

3-5's | W4

Today's Suggested Schedule—May 2026, Week 4

Today's Bible Story: Woman at the Well • John 4:1-26, 39-42

Jesus cares about everyone everywhere.

Key Question: Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line: Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse: *How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.* (Ephesians 3:18 NIV)

Note: This leader guide is designed to be inclusive of children with a special need, learning difference, or disability who attend a group with their peers. See highlighted sections below for additional EveryChild tips. Check out the additional Special Needs resources included.

Prelude: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

Small Group (15 minutes)

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Heavy Water

Spray the Fire Out

Water from the Well

Large Group (20 minutes)

Worship: Inviting people to respond to God

Story: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Worship

Bible Story

Prayer

Small Group (25 minutes)

Groups: Creating a safe place to connect

Balloon Verse

Fill My Cup

Who am I?

Buckets of Fun

Water Droplet Art

Journal and Prayer

Home: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (print or email)

Parent Cue App

*Allergy Alert



Bible Story

Woman at the Well • John 4:1-26, 39-42

Jesus cares about everyone everywhere.

Key Question

Who does Jesus care about?

Bottom Line

Jesus cares about everyone.

Memory Verse

How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ. • Ephesians 3:18 NIV


15 min

Social

5 min

Heavy Water | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

 Gallon jug of water,

1



- Have children work in groups to carry the jug.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Set the water in an open space in your activity area.

During the Activity: Encourage children to take turns trying to carry the jug a short distance.

After the Activity: Introduce the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Friends, come over here and look at this big jug of water. Do you think it's heavy? Let's find out."

During the Activity: "When I call your name, come give it a try. [Child's name], come try to pick up the water. *(Pause.)* Wow! Can you walk a few steps and carry the water? *(Pause.)* Great job! Put the water down, and our friend [child's name] can take a turn. Come try to pick up the water [child's name]. *(Continue with each child.)* You all did such a good job. That jug of water is really heavy!"

After the Activity: "In our true story from the Bible, when people needed water, they went to a well to get it. A well is like a hole deep in the ground that has water in it. You would scoop the water out of the well and put it in a jug to carry back to your house. There's a woman in our story who gave Someone special a drink of water. Let's go hear all about it!"



30 min

Groups

5 min

Balloon Verse | Made to Explore *Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

-  Red heart mylar balloon 1
-  Drinking straw, 1

Note: Latex balloons become choking hazards when they burst, so we recommend using mylar balloons.

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, and on Pinterest.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Say the Memory Verse with the motions together with the children.

During the Activity: Show the small, flat balloon to the children and talk about the shape. Insert the straw into the balloon and blow it up as you say the verse, repeating until the balloon is full. Talk about how big the love balloon is now.

After the Activity: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Well hello everyone! Come join me and let's say our verse together and do the motions! Ready? 'How wide (*stretch arms out wide*) and long (*stretch arms forward*) and high (*reach arms up*) and deep (*crouch down low*) is the love of Christ. (*Hug yourself.*) Ephesians 3:18 (*open hands like a book*). That was amazing! Everyone, sit where you are."





During the Activity: "Look at this! (*Hold up the flat balloon.*) Do you know what this is? (*Pause for response.*) It is a balloon. What shape is it? (*Pause for response.*) You got it! It's a heart. And hearts make us think of love. Let's try something. As I say part of the verse, you do the motions and I'll blow up the balloon. (*Insert the straw into the balloon.*) Let's see how big we can make our love balloon. Our verse starts with: 'How wide (*blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion*) and long (*blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion*) and high (*blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion*) and deep (*blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion*) is the love of Christ. (*Blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion.*) Ephesians 3:18. (*Blow into the balloon and children are doing the motion.*) Look at the balloon. It's getting bigger! Let's do it again. (*Repeat until the balloon is the desired size.*) Wow! (*Hold up the balloon.*) Look how full of love we made our balloon! Great job, everybody!

After the Activity: "Jesus' love is like our heart balloon! It gets bigger, and bigger and never runs out because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.**

5 min

Who Am I? | Made to Think

What You Need

-  "Who Am I?" Activity Page 1
-  Cardstock 1
-  Community Helper hat 1
-  Scissors 1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Who Am I?" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group. Place the cards in the hat.

During the Activity: Leader will pick a card from the hat and give children three clues about the helper on the card. Encourage children to guess who the helper is and show the card once the correct answer is said. Repeat as time and interest allow.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come find a spot at the table! We are going to play a guessing game today, so everyone put your thinking caps on! (*Pretend to put on a hat.*) It looks like we're ready!"

During the Activity: "I'm going to pick a card from the basket/container and give you three clues about the helper on my card. I want you to help each other figure out who is on my card. Are you ready? (*Firefighter card.*) I wear a uniform. I help when people are in trouble. I drive a big red truck. Who am I? (*Pause for responses.*) Yes! I'm a firefighter! (*Show card.*) Jesus cares about the firefighters because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!** (*Continue with each card. When finished, lay all the cards on the table face up.*) Jesus cares about all these people and Jesus cares about you!"





After the Activity: "Jesus cared about the woman at the well and her friends in her town. Jesus loves and cares about everyone, everywhere. That means Jesus cares about us, right here. And Jesus cares about the people who live in the next town, and Jesus cares about the people that live all the way across the world from us, because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone! Who does Jesus care about? [Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"

5 min

Buckets of Fun | Made to Move

*Uses Minimal Supplies

What You Need

 Small plastic buckets or bins	3
 Blue paper shreds	Several
 Painter's tape	1
 Playground ball	1



- Offer rolling ramps or use handheld water balls for children with limited mobility.
- Use large containers and low targets to encourage success.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Fill each bucket with blue paper shreds to represent water. Place buckets on the floor on one side of your activity area. Create a start line on the floor opposite the buckets with a piece of tape.

During the Activity: Invite children to roll a ball toward the buckets and try to knock them over. Repeat as long as interest allows.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come over and stand behind this tape line with me. Let's play a game with this ball and those buckets over there. They have blue paper in them, let's pretend it's water."












During the Activity: "[Child's name], roll the ball at the buckets and try to knock them down. (Pause.) Woohoo! You knocked the water over! (Reset the buckets as needed.) [Child's name], it's your turn! Roll the ball at the buckets! (Continue with each child. Repeat as time and interest allow.) That was a fun game!

After the Activity: "The woman in our Bible Story went to the well to fill her jar with water. She met Jesus there that day, and He told her something amazing. He said He could give her *living water*. That means Jesus' love never runs out—just like a fountain! Jesus cared about her and all her friends in town, because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"

5 min

Water Droplet Art | Made to Create

What You Need

	"Water Droplet Art" Activity Page	1
	Cardstock	1
	Paint brushes	2
	Clear, plastic punch cups (every three children)	4
	Food coloring or liquid watercolor paints	1
	Water	1
	Pipettes or eyedroppers	1
	Plastic tablecloth	1
	Permanent marker	1
	Baby wipes	Several
	Optional: Paper towels	1

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Print "Water Droplet Art" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Spread the tablecloth over the table. Fill four cups half full of water for every three children. For each set of cups, leave one cup as is. In one cup, add red food coloring/paint. In another cup, add yellow food coloring/paint. In the last cup add blue food coloring/paint. Place the sets of cups around the table spacing so three children can share. Place the paint brushes in the clear water and the pipettes in the colored water.

During the Activity: Encourage children to paint their whole paper with the clear water only. Ask children to pick a color and squeeze it into their pipette/dropper, then squirt several drops on their paper. Watch how the color spreads. Encourage children to pick different colors to add to their paper in the same way and watch what happens when the colors mix together. Clean hands as needed and set aside to dry. *Optional: Blot excess water with a paper towel.*

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "I'm so glad to know that Jesus loves and cares about each and every one of us! Come sit at the table with me, and let's make a really neat picture to remember that."

During the Activity: "Your paper has a shape on it. Tell me what shape you see. *(Pause for responses.)* That's right! There's a heart on your paper. And what do hearts make us think of? *(Pause for responses.)* LOVE! You got it! Take the paintbrush and paint your whole picture with the clear water. *(Pause.)* Put your paintbrushes down. Now pick a color and squeeze it into the pipette/dropper like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Hold the pipette/dropper over your paper and squeeze it a few times and watch what happens. *(Pause.)* Oh, so cool! Pick a different color and see what happens when you add it. *(Pause.)*






Wow! The colors start to mix and make new colors! Keep going! I wonder what happens if you add another color. *(Pause.)* They mixed and made even more new colors. The heart on your paper is now full of colors and its beautiful! Let's clean our hands and let these dry."

After the Activity: *(Point to or hold up a paper.)* "Your beautiful papers say *(point)* **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!** And down here it says our Memory Verse. *How wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ,* Ephesians 3:18 NIV. Jesus loved the woman at the well even though she was from a different town. Jesus loves us too because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!** Who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone!**"

5 min

Journal and Prayer | Made to Reflect

What You Need

-  "Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder 1
-  Cardstock 1
-  Bible 1
-  Journal 1
-  Fun-shaped pen 1

Note: You can find examples of hand motions in the "Memory Verse Hand Motions" PDF and video, and on Pinterest.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, Print "Memory Verse Card" and cut one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Ephesians 3:18. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*

Encourage the children to pretend to travel any way they want (in a train, a bus, a plane) as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity: Review the Bible Story and the Memory Verse Hand Motions, then ask the children to help you make a list in the journal of people who live in different places.

After the Activity: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "It's Small Group time! Today, we are going to pretend to travel like we are in a car, or a bus, a train, or even a plane! Ready? Let's travel! Great job, everyone! I see some of us are riding in a plane. And some of us are on a train—choo-choo! And some of us are riding in a car! (*Pretend to turn a steering wheel.*) We're almost there! Hooray! We made it! Now we can sit down and talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

During the Activity: (Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.) "In our Bible Story today, Jesus met a woman at a well in a place called Samaria. People there were different from Jesus' friends, but Jesus still talked to her and cared about her. She was so surprised because she didn't think someone like Jesus would care about someone like her. But Jesus cares about everyone, everywhere! That's why today we are going to pray for people who live in all kinds of places. Tell me, who does Jesus care about? **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Great job, everyone!"

"The Bible verse we are learning talks about how big Jesus' love is for us. It says, 'How wide (*stretch arms out wide*) and long (*stretch arms forward*) and high (*reach arms up*) and deep (*crouch down low*) is the love of Christ. (*Hug yourself.*) Ephesians 3:18 (*open hands like a book.*) Did you hear that? Jesus loves us wide (*stretch arms out wide*), and long (*stretch arms forward*), and high (*reach arms up*), and deep! (*Crouch down low.*) Jesus loves everyone, everywhere that much because **[Bottom Line] Jesus cares about everyone.** Let's stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do! 'How wide (*stretch arms out wide*) and long (*stretch arms forward*) and high (*reach arms up*) and deep (*crouch down low*) is the love of Christ. (*Hug yourself.*) Ephesians 3:18 (*open hands like a book*).

"Yay! (*Clap.*) I'm so glad that Jesus loves and cares about everyone everywhere! Let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Today we travelled in lots of different ways to our Small Group spot. Some of us pretended to ride in an airplane. Some of us pretended to ride a train, some of us were on a bus or in a car! Let's think about some people you know who live in different places. Maybe you rode in a plane or on a train to go see them. I'll go first. My sister lives in Asheville. That's in the mountains of North Carolina. I drive there in my car. What about you? (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*) Those are some amazing people living in amazing places!"

After the Activity: "Wow! Look at this list! (*Hold up journal.*) There are people in all kinds of places, all over the world. And Jesus cares about ALL of them. The woman at the well ran to tell her whole town about Jesus because she knew His love would never run out. Let's thank Jesus for loving and caring about everyone, everywhere. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to love us no matter where we live! Please be with our friends and family who live all over, like (*read the list*). And help us love and care for them too. You're the best, God. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Getting Ready |

3-5's Small Group

GETTING READY

Here's everything you need to know to get ready for this week.

Social

1. Heavy Water

Made to Move

What You Need:

- Gallon jug of water, one per Small Group

2. Water from the Well

Made to Play

What You Need:

- "Water from the Well" Activity Page, one for every two children
- Cardstock, one for every two children
- Sheet protectors or laminate pouches, one for every two children
- Vegetable oil, one teaspoon per Small Group
- Cotton balls, one per Small Group
- Water, one per Small Group
- Blue food coloring, one per Small Group
- Clear, plastic punch cup, one per Small Group
- Eye dropper or pipette, one per Small Group
- Wooden coffee stir sticks, one per child
- Painter's tape, one roll per Small Group
- Paper towels, several per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Water from the Well" on cardstock, one for every two children.
- Slide each copy into a sheet protector and place around a table, securing with tape.
- Put a small amount of vegetable oil on a cotton ball and wipe over each sheet protector.
- Mix water and blue food color in a punch cup and set it at the table with an eye dropper/pipette.
- Use an eye dropper/pipette to add several drops of blue water to the picture of the well on each covered paper.

3. Spray the Fire Out

Made to Imagine

What You Need:

- Chalkboard, one per Small Group
- Red, orange, and yellow chalk, one per Small Group
- Spray bottles, one for every three children
- Water, one per Small Group
- Plastic tablecloth or tarp, one per Small Group
- Paper towels, one per Small Group

Optional EveryChild Supplies:

- Wet washcloth or sponge

What You Do:

- Draw red, orange, and yellow flames on the chalkboard.
- Spread the tablecloth/tarp on the floor and set or prop up the chalkboard.
- Fill the spray bottles with water and set nearby.

Groups**Creating a Safe Place to Connect****1. Balloon Verse****Hear from God | Memory Verse Review***Made to Explore***What You Need:**

- Red heart mylar balloon, one per Small Group
- Drinking straw, one per Small Group

2. Fill My Cup**Talk about God | Bible Story Review***Made to Play***What You Need:**

- "Fill My Cup" Activity Page, one per Small Group
- Cardstock, one per Small Group
- Small paper or plastic cups, one per child
- Opaque plastic pitcher or jar with a large opening, one per Small Group
- Blue crepe paper streamers, one per Small Group
- Hot glue gun, one per Small Group
- Hot glue sticks, one per Small Group
- Safety scissors, one per Small Group
- Hole punch, one per Small Group
- Yarn, thirty-six-inch length, one per Small Group
- Additional helper, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Fill My Cup" on cardstock, one per Small Group.
- Punch a hole in the top two corners.
- Cut a length of yarn 36-inches, one per Small Group.
- Thread the yarn through the holes of the picture of Jesus and tie a knot.
- Unwind the crepe paper roll slightly and put a nickel size dallop of glue in the center of the roll and stick to the inside bottom of the pitcher.
- This will keep the roll secure but still allow it to pour out.

3. Who Am I?**Live for God | Application Activity***Made to Think***What You Need:**

- "Who Am I?" Activity Page, one set per Small Group
- Cardstock, one piece per Small Group
- Community Helper hat, one per Small Group
- Scissors, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- Print "Who Am I?" on cardstock and cut, one set per Small Group.
- Place the cards in the hat.

4. Buckets of Fun**Live for God | Application Activity***Made to Move***What You Need:**

- Small plastic buckets or bins, three per Small Group
- Blue paper shreds, several bags per Small Group
- Playground ball, one per Small Group
- Painter's tape, one roll per Small Group

What You Do:

- Fill each bucket with blue paper shreds to represent water.
- Place buckets on the floor on one side of your activity area.
- Create a start line on the floor opposite the buckets with a piece of tape.

Optional EveryChild Supplies:

- Rolling ramps or use handheld water balls
- Large containers and low targets

5. Water Droplet Art**Live for God | Application Activity***Made to Create***What You Need:**

- "Water Droplet Art" Activity Page, one per child
- Cardstock, one per child
- Paint brushes, one per child
- Clear, plastic punch cups, four for every three children
- Food coloring or liquid watercolor paints, one set per Small Group
- Water, one per Small Group
- Pipettes or eyedroppers, one for every child
- Plastic tablecloth, one per Small Group
- Permanent marker, one per Small Group
- Baby wipes, one package per Small Group
- *Optional: Paper towels*

What You Do:

- Print "Water Droplet Art" on cardstock, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Spread the tablecloth over the table.
- Fill four cups half full of water for every three children.

- For each set of cups, leave one cup as is. In one cup, add red food coloring/paint. In another cup, add yellow food coloring/paint. In the last cup add blue food coloring/paint.
- Place the sets of cups around the table spacing so three children can share.
- Place the paint brushes in the clear water and the pipettes in the colored water.

6. Journal and Prayer

Pray to God | Prayer Activity

Made to Reflect

What You Need:

- "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, one per Small Group
- Bible, one per Small Group
- Journal, one per Small Group
- Fun-shaped pen, one per Small Group

What You Do:

- If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, Print "Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder on cardstock and cut one per Small Group.
- Place one card in your Bible at Ephesians 3:18. *Note: Keep this card in your Bible all month long.*

Home: Prompting Action Beyond the Experience

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue Card.
- Print the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Print "Going Home" and hang it on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue App**.

First Look Pinterest Page

Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies.
bit.ly/FL_HatsOff

Supplies

Heavy Water | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

- | | Quantity |
|-------------------------|----------|
| 1. Gallon jug of water, | 1 |

Spray the Fire Out | Made to Explore

- | | Quantity |
|--|----------|
| 1. Chalkboard | 1 |
| 2. Red, orange, and yellow chalk | 1 |
| 3. Spray bottles (one for every three children) | 1 |
| 4. Water | 1 |
| 5. Plastic tablecloth or tarp | 1 |
| 6. Paper towels | 1 |
| 7. Optional EveryChild Supplies: Wet washcloth or sponge | Several |

Who Am I? | Made to Think

- | | Quantity |
|------------------------------|----------|
| 1. "Who Am I?" Activity Page | 1 |
| 2. Cardstock | 1 |
| 3. Community Helper hat | 1 |
| 4. Scissors | 1 |

Buckets of Fun | Made to Move *Uses Minimal Supplies

- | | Quantity |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| 1. Small plastic buckets or bins | 3 |
| 2. Blue paper shreds | Several |
| 3. Painter's tape | 1 |
| 4. Playground ball | 1 |

Water Droplet Art | Made to Create

- | | Quantity |
|---|----------|
| 1. "Water Droplet Art" Activity Page | 1 |
| 2. Cardstock | 1 |
| 3. Paint brushes | 2 |
| 4. Clear, plastic punch cups (every three children) | 4 |
| 5. Food coloring or liquid watercolor paints | 1 |
| 6. Water | 1 |
| 7. Pipettes or eyedroppers | 1 |
| 8. Plastic tablecloth | 1 |
| 9. Permanent marker | 1 |
| 10. Baby wipes | Several |
| 11. Optional: Paper towels | 1 |

Water from the Well Made to Play		Quantity
1.	"Water from the Well" Activity Page (one for every two children)	1
2.	Cardstock (one for every two children)	1
3.	Sheet protectors or laminate pouches (Sheet protectors or laminate pouches)	1
4.	Vegetable oil, one teaspoon	1
5.	Cotton balls	1
6.	Water	1
7.	Blue food coloring	1
8.	Clear, plastic punch cup	1
9.	Eye dropper or pipette	1
10.	Wooden coffee stir sticks	1
11.	Painter's tape	1
12.	Paper towels	Several

Balloon Verse Made to Explore *Uses Minimal Supplies		Quantity
1.	Red heart mylar balloon	1
2.	Drinking straw,	1

Journal and Prayer Made to Reflect		Quantity
1.	"Memory Verse Card" from the Home folder	1
2.	Cardstock	1
3.	Bible	1
4.	Journal	1
5.	Fun-shaped pen	1

Fill My Cup Made to Play		Quantity
1.	"Fill My Cup" Activity Page	1
2.	Cardstock	1
3.	Small paper or plastic cups	1
4.	Opaque plastic pitcher or jar with a large opening	1
5.	Blue crepe paper streamers	1
6.	Hot glue gun	1
7.	Hot glue sticks	1
8.	Safety scissors	1
9.	Hole punch,	1
10.	Yarn, thirty-six-inch length	1
11.	Additional helper,	1