

Small Talk

APRIL 2011

Key Question:

Who wants to be your friend forever?

Memory Verse:

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

Basic Truth:

Jesus wants to be
my friend forever.

Bottom Line:

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.
(2s) Jesus is my friend.

BIBLE STORY SUMMARIES:

WEEK 1

Luke 8:42-48

A very sick woman had faith that Jesus can heal her. She made her way through the crowd and stretched to touch the edge of Jesus' cloak. She was immediately healed.

WEEK 2

Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus met His disciples on the top of a tall mountain and told them to go and make disciples of all nations.

WEEK 3

Matthew 21:1-11

The people shouted "Hosanna! Hosanna!" as Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and a colt. The people spread their cloaks and tree branches on the road for Him.

WEEK 4

Matthew 26:26-29; Luke 23:44-49; Matthew 28:1-7

Happy Easter! Jesus had a special meal with His disciples. He was getting ready to leave but promised to come back. Jesus died on a cross and His friends are very sad. After three days in a tomb, an angel rolls the stone away and Jesus came back, just like He said He would.

Small Talk

APRIL 2011



PLAY TIME

Move the coffee table and turn up the music! It's time to celebrate! Jesus is alive and He wants to be your friend forever! Pick a favorite worship song to play on the stereo. Sing, dance and march around your house with your child as you praise Jesus. Jesus is alive and that makes us SO happy we want to sing and dance!



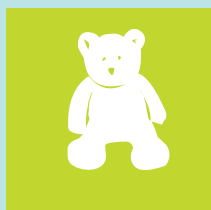
CAR TIME

Jesus loves us SO much that He is always with us. Now, that is a great friend! As you drive to different places ask your child, "Is Jesus with us at the grocery store?" Then answer as an example to them, "Yes, Jesus is always with me." Then ask, "Is Jesus with us at the gas station?" And answer, "Yes, Jesus is always with me." Continue saying this everywhere you go this month.



BATH TIME

Are you ready for a bath? Are you sure? Well, do you have everything you need? Ask your child to gather up all the things she needs to take a bath. Maybe a towel, washcloth, shampoo, soap, bath toys—she knows what she needs. Once in the bath, say, "I need shampoo" and then wash her hair. Say, "I need a washcloth and soap" and then wash her body. Continue saying, "I need..." before using each item she collected. While drying off your child, tell her that we need Jesus more than anything.



CUDDLE TIME

Cuddle up with your child and pray with her. "Dear God, thank You for Jesus. He is the best friend we could ever have. Thank You that He died on the cross and is alive today. I pray that [name of child] will want Jesus to be her friend forever. Amen."

IMAGINE THE END:

Every parent wants their child to have good friends. We spend a lot of energy making sure they play with this friend and stay away from that friend. Do you ever think about the fact that Jesus died on a cross so that it would be possible for your child to be His friend forever? It's true. Jesus died and lives today to be your child's friend forever. What are you doing today to help introduce your child to the best friend she will ever have? Our prayer, for your child, is that she will walk through this life into eternity, hand in hand, with the ultimate best friend—Jesus.

MAKE IT PERSONAL:

How would you describe your relationship with Jesus? Would you consider Him a close friend? He wants to be your closest friend. If close isn't exactly how you would describe what you have with Jesus, then why not do something about it today? After all, growing a friendship takes time. The more time you spend with a friend the closer you get. If Jesus is the best friend you've ever had, why not tell Him today? Every friend likes to hear how much he is loved. I imagine Jesus is no different.

