

Jesus' 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: Look and See

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



Jesus' 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.



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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
- stick puppets from Unit 11 Lesson 3, Bible Story
- 2 small plastic bags
- sponge
- flour
- water
- toy house or doll house (optional)
- small box (optional)

Preparation

1. 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.
2. 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 puppets for the Unit 11 Lesson 5, Bible Story.

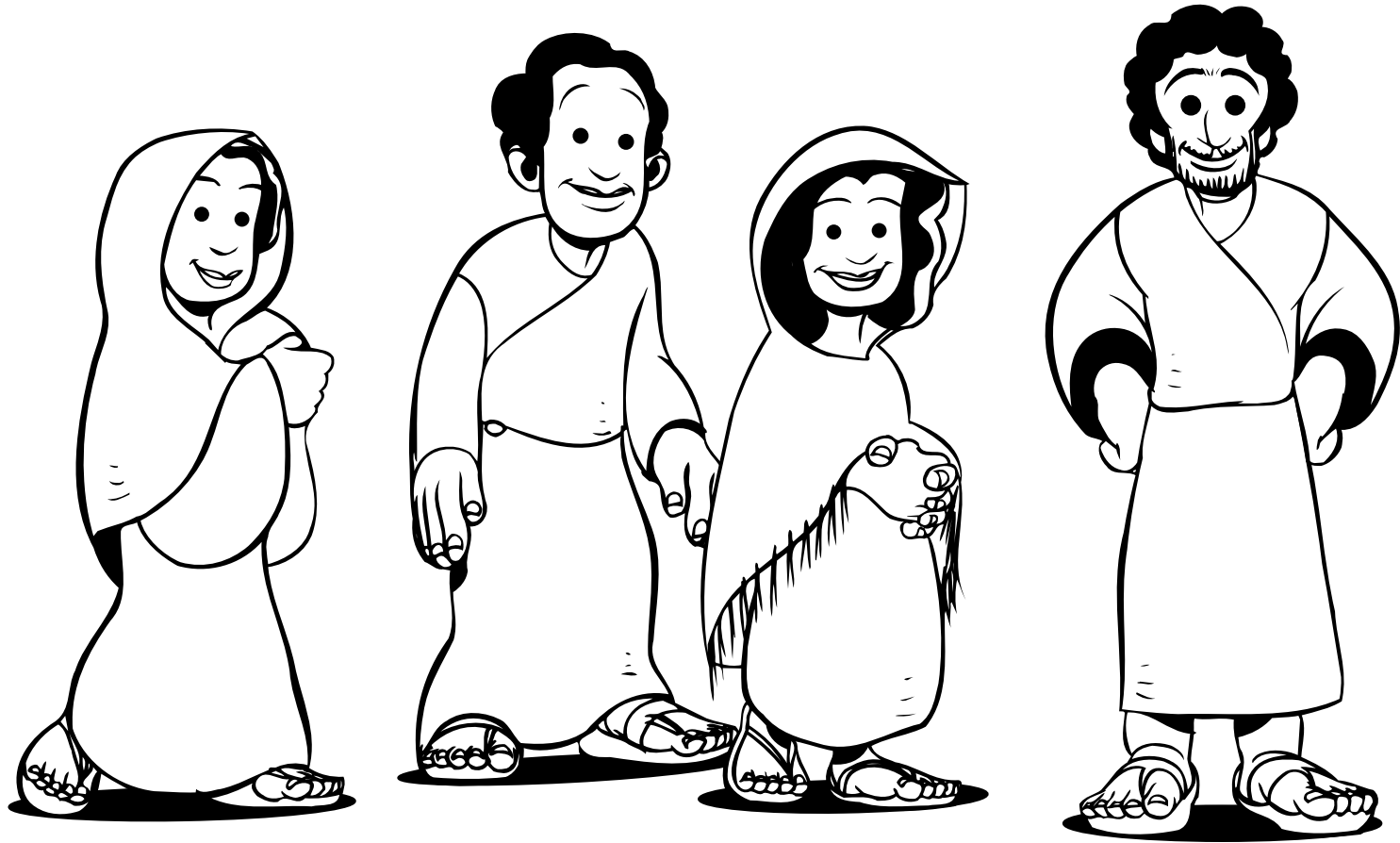
Conclusion

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.

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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
- felt board figures from Unit 11 Lesson 3, Life Application
- tape

Preparation

1. Place tape on the back of each felt board figure.
2. 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?"

"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!*

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NOTE: Save the felt board figures for Unit 11 Lesson 5, 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.

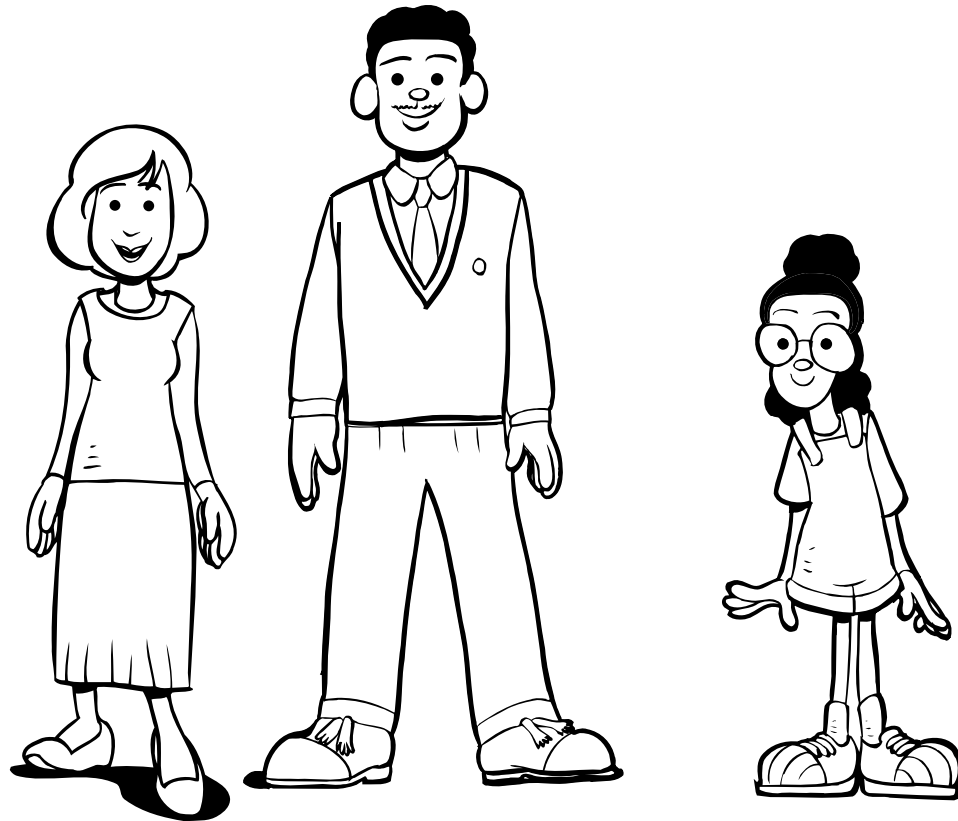
Conclusion

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.



Jesus' Friends

Look and See

This craft will help the children to remember the story of Jesus dining with his friends Mary, Martha and Lazarus.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 Styrofoam cup
- crayons

For the teacher:

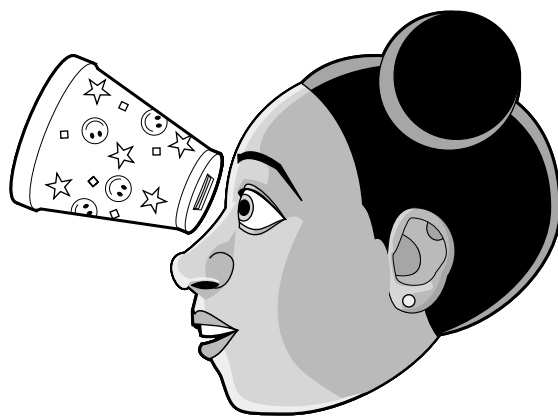
- scissors
- utility knife
- colored markers
- white glue
- paper plate
- assorted stickers
- pencil
- marker

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the pictures from the copies of Reproducible Page A.
2. Using the utility knife, cut a $\frac{3}{4}$ " square in the bottom of each cup.
3. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.



Instructions

1. At the start of class, pour the white glue onto the paper plate.
2. Show the children the model and let them look through it. Ask them who they see. *Yes, that's Jesus and his friends: Mary, Martha and Lazarus. Do you have friends? Do you know that Jesus is your friend too? Its great to spend time with our friends! Would you like to take home your very own cup so you can see Jesus with his friends?*
3. Give each child a picture to color.
4. Give each child a cup. Have them decorate their cups with stickers.
5. Write the children's names on their cups.
6. Help the children to glue the circles to the cups as follows.
 - A. Have the children place their cups upside down into the glue. See Figure A.
 - B. Then have them immediately place their cups onto the dotted line on their pictures. See Figure B.
 - C. Put the children's cups aside to dry.

Conclusion

Let the children look through their cups to see Jesus with his friends. Talk about the ways that Jesus loved and served his friends and the ways that they served him.

Teacher Tips

Be sure to cut along the solid lines when cutting out the pictures from Reproducible Page A.

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Jesus' Friends

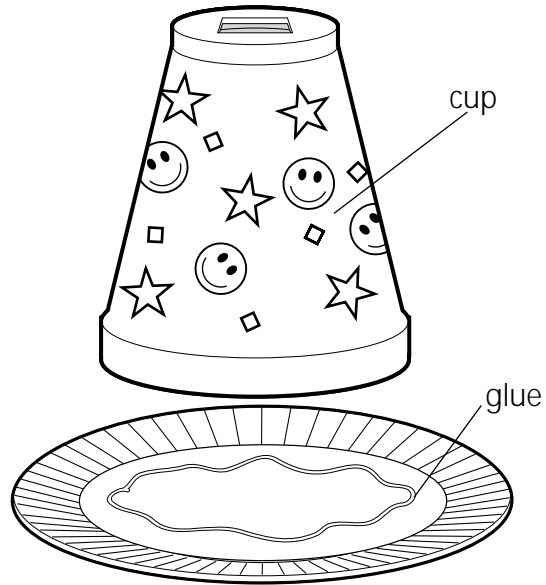


Figure A

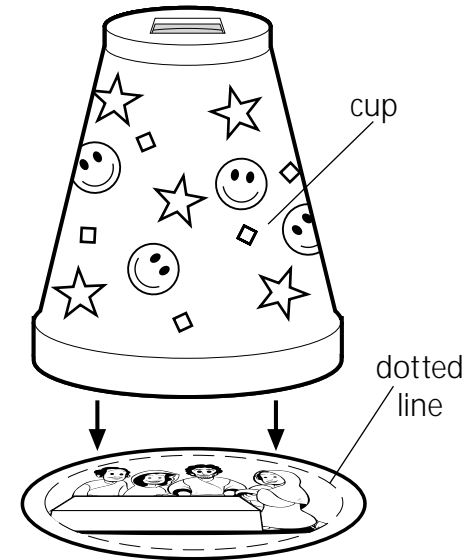
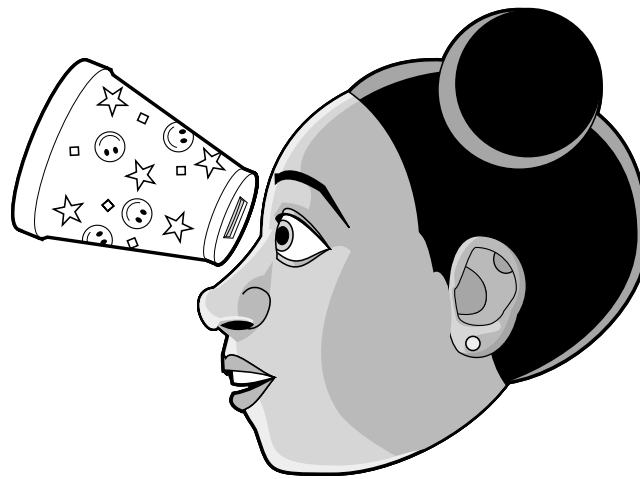


Figure B



Finished Craft





Lesson Objectives

- The children will practice being friendly.
- The children will decide what is friendly behavior and what is unfriendly behavior.
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Bible Story Text

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

Bible Truth

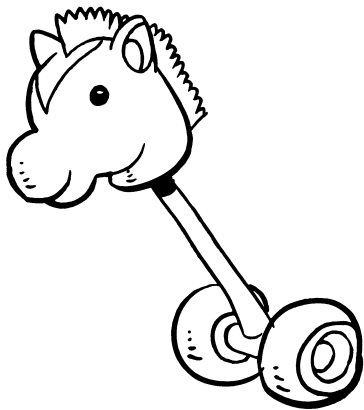
A friend always loves.
(Proverbs 17:17)

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.
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.

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: Party Hats

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

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.

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
- a small toy for a present
- wrapped box from the Unit 11 Lesson 3, Life Application

Preparation

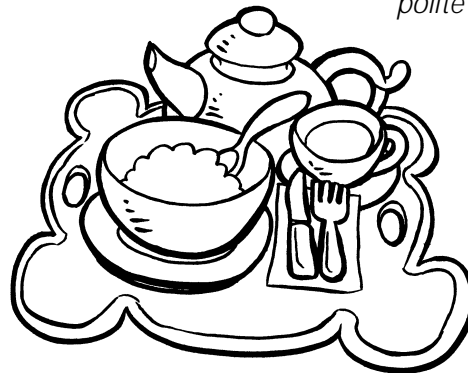
1. Place the present inside the wrapped box.
2. Familiarize yourself with the activity.

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?*



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Friendship Lesson 4

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 5, 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
- stick puppets from Unit 11 Lesson 3, Bible Story
- 2 small plastic bags
- sponge
- flour
- water
- toy house or doll house (optional)
- small box (optional)

Preparation

1. 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.
2. 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

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Friendship Lesson 4

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."

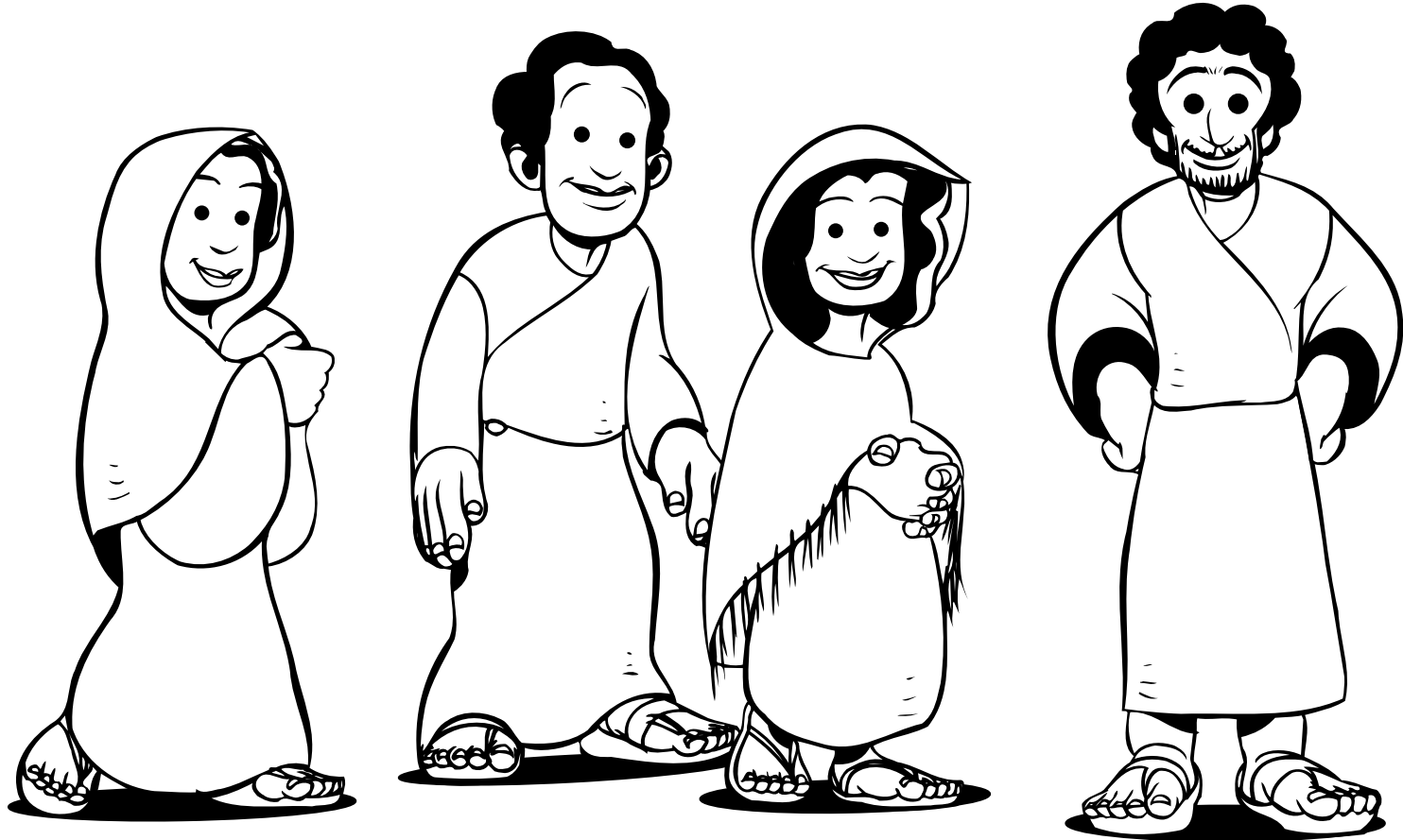
NOTE: Save the puppets for the Unit 11 Lesson 5, Bible Story.

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.



Party Hats

The children will make party hats reminding them of fun times spent with their friends.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 paper plate
- glue stick
- crayons

For the teacher:

- scissors
- black marker
- gift wrap or other shiny paper
- curling ribbon

Preparation

1. Cut the center circle of each paper plate about three quarters of the way around leaving the remaining one quarter still attached. See Figure A.
2. Fold the center circle along the dotted line, as shown in Figure B.
3. On the rim of each hat print, "A friend loves at all times. Proverbs 17:17."
4. Cut the gift wrap into different shapes. Cut approximately five shapes for each child.
5. Cut the curling ribbon into 4" pieces, and then curl it. Cut five pieces for each child.
6. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Jesus' Friends

Friendship Lesson 4

Instructions

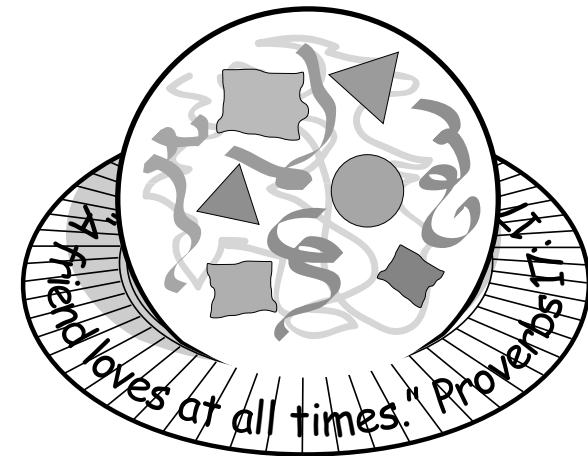
1. Show the children the model of the hat. Explain to them that this is a party hat. Say, *When our friends are with us, it is like a party.* Try the hat on, and then let the children try it on. *Let's make party hats!*
2. Give each child one of the prepared paper plates.
3. Have the children glue the shapes and ribbon onto the center circles of the hats.
4. Give the children crayons and have them color their hats.

Conclusion

Let the children try on their hats. Talk about the things we like to do when we go to a party. Say, *When friends are together, it is like a party. Friends are the very best part of a party.* Remind the children that Jesus is their friend.

Teacher Tips

You can make "crooked confetti" by folding a piece of construction paper like a fan, then cutting it in strips lengthwise.



Craft

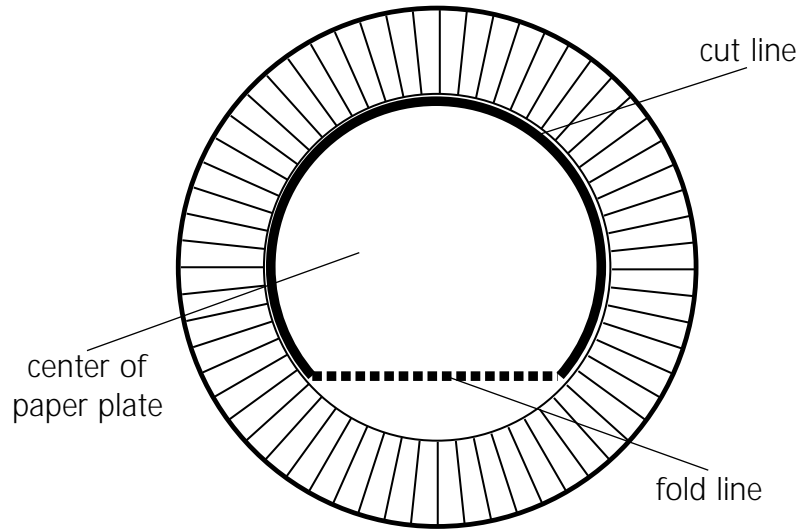


Figure A

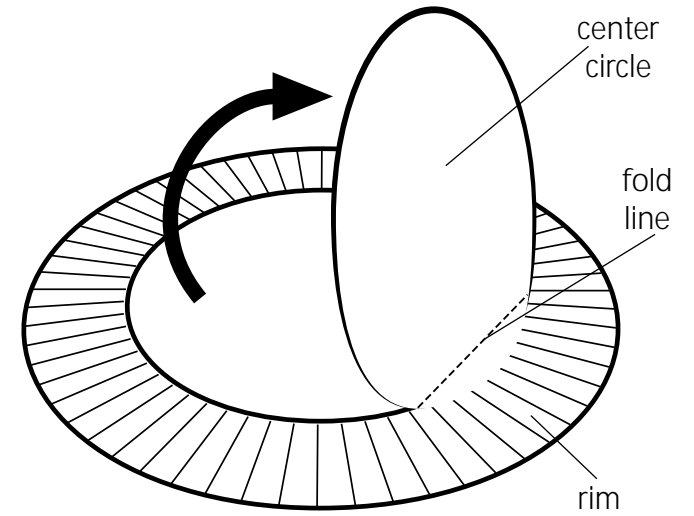
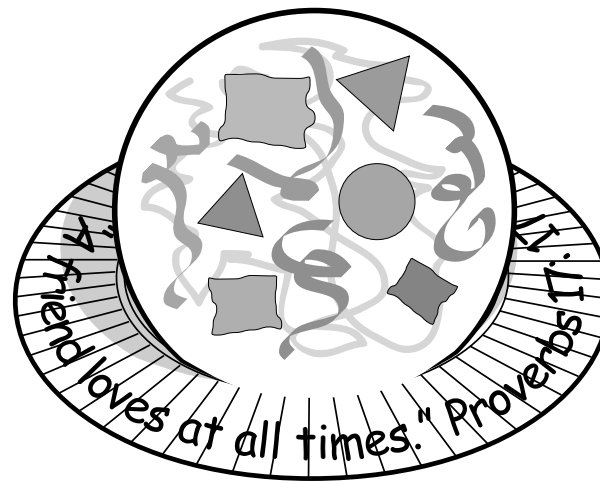


Figure B

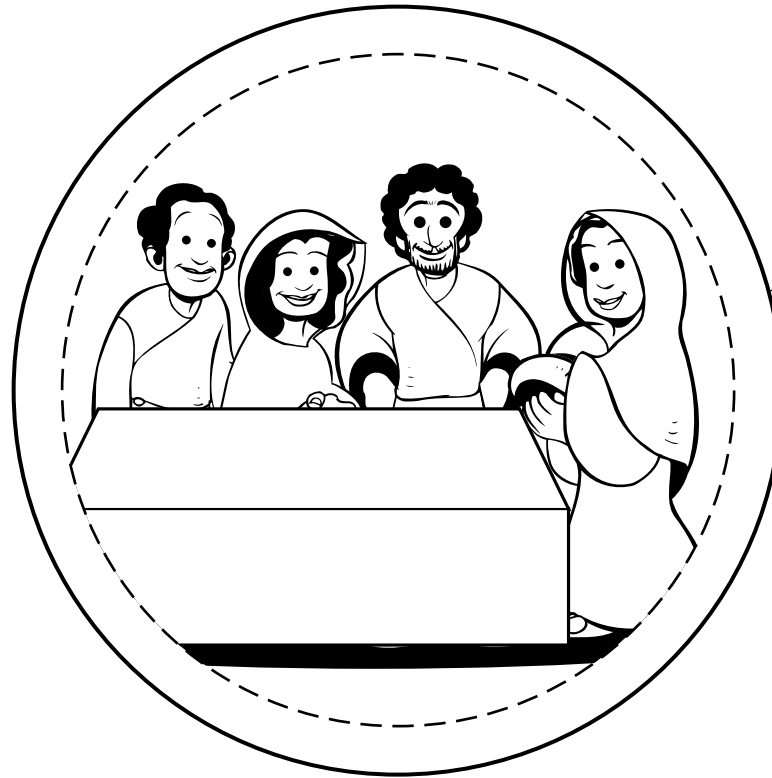


Finished Craft





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cut line

picture

