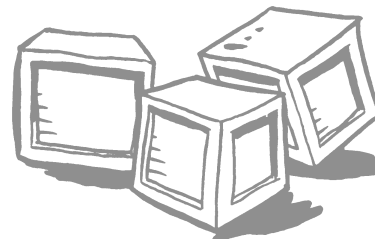
Craft: Martha's Pizza

NOTE: Be sure to allow sufficient time for a snack.

2. Set up the centers before the children come into the classroom.
3. Assign a teacher to each center and have the teachers stay in those centers until the singing begins.

#### Instructions

Guide the play in each center reinforcing the unit theme.



#### Teacher Tips

- **IMPORTANT:** Do not allow any small toys in the classroom. First check all toys for size. You can obtain a "safety cylinder" from a pediatrician. Any object that can fit into the cylinder is too small and could cause a child to choke.
- Be involved in the group play and offer guidance as needed.
- Wear comfortable clothes suitable for sitting on the floor.
- Smile! Be childlike in heart and alert in mind.

Life

Application

## Come to My Party

This activity will reinforce ways to be a loving friend.

### Bible Truth

A friend always loves.  
(Proverbs 17:17)

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- stuffed toy bear
- party hats
- wrapping paper
- box with removable lid
- a small toy for a present
- tape
- bow

### Preparation

1. Wrap the box top and bottom separately and then place the bow on the top.
2. Place the present inside the wrapped box.
3. Familiarize yourself with the activity.

### Instructions

*Let's have a birthday party for my friend, Jackson Brown Bear. Give each child a party hat. Put a party hat on Jackson. Jackson's mommy called my mommy and invited me to Jackson's party. I want you to watch me at the party, and then tell me if I am being a good friend to Jackson.*

Using a whining voice say: *No, Mommy, I don't want to go. I don't like Jackson. He's not my friend. What do you think? Am I being a good friend? What do I need to change?* Let the children answer.

Try again acting happy. *Yeah! I am excited to go to Jackson's party! Was that better?*

Repeat this example using the ideas below. First, do it the wrong way. Then let the children tell you what was wrong. Then do it the right way asking the children if that was being friendly.

- Taking the present because you like it and don't want to give it away.
- Trying to grab the first piece of birthday cake.
- Not obeying Jackson's mommy when she says it is time to clean up.
- Crying when it is time to go home. (Be careful not to scare the children!)
- Not saying thank you to Jackson's mommy for having you over to the party.
- Not hugging Jackson when you are leaving.

NOTE: Save the wrapped box for the Unit 11 Lesson 4, Life Application.

### Bible Truth Activity

Open the Bible. *The Bible says, "A friend always loves." Can you say that with me? "A friend always loves."*

### Conclusion

*When you are at your friend's house, are you going to show your love? That will help them to know that God loves them too. Let's all pass around Jackson Brown Bear and give him a hug and tell him that we love him. Pass the bear around to the children.*

*Let's pray to thank God for our friends. Dear God, thank you for our friends. Please help us to show our love to them. Help us to be polite and friendly to them. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*

## Jesus Visits His Friends

The children will hear the story of Jesus visiting his friends Mary, Martha and Lazarus.

### Bible Story Text

Luke 10:38-42; John 12:1-3

### Materials

*For the teacher:*

- Bible
- 4 craft sticks
- glue stick
- 2 small plastic bags
- sponge
- flour
- water
- toy house or doll house (optional)
- small box (optional)

*Reproducible Pages:*

- Page A, 1 copy for the teacher

### Preparation

1. Color and cut out the figures from the copy of Reproducible Page A.
2. Glue a craft stick to the back of each figure making puppets.
3. Make some "dough" as follows:
  - A. Mix flour and a small amount of water in a plastic bag until it is doughy.
  - B. Put the bag of dough inside the other plastic bag and tie the top so that the dough does not leak out. This second bag is to add protection in case the first bag breaks as the dough expands.
4. Practice telling the story with the puppets and props.

### Instructions

Open the Bible and begin telling the story. *In the Bible, there is a story about Jesus going over to his friends' house to visit them. Look, here's Lazarus! Show Lazarus. Can you say Lazarus? He is a friend of Jesus. Here's Mary! Show Mary. Mary is a good listener. Look, here's Martha! Show Martha. Martha is a good cook. She*

*cleans the house, too! Jesus loves his friends very much and they also love him!*

*If Jesus came to your house, what would you do when he walked in your door? Would you give him a big hug? I bet Jesus would love a hug from you! Let's all pretend to give Jesus a big hug! Hug your arms tightly. Do you think you would help your mommy to clean the house before Jesus came over to your house to visit? That's probably what Martha did! Maybe she washed the floors. Here is a sponge, let's wash the floors for Jesus' visit. Pick up a sponge and pretend to wash the floor. Pass the sponge and let each child pretend to wash the floor.*

*Let's pretend we are preparing to have Jesus come here for a visit. Look, here's a bag of bread dough. It's soft and squishy. This is how you knead bread. Push down on the bread dough, keeping it inside the bag. Pass the bag of dough around to each child. Okay, let's put it in the oven now. Jesus will be here soon! Pretend to put the dough in the oven.*

*Listen, I hear someone coming! Who is it? Is it the mailman? No, It's Jesus! He's here! What do you think Lazarus will do when he sees Jesus? He'll give Jesus a big hug! Have Lazarus give Jesus a big hug. When we give people a hug it makes them feel special. Would you like to give Jesus a hug and thank him for coming to visit? Jesus loves to hug his friends! Pass Jesus around for everyone to hug.*

*Have Mary hug Jesus and say; Hi, Jesus, how are you today? I'm so glad to see you! Are you tired? Can I get you some water? What have you been teaching, I want to hear everything!*

*Mary is being a good friend to Jesus because she is listening to him. Do you know that when you listen to people very carefully you are being a good friend? Let's be friends to each other. That makes Jesus happy. Tell me your name and we can all practice listening carefully!*

Have each of the children say their names. Have the other children respond each time by saying, "hello."

NOTE: Save the stick puppets for the Unit 11 Lesson 4, Bible Story.

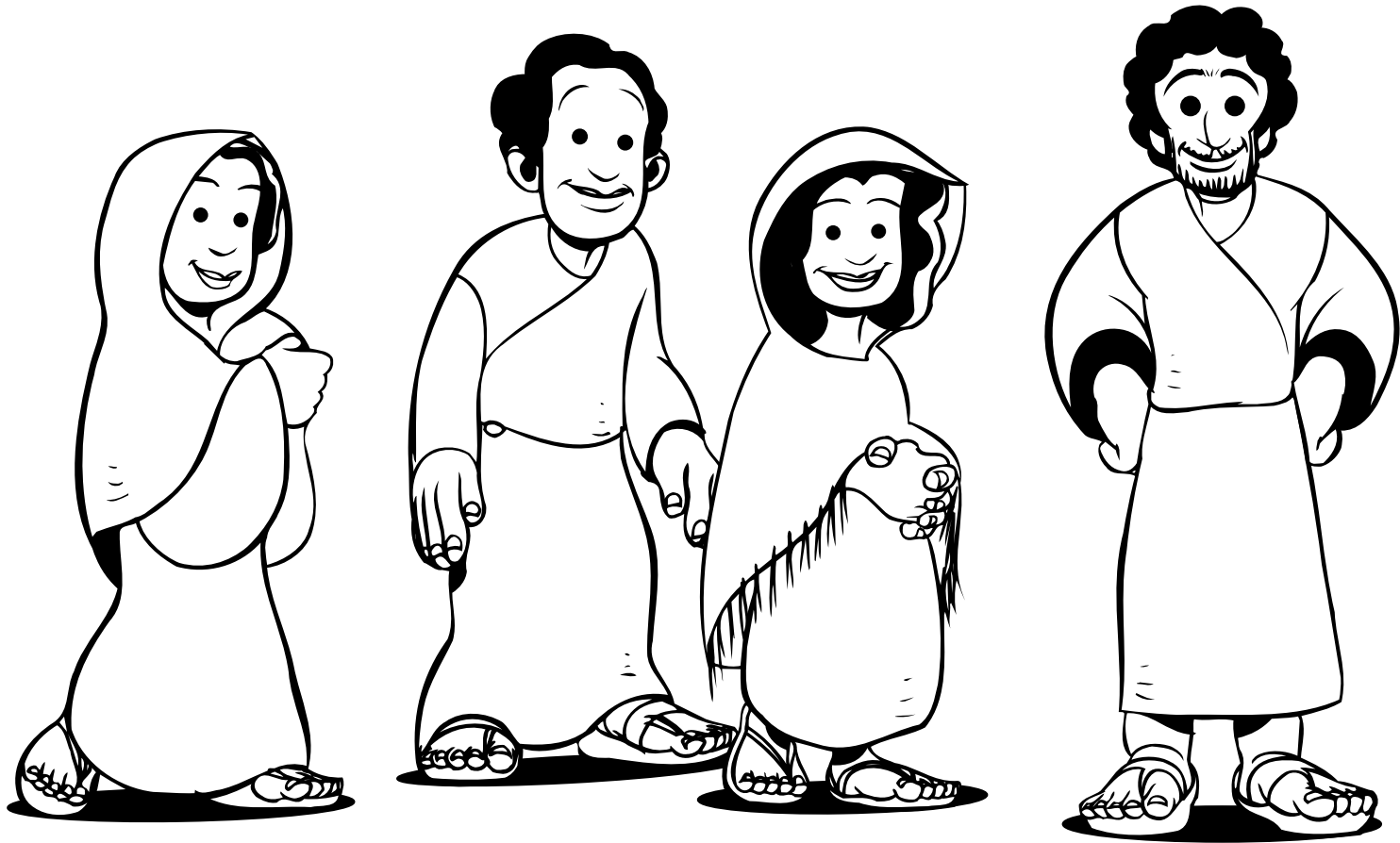
# Jesus Visits Friends

## Conclusion

*Let's all say a prayer to Jesus. Dear Jesus, thank you for coming to visit us today. We love to see you! Thank you for showing us how your friends love you. Thank you for teaching us how Lazarus hugs you. Thank you for showing us how Martha cooks and cleans for you. Thank you for showing us how Mary listens to you. Help us to be good friends to you, too. We love you, Jesus. Amen!*

## Teacher Tips

- If you have a doll house you can use it as a prop for the story.
- Use a small box as a pretend oven.



## Martha's Pizza

The children will love making their own "pizzas" to remind them of how Martha served her friend, Jesus.

### Materials

For each child:

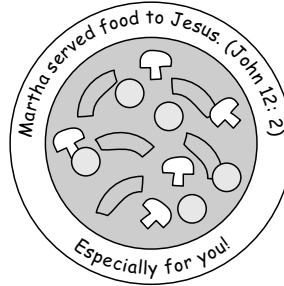
- 1 piece of white construction paper
- 1 piece of orange construction paper
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- scissors
- black marker
- construction paper: red, green and white
- plastic bowls

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page F, 1 copy for the teacher



### Preparation

1. Prepare one "pizza" for each child as follows:
  - A. Cut out the circle stencils from Reproducible Pages E and F.
  - B. Trace and cut out one large white circle for each child.
  - C. On the outer rim of the large circle, print "Martha served food to Jesus. (John 12:2)" at the top, and "Especially for you!" at the bottom. See Figure A.
  - D. Trace and cut out one small orange circle for each child.
2. Prepare the "toppings" for each child as follows:
  - A. Cut out five red circles for pepperoni.
  - B. Cut out five white shapes for mushrooms.
  - C. Cut out five green shapes for peppers.
3. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

### Instructions

1. Prior to class, place each of the toppings into the plastic bowls.
2. Show your model to the children and ask them what it is. *That's right! It's a pizza! If Jesus came to my house, I think I would make him a pizza. Do you like pizza? It's nice to make food for our friends when they come to visit! Let's make a pretend pizza to give to our friends today!*
3. Give each of the children a white and orange circle. Have them glue the orange circle to the white circle.
4. Put the bowls of toppings on the table so that the children can share them. Say, *What are these? These are toppings to put on our pizzas.* Identify each of the toppings for the children. Remind them that these are not real toppings only paper.
5. Have the children glue the toppings on their pizzas. See Figure B.

### Conclusion

Talk about how much fun it is to have friends come over, and how much fun it is to serve them food. Ask them who came to Martha's house (Jesus), and what Martha did to prepare for Jesus (cleaned the house and cooked food). Remind them that we are Jesus' friends, too.

Remind the children that friends are serving and giving to others. Ask the children to pick someone that they can serve, and then have them "deliver" the pizza to that person.

### Teacher Tips

- To save time, stack or fold the paper and cut five toppings at one time.
- Speak slowly and in short sentences to the twos and threes. They are more likely to be obedient when they have clear and simple direction.

craft

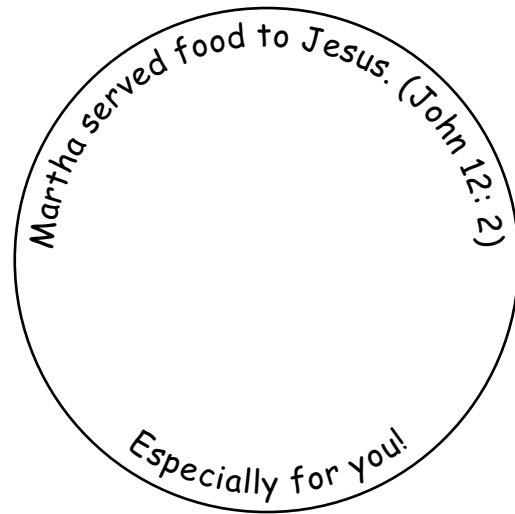


Figure A

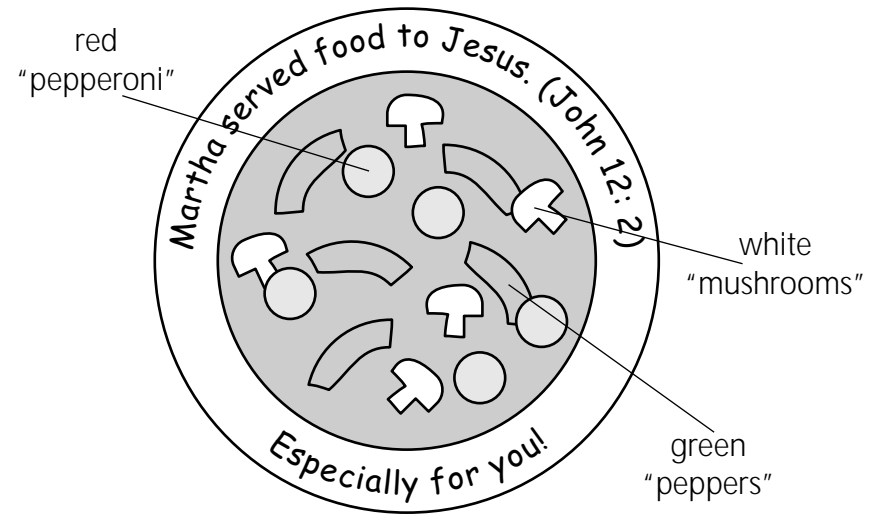
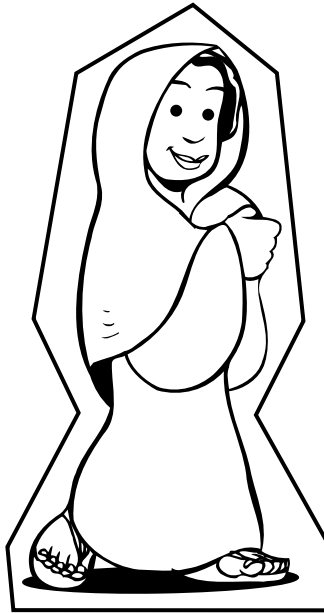


Figure B

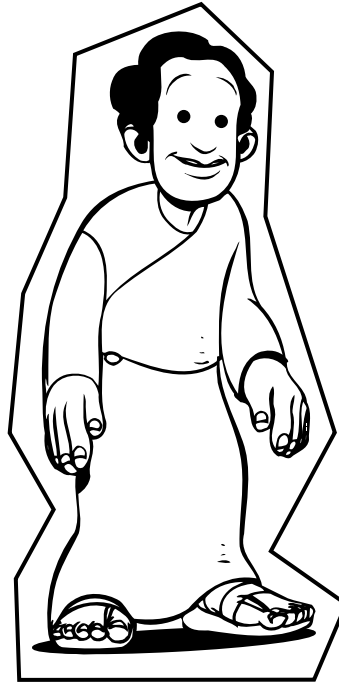




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Martha



Lazarus



Mary



Jesus





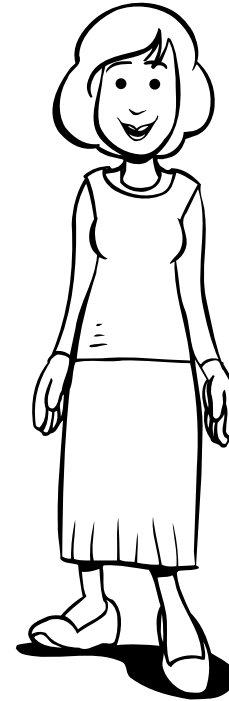
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Cheryl



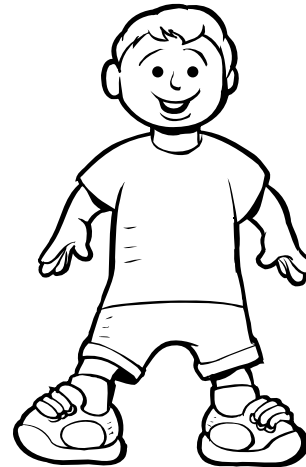
Marilyn



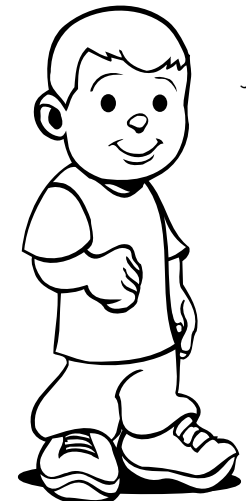
Mom



Lesli



David



Jeremy







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# Jesus loves his friends!





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"Jesus' arm"



"Lazarus' arm"



"Mary's arm"

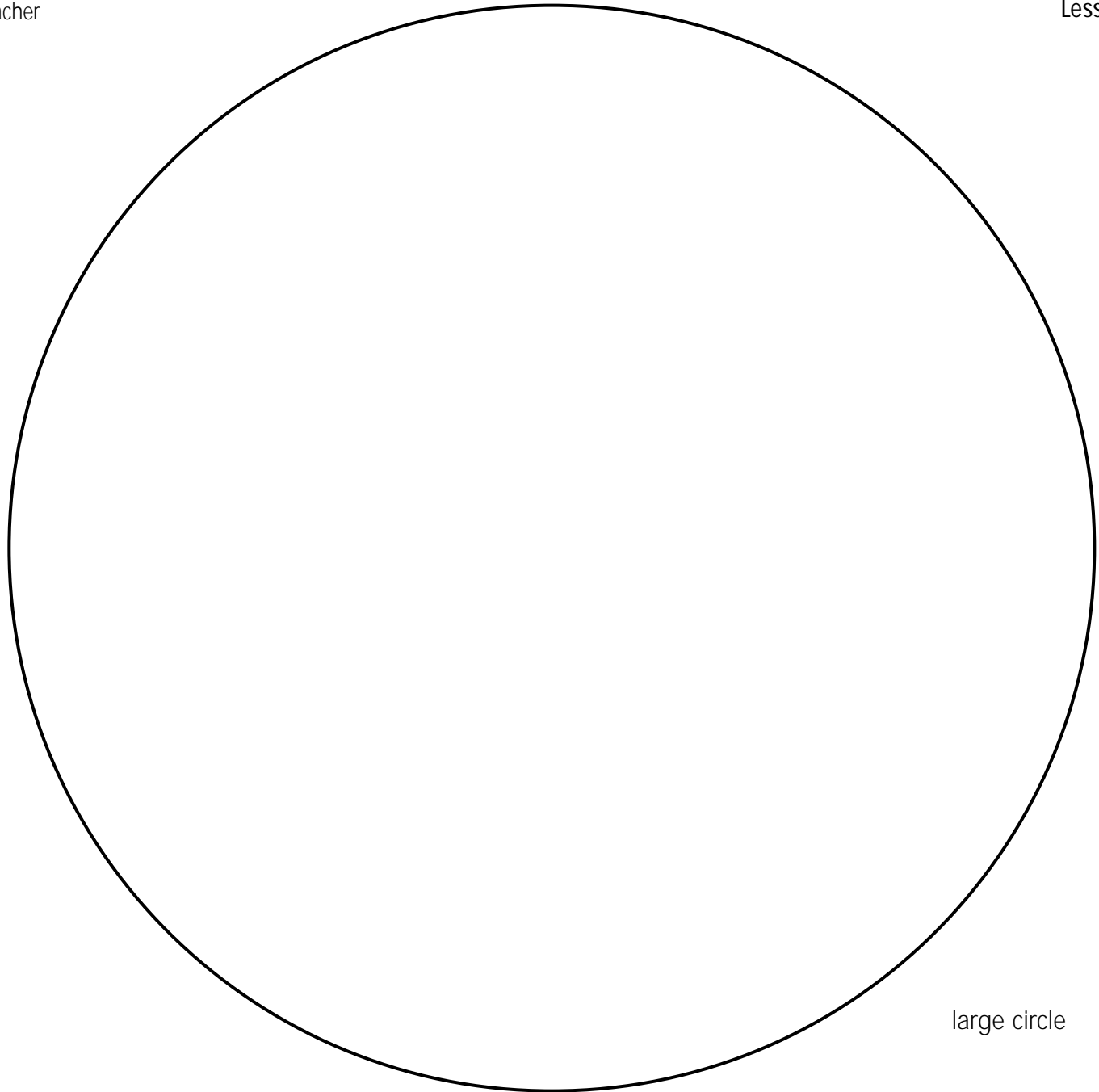


"Martha's arm"





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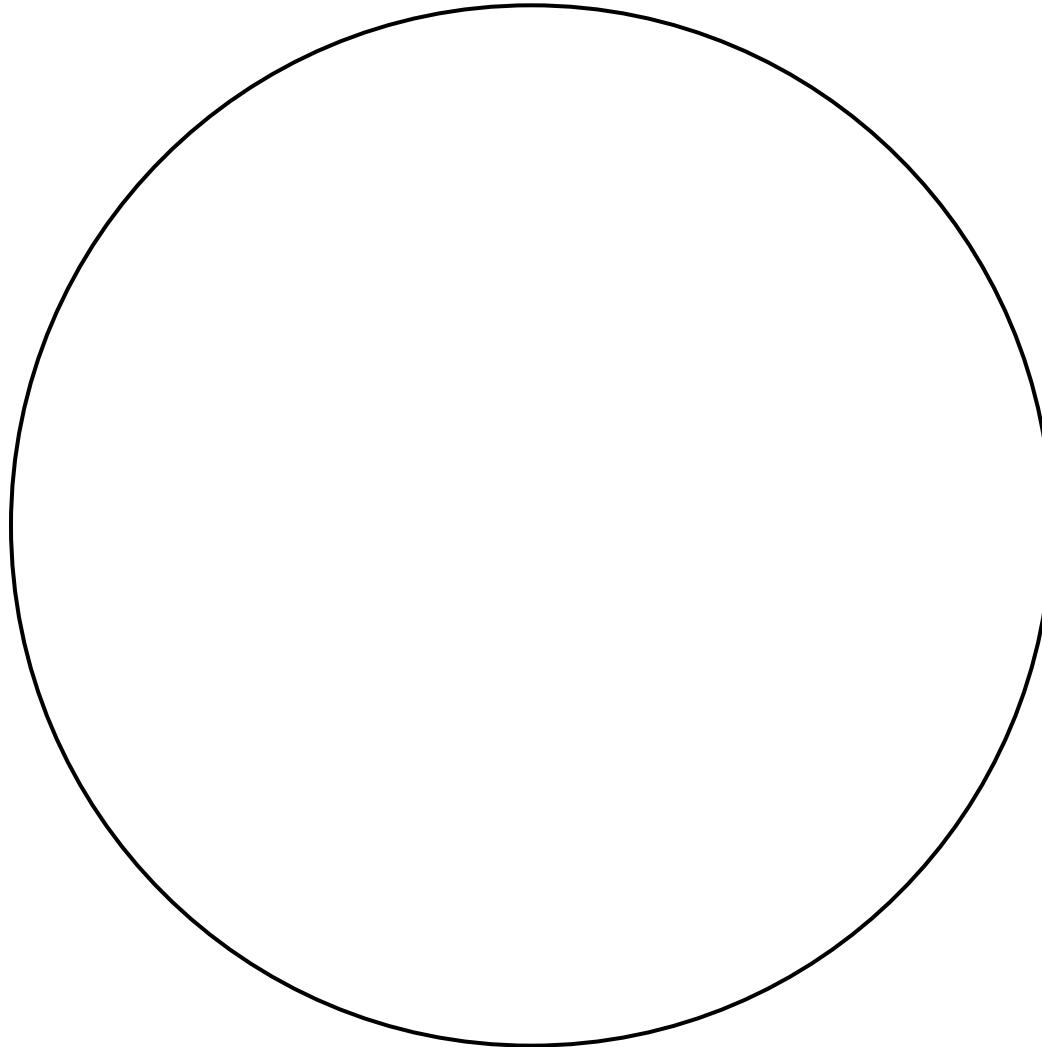


large circle





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small circle

