



## May 23/24, 2020 – Week 4

**Bible Story Focus:** God loves me and sent Jesus to be my friend forever. God Gave His Only Son • *John 3:16*

**Memory Verse:** “Nothing at all can ever separate us from God’s love.” Romans 8:39, NIV

**Key Question:** Who loves you?

**Bottom Line:** God loves me.

**Basic Truth:** God loves me.

## Make It Fun

### World

- **What You Need:** Inflatable globe beach ball
- **What You Do:** Guide the children to sit in a circle on the floor. Roll the ball gently to a child. Then have the child roll to ball to the next child. Discuss how God loves the WHOLE world. Repeat the activity several times.
- **What You Say:** “Join me in a circle. What do you see here? *(Pause.)* Yes, it’s the world. We live here. *(Point to where you live on the globe.)* God loves people in the United States of America. Let’s roll our globe and see what other places people live that God loves. *(Do activity.)* You found lots of places around the world! Our Bible story today is about how God loves the WHOLE world!” *(Feel free to list more countries as you roll the globe around. Make sure you emphasize that God loves the people in all of these countries as he loves the WHOLE world.)*

## Make It True

### Worship

- **What You Need:** Worship song “God Loves Me Specially.”

### Bible Story

- **LEADER:** “Hi, friends! I’m super excited to see you all here today. *(Hold up the Bible.)* Today’s true story from the Bible begins with God. All month long, we’ve been learning that **God loves me**. It’s true. God loves you, and God loves me. God loves us with his WHOLE heart. God loves everyone in the whole WIDE world. You could live anywhere in the whole world, and God would love you. God loves everyone SO much that He gave us all a very special gift. It wasn’t a new bicycle. It wasn’t a cute, fluffy puppy. Do you want to hear what the special gift is? It’s JESUS! God loved the world so much that He gave us Jesus. Now, say it after me. God loved . . .”
- **CHILDREN:** “God loved . . .”
- **LEADER:** “The world so much . . .”
- **CHILDREN:** “The world so much . . .”
- **LEADER:** “He gave us . . .”
- **CHILDREN:** “He gave us . . .”
- **LEADER:** “Jesus!”
- **CHILDREN:** “Jesus!”
- **LEADER:** “Yes! Jesus is special because Jesus is God’s son! Drumroll please, just like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Jesus wants to be our friend forever! That’s right. Jesus wants to be my friend forever. And Jesus wants to be your friend forever *(pointing at different groups of children each time)* and your friend, and your friend, and your friend, and your friend, too! God loves you so much, He gave you Jesus! Tell me, **who loves you?**”
- **CHILDREN and LEADER:** “**God loves me.**”
- **LEADER:** “It’s true! God loves you, and God loves me. God loved the whole world SO much that He gave us Jesus. Let’s pray and thank God for sending Jesus to be our friend forever because **God loves me.**”



## PRAYER

- **LEADER:** “Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us SO much that you sent Jesus to be our friend forever. Help us to show that love to others this week. We love You. In Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”

## Make It Stick

### Story Stickers

- **What You Need:** “Story Words” Page, “Sticker Symbols” cutouts (heart, world, present, Jesus), glue sticks
- **What You Do:** Talk through the story words (John 3:16) while assisting the children in placing their story pictures in the designated spaces above the words.
- **What You Say:** “**Who loves you? God loves me!** He sure does! I have something fun for us to do to help us remember how much God loves us. We have a page with the story words on it (*give each child a “Story Words” page*) and some story pictures (*give each child a set of story picture cutouts*). Our job is to put all of the pictures in the right place on this page. Do you think we can do it? Sure, we can!
  - Listen as I read the story words. I want you to tell me what picture you think goes in the first circle. Ready? God LOVES. Do you see a picture that looks like love? Yes! The heart! Glue your heart in the first circle. Great! Now, let’s think about what picture goes in the second circle.
  - Listen as I read the story words. God loves the WORLD. Do you see a picture that looks like a world? Yes! That’s the world! Glue your world picture in the second circle. Looking good! Now, let’s think about what picture goes in the third circle.
  - Listen as I read the story words. God loves the world so much He GAVE. Do you see a picture that looks like something you give to someone? Yes! The present! We give presents. Glue your present picture in the third circle. We’re almost done. Now, let’s think about what picture goes in the fourth circle.
  - Listen as I read the story words. God loves the world so much He gave us JESUS! Do you see a picture that looks like Jesus? Yes! That’s a picture of Jesus. Glue your Jesus picture in the fourth circle.

We did it! Now, you have the story to take home. You can use it to tell everyone that (*point to the pictures*) God LOVES the WORLD so much He GAVE us JESUS! Yay! **Who loves you? God loves me!**”

## Dismissal

### Pictures of Love

- **What You Need:** “Story Review Symbol Cards” and “Story Review Symbol Full Page” Activity Pages, cardstock, and zip-lock bags
- **What You Do:** Give each child a set of “Story Review Symbol Cards.” Hold up the “Story Review Symbol Full Page” as you review the story. Ask the children to find the matching symbol. The goal is for each child to put their story symbols in order. Allow the children to take their baggie of “Story Review Symbol Cards” home with the parent note.
- **What You Say:** “Today, we heard a story about how much God loves us. Let’s see if we can tell the story using these story cards. When I point to a story symbol, I want you to find the match in your story cards. Ready? Say what I say when you hold up your card. (*Point to the heart and wait for the children to find their match.*) God loved . . . (*Point to the world and wait for the children to find their match.*) . . .the world so much . . . (*Point to the gift and wait for the children to find their match.*) . . .He gave us . . .(*Point to Jesus and wait for the children to find their match.*) . . .Jesus. You did a great job telling the story with your story cards! Let’s do it again! (*Repeat several times.*) You can use your story cards to tell other people the good news that God loves us so much He gave us Jesus! **Who loves you? God loves me!**”