

*Preschool Spring*  
*Lesson 7:*  
*Jesus Visits His Friends*

**Objectives:** Students will...

- 1) Learn that Jesus is God's Son and that He visited friends – **Luke 19:38-42**
- 2) Discover that Jesus wants us to be His friends too!
- 3) Recognize that we should be happy that Jesus wants us to be His friends

**Accommodations:** How will I accommodate individual needs of students?

- See Lesson 1 for ideas

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**Supplies:** Check with coordinator to ensure supplies are ready.

**Teacher Materials (provided in classroom)**

- Pens/Pencils
- Bible (please bring your own)
- Crayons/Pencil Crayons
- Attendance Sheet
- Stickers – enough for each child to have one every lesson for 13 lessons
- Jesus and Friends Popsicle Stick People – 3 Sets per page – one set per student
- Popsicle sticks – 3 per child
- Tape – to share
- Jesus Visits Friends Color Page – one per child

**Optional Activities**

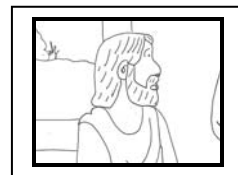
- Shoe box or similar- one or more for children to use as a house. Have the box if possible be tall so that dolls can “walk” into it. Draw windows on the inside.
- Mirror – one per class
- Dolls – men and women to show Mary, Martha and Jesus. If possible have visual aids or books that show Jesus and His friends as well
- Marker – to draw on box
- Snack – Your choice
- Napkins
- Cups with water
- Puppet to tell students the real events from the Bible

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**Lesson:**

**1) Introduction to lesson:**

**\*Optional:** Before class print popsicle stick people – one set per child and attach a popsicle stick with tape to the back of each picture.



**During class:** As students enter, welcome them and help find a chair to sit at. Thank them for coming. Take attendance (using attendance chart supplied). Write each child's name on the sheet provided. Let each child put a sticker beside their name for this week. Have them sit around the table.

As you wait for all students to attend, ask students **when was the last time they went to visit a friend? What did they do? How long did they stay? Did they enjoy themselves?**

Tell students: **Today we are going to talk about Jesus and His friends.** (Show the popsicle stick people) **Jesus is God's Son – He went to visit His friends. Just like you going to visit your friends is nice. It was nice for Jesus to visit with His friends. Jesus is our friend too! We can visit Jesus by reading the Bible, praying and coming to church services. Jesus wants to be our friend just like He was a friend to Mary, Martha and Lazarus.** (Show popsicle stick people)

**Let's sing some songs about Jesus.**

**If My Name is.....**

If my name is \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is my friend.

If my name is \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is my friend.

Jesus is my friend, Jesus is my friend.

If my name is \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus is my friend.

\*Fill in name of each child in the room one at a time.

**Last week we talked about Jesus calling for friends. This week we are going to read about Jesus going to visit some more friends – Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. Let's read from the Bible how!**

## **2) Jesus Visits Friends and Visual Aid**

**10 minutes**

\*Optional: Use popsicle stick people to help show the story of Jesus visiting friends.

\*Optional: Have a puppet to help tell the story!



**Say: Jesus is our friend. He will be with us always. Jesus is with us when we eat, pray, sleep, drive in the car and play with friends. Jesus will be with us morning, noon and night because He loves each and every one of us.**

**We are happy to have Jesus as a friend.**

Have your Bible open and read **Luke 10:38-42** from the paraphrased version below – there are actions to go with it. Use the correct popsicle person as you tell the story and let each student hold up their person as well.

**Let's all listen very carefully while I read a special story about Jesus from the Bible – God's Word!**

**Jesus** (show picture of Jesus) **and some of his friends had been walking and came to a village where a woman named Martha** (show picture of Martha) **opened her home to him. She had a sister called Mary** (show picture of Mary).

**Jesus** (show picture of Jesus) **came in and talked with his friends. Mary** (show picture of Mary) **sat and listened to Jesus** (show picture of Jesus). **But Martha was working in the kitchen to prepare food** (show picture of Martha).

**Jesus** (show picture of Jesus) **said, "Come friend Martha,** (show picture of Martha) **sit down, rest and listen. Jesus** (show picture of Jesus) **liked being with his friends Mary** (show picture of Mary). **and Martha** (show picture of Martha) **and wanted them both to come and visit Him.**

**Jesus wants us to spend time with Him too!**

Hold up each picture and ask the children who is the person you are holding up:

**Jesus, Mary or Martha?**

**Who wanted to visit with each other?** Jesus and Mary

**Who was working in the kitchen?** Martha

**What did Jesus ask Martha to do?** Come and visit too!

Ask the students what they remember about the story as they look at the visuals.

Sing:

**Jesus Loves** (Action Rhyme)

Thea Cannon

**Jesus loves all children –**

**The ones still very small**

(Use hand to indicate knee-high child.)

**The baby in the cradle,**

(Fold arms to form cradle and rock.)

**The ones so big and tall.**

(Hands reached high over head.)

**I Love Jesus**

**Tune: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star**

Adapted from Sylvia Tester

I love Jesus – I can say,

I will love Him everyday.

While I work and while I play.

I will love Him every day.

I love Jesus – I can say,

I will love Him everyday.

I will use my helping hands.

I will use my helping hands.

Pick up toys and share with friends.

I'll be Jesus helper friend.

I will use my helping hands.

Pick up toys and share with friends.

I will use my helping eyes.

I will use my helping eyes.

Look for things to do to care.

I'll be Jesus' helper everywhere.

I will use my helping eyes.

I will look for things to care.

I will use my helping ears.

I will use my helping ears.

Listen when my mommy calls.

I'll be Jesus' helper to all.

I will use my helping ears

To listen when my mommy calls.

I will use my helping mouth.

I will use my helping mouth.

I will tell of Jesus' love.

I will tell of God above.

I will use my helping mouth

I will tell of Jesus' love.

**Thank class for singing and then have them sit at the table for the next activity.**

**3) Optional: Mirror Activity – We are Jesus' Friends Too! 10-15 minutes**

**Before class:** Have one or more small hand mirrors available that class can use to see themselves.

**During class:** Hold up a mirror to each child. While they look in the mirror ask them:

**Who do you see?**

**Are you Jesus' special friend?**

**Yes you are because Jesus said "you are my friends".**

**Can you show me a happy face that shows you are happy to be Jesus friend?**

**We feel happy because Jesus is our friend**

**Does Jesus love you? Yes, the Bible tells us that Jesus loves each of us very much!**

**4) Jesus and His Friends Color Page****10-15 minutes**

Hand out one sheet to each student, allow them to color the sheet with crayons. Talk about Mary and Martha and the fact that **Jesus wants all His friends to visit with Him. We spend time with Jesus whenever we read the Bible, pray, go to church services and come to Bible school! Jesus wanted Mary and Martha to visit with Him and He wants us to spend time with Him too!**



Help students finish and clean up and then move onto the next activity.

**5) Optional: Jesus Says – Action Game****5 minutes**

Line the students up in a row so that they can all see you and have enough space to move their hands and feet without hitting anyone beside them.

Say to the students: **We are going to play a game about being a friend of Jesus. Being His friend means we are willing and wanting to listen to Jesus and what He says from the Bible. I want you to follow and do what I say.** When I say, “**Jesus says**”, **I want you to do what He would tell you to, ok?**” The idea is you ask the students to do different things that would show honor to Jesus.

**Ready? Everyone quiet and listen.....good job...**

Here are some ideas to get started, you can add your own as well.

- Jesus says go to worship services (pretend to go to Sunday services)
- Jesus says put your toys away (pretend to clean)
- Jesus says go to bed (lay down and pretend to fall asleep)
- Jesus says help your mother (act like they are helping mom)
- Jesus says say your prayers (practice saying prayers)
- Jesus says eat your supper before desert (pretend to eat)
- Jesus says obey your parents (pretend to listen to parents)
- Jesus says give a hug (pretend to hug)
- Jesus says - say thank you (say thank you)
- Jesus says - say I love you (say I love you)
- Jesus says read the Bible (pretend to read the Bible)

**Thank class for playing and then have them sit at the table for the next activity.**

**6) Optional Activity: Follow Jesus Game****10 minutes**

Have students line up in a row and tell them that you are going to play follow the leader. Whatever you do, they need to follow you and do. Just like we need to remember to follow Jesus, the students should follow you!

Ideas: hop on one foot, stomp your feet, march in place, flap your arms, touch your head, rub your stomach, shake your leg, shake your other leg, do jumping jacks, say a prayer, etc.

**We are Jesus’ friends when we follow Jesus! Just like Mary and Martha we can be Jesus’ friends!**

**7) Optional: Jesus’ Friends Doll and Book Play****5-10 minutes**

**Before class:** Gather shoe boxes and draw windows inside, gather dolls or popsicle stick people that represent Mary, Martha and Jesus and other books or visuals that will help students remember that Jesus visited with His friends.

Pass around dolls, books about Jesus and His friends and have ready the houses made from boxes and any other things that will help children remember that they learned about the fact that Jesus wants us to be His friends.

Say, **"The Bible tells us about Jesus and His friends.** (Show the popsicle stick people) **Jesus is God's Son – He went to visit His friends. Just like you going to visit your friends is nice. It was nice for Jesus to visit with His friends. Jesus is our friend too! We can visit Jesus by reading the Bible, praying and coming to church services. Jesus wants to be our friend just like He was a friend to Mary, Martha and Lazarus.** (Show popsicle stick people) **We are so happy because Jesus loves us and is our Friend!**

Let students play with the dolls and books. Have them pretend that Jesus goes to visit Mary and Martha and then clean up when done.

### 8) Optional: Mary, Mary, Martha Action Game

5-10 minutes

This is a variation of the game: Duck, duck, goose

\*Great to play outdoors if weather is nice. Ensure wherever they play that the area is big enough to run around safely and that the noise they make will not interrupt others.

In this game, kids sit down in a circle facing each other.

One person is "it" and walks around the circle. As they walk around, they tap people's heads and say whether they are a "duck" or a "goose". In this case we will say "Mary" or "Martha".

Once someone is tapped and the person tapping says "Martha" the student who was sitting gets up and tries to chase the child who is "it" around the circle. The goal is to tap that person before they are able sit down in the "Martha" spot.

If the walker is not able to do this, they become "it" for the next round and play continues. If they do tap the "it" person, the person tagged has to sit in the centre of the circle.

Then the Martha becomes it for the next round. The person in the middle can't leave until another person is tagged and they are replaced.

### 9) Sing

Choose songs from the Songs section.

### 10) Optional – Snack Your Choice 5 minutes

Hand out one snack to each student along with a glass of water. Ask them what they remember learning in the story today: **Jesus went to visit His friends. We can be Jesus' friends too if we follow and obey Him. Jesus wants to be our friends and loves us very much. We are special to Jesus and it is wonderful that Jesus is our friend. Let's think about how wonderful Jesus is as we eat our snacks.**

After snack have kids clean up. Then move on to the remaining activities.

### 11) Close in prayer

Tell students that **we are going to pray, to pray we need to put down everything and fold our hands and bow our heads like this** (show students). **This way we can hear and listen to the prayer and when we sit quietly and focus on God – it makes God happy! We learn this in God's Word the Bible and we need to obey God.**

First: Ask if there are prayer requests that kids want to share. Make a list. Then give the list to the assistant or read yourself.

Second: Remind students to fold hands and bow heads then pray:

Thank You God for Jesus Your Son. Thank You God that Jesus helps us and wants to be our friend. Thank you God for our families, our friends, our pets and our church family too. Thank God as well that we can know that we are safe and in good hands because Jesus is our friend. Thank you God for your Son Jesus who loves us and thank you God for everyone here today and those who could not be here because they were sick or away. We pray you will bring us all back to Sunday school next week safely. In Jesus name, Amen.

## **12) Remind students**

To take home any sheets or crafts. Thank them for coming and ask them to help clean up before they leave.

## **13) Greet Parents at door**

Ensure all students go to parents or if some students remain kindly ask them to go to their parents.

Thank you for serving Christ in this way!