

Bring Friends to Jesus

Lesson Objectives

- The children will identify Jesus' friends as Philip and Nathanael.
- The children will choose friends to tell about Jesus and invite to church.
- The children will identify characteristics of Jesus to share with their friends.

Lesson Text

John 1:43-51

Scripture Memory Verse

"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."
John 13:34

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Mural

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Bible Story: Jesus Makes New Friends

Life Application: Our Friends

Craft: Friendship Mobile

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



Pre
class

A
C
E
F
I
V
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T
Y

Bring friends to Jesus

Mural

The children will make a mural to be used during the Bible Story center.

Materials

For each child:

- markers or crayons
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- 5' of banner paper (butcher paper or newspaper roll)
- scissors
- glue
- marker

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

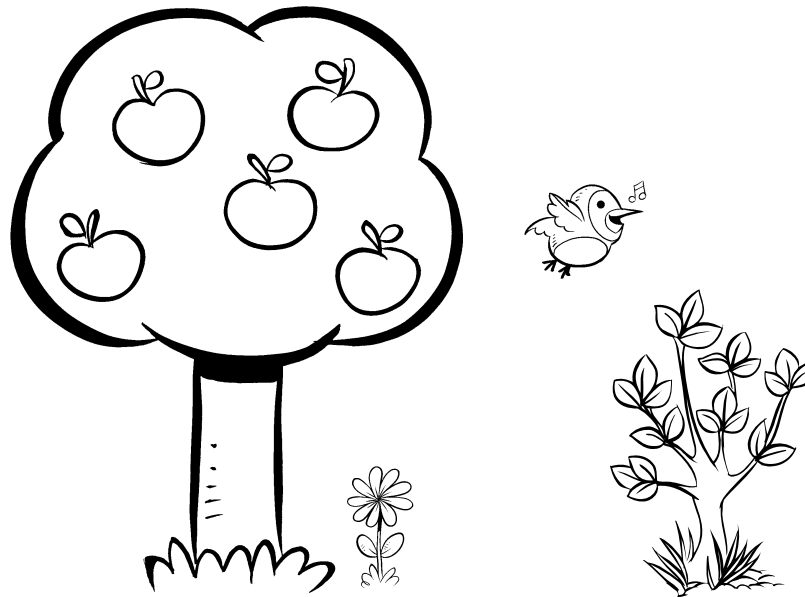
Cut out the pictures from the copies of Reproducible Page A.

Instructions

1. Give each child one set of pictures from Reproducible Page A to color.
2. Draw a road down the length of the banner.
3. Have the children glue the colored pictures onto the banner.

Teacher Tips

The children can draw some background pictures on the banner (trees, rocks, etc.). Be sure that they understand that this is a picture of a road when Jesus was alive so it wouldn't have cars or bicycles or some of the things that we have today.



Bring Friends to Jesus

Jesus Makes New Friends

The children will hear the story of Jesus meeting Nathanael and Philip.

Lesson Text

John 1:43-51

Materials

For the teacher:

- the mural from the preclass activity
- markers or crayons
- scissors
- cardboard, 8½" x 11"
- glue stick
- Bible

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Glue the copy of Reproducible Page B to the piece of cardboard.
2. Color the figures.
3. Cut out the figures.
4. Cut a small slit on the bottom of each figure as shown in Figure A.
5. Cut a stand 2" x 1" for each figure from the scraps of cardboard.
6. Place each stand in the slit of each figure. See Figure B.
7. Tape the mural from the Preclass Activity onto the wall so that it touches the floor. It will be used as the scenery for your Bible Story.

Instructions

Hold up the Bible. *Today our story comes from the book of John in the Bible. Jesus was on his way to a town called Galilee. Move the Jesus figure along the floor in front of the mural. Sing "He's On His Way" from the Unit 5 Song Sheet.*

When Jesus decided to go to Galilee, he found Philip. Move Jesus in front of Philip. Jesus asked Philip to follow him. He wanted Philip to be with him so that he could teach him about God.

Philip was very excited about being with Jesus. He wanted his friends to be with Jesus too so they could learn about God. Philip did not just think about himself. He was kind and wanted to help

others. So he ran to find his friend Nathanael. Place Nathanael under a tree. Bring Philip figure to Nathanael under the tree. Listen to what Philip told Nathanael, "We have found Jesus! Come and see!" (John 1:45-46) So Philip and Nathanael went to Jesus. Move Philip and Nathanael toward Jesus. When Jesus saw Nathanael he said to him, "Nathanael you are an honest and good man. You always tell the truth." (John 1:47) What does it mean to be honest? (to always tell the truth) What does it mean to be good? (to obey) Jesus was kind to others. He spoke nicely to Nathanael. Nathanael was excited to spend time with Jesus. He knew that Jesus was the Son of God.

Conclusion

Where was Jesus going? (Galilee)

Who did Jesus ask to go with him? (Philip)

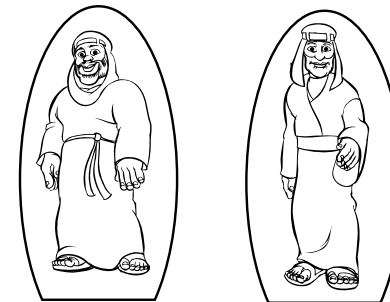
Why do you think Jesus wanted Philip to go with him? (Jesus loved people and wanted to teach them about God.)

Who did Philip tell about Jesus? (Nathanael)

What did Jesus say about Nathanael? (He was a truthful and honest man.)

Teacher Tips

- Use the props during the questions to keep the children focused.
- Give the children time to answer the questions, prompt them with other questions and encouragement to help them get the right answer.
- If time allows, have the children practice telling the story using the figures.



Bring friends to Jesus



Figure A

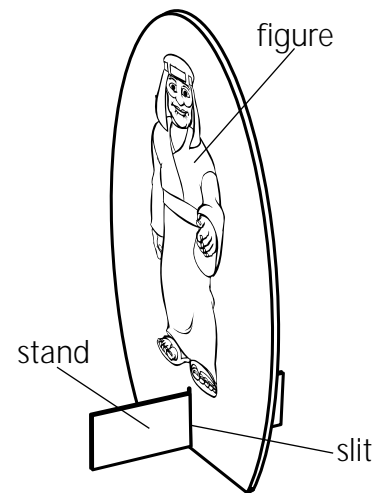


Figure B



Bring friends to Jesus

Our Friends

The children will make a list of their friends that they would like to see become friends of Jesus. They will discuss asking their friends to come to church so that they can learn more about Jesus.

Scripture Memory Verse

"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

John 13:34

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of white paper
- crayons or markers

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the activity.

Instructions

Have each child draw a picture of one of their friends who doesn't normally come to church. Talk to the children as they work.

Jesus' friends names were Philip and Nathanael. What are the names of some of your friends? Have the children name their friends.

Ask each child about the friend they are drawing.

Do you think Jesus can be their friend too? Jesus wants your friend to also be his friend. Did you know that Jesus wants to be with all of your friends? How can we help our friends get to know Jesus better? (talk to your friends about him, ask your friends to come to church so that they can learn more about Jesus)

What would you like to tell your friends about Jesus? (He is friendly, giving, loving and kind.) Jesus loves every single person. He is always thinking about how he can help other people.

Scripture Memory Activity

Touch your nose and have the children imitate you. *What are we doing? Yes, we're touching our noses.* Touch your knee. The children will imitate you. *Why did you touch your knee? You were imitating me. That's good!* Put your hand on your head. The children will follow. *Jesus likes it when we imitate him. He was such a good friend to others. He wants us to be good friends to people too. He wants us to be just like him. That's why our memory verse says "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."* Repeat the memory verse a few times with the children.

Conclusion

Encourage the children to tell their friends about Jesus. Pray to thank God for friends to share with.

Teacher Tips

If there is time, play a game of Simon Says with the children.



"Love one another. As I have loved you so you must love one another."

John 13:34

Bring friends to Jesus

“Love one another.
As I have loved you,
so you must love
one another.”

John 13:34



Bring friends to Jesus

Friendship Mobile

The children will make mobiles that will remind them to love their friends the way that Jesus loved his friends.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 paper plate, 9"
- glue stick
- crayons or markers

For the teacher:

- scissors
- construction paper
- white paper
- glue stick
- yarn
- tape
- stapler

Reproducible Pages:

- Page C, 1 for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out each of the pictures and the scripture text box from the copies of Reproducible Page C.
2. Make backgrounds for each of the pictures as follows:
 - A. Fold a piece of construction paper into four equal areas, as shown in Figure A, and then unfold.
 - B. Draw 1 circle, 2 squares and 1 triangle in each of the areas so that the shapes fill out the area. See Figure B.
 - C. Cut out four shapes for each child.
3. Cut four 2½" circles out of the white paper for each child.
4. Glue the scripture text box to the bottom of each paper plate.
5. Cut three, 24" pieces of yarn for each child.
6. Place two pieces of yarn across each plate forming an "X". Staple them to the edges of the plate.
7. Tie the third piece of yarn to the center of the "x" creating a loop to hang the mobile. See Figure C.
8. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Show the children the model of the craft. Describe what each picture means. For example, say, *The hand is for helping our friends, the Bible is for teaching our friends about God, the heart is for loving our friends, and the happy face is for being a happy friend.* Explain to the children that this Friendship Mobile will help remind them to love their friends the way that Jesus loved his friends.
2. Have the children finish the shapes as follows, see Figure D:
 - A. Give each child four pictures and four construction paper shapes.
 - B. Have them glue a picture to each shape.
 - C. Give each child four white circles. Have them draw a friend's face on each of the circles.
 - D. Have them glue a circle to the back of each shape.
3. Give each child a plate, and read the scripture memory verse to them.
4. Help the children tape each of the shapes to the yarn on their plates. See Figure E.
5. If there is time, have the children color the pictures.

Conclusion

Talk about Jesus and how he treated his friends. Explain that Jesus talked about the Bible, served others, and that he was cheerful and loving. Explain that they can do the same things with their friends.

Teacher Tips

Prior to class, place a set of the materials that you have prepared into a paper bag for each child. This will keep the class organized.

CRAFT

Bring friends to Jesus

Friends of Jesus

Lesson 2

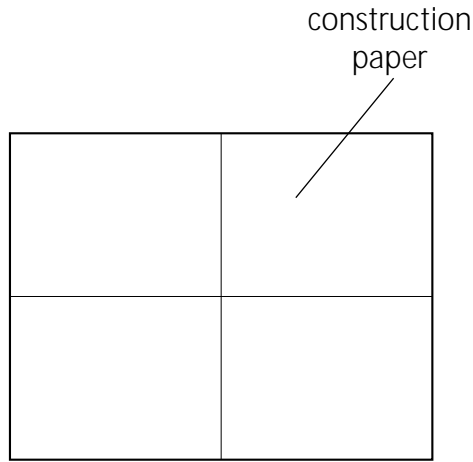


Figure A

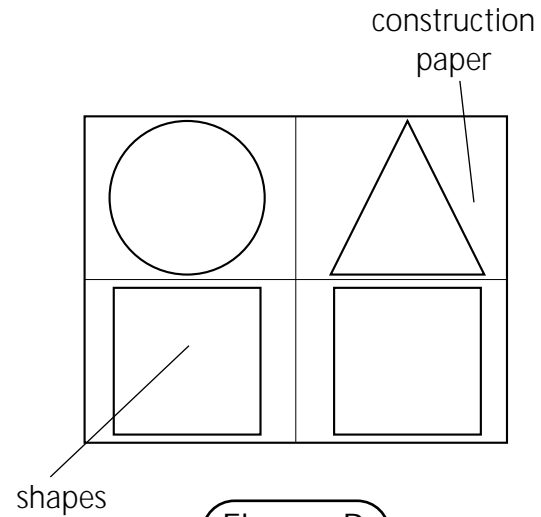


Figure B

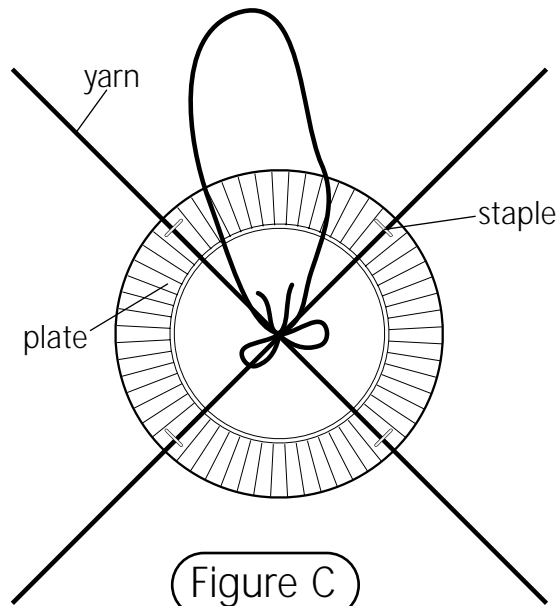


Figure C

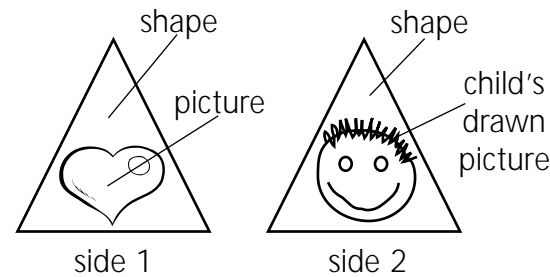
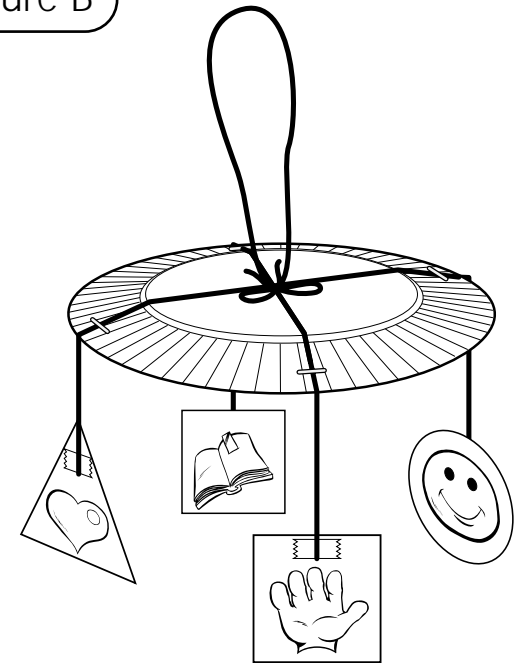


Figure D





Pre class



Bring Friends to Jesus

Lesson Objectives

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- The children will identify characteristics of Jesus to share with their friends.

Lesson Text

John 1:43-51

Scripture Memory Verse

"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

John 13:34

Under the Tree

The children will make a tree with fruit to remind them of Nathanael.

Materials

For each child:

- green tissue paper or construction paper (you can use more than one shade of green)
- glue stick

For the teacher:

- large white posterboard or cardboard
- 1 large brown paper bag
- brown construction paper
- removable gluestick (the figs are to be removed at the end of class)

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Under the Tree

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Game: Hide & Find Jesus

Craft: Circle of Friends

Life Application: Our Friends

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

Preparation

1. Cut one paper bag into the shape of a tree trunk.
2. Glue the "tree trunk" onto the posterboard.
3. Cut figs out of the brown construction paper.
4. Cut out enough so that there is at least one for each child.

Instructions

1. Give the children green tissue paper and have them tear and glue it above the trunk as leaves of the tree.
2. Have each child choose a fig to represent a friend they'd like to invite to church.
3. Write the friend's name on the fig and have the child glue it to the tree.

Conclusion

In our Bible story Jesus became friends with Nathanael. Nathanael had been sitting under a fig tree like this one that we just made. This tree will help us to remember that God wants us to bring our friends to meet Jesus.

Teacher Tips

At the end of class give the figs back to each child to remind them to invite their friends to church.



Hide and Find Jesus

The children will help their friends to find Jesus.

Materials

For the teacher:

- scissors
- crayons or markers

Reproducible Pages:

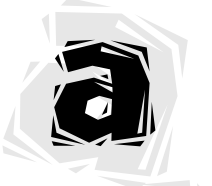
- Page D, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

1. Cut out the Jesus figure from the copy of Reproducible Page D.
2. Color the Jesus figure.

Instructions

1. Choose one child in the group to cover his eyes, have another child hide the Jesus figure somewhere nearby the group, within the room.
2. After Jesus is hidden, the first child can uncover his eyes.
3. The children should then help the first child to find Jesus by giving him hints. For example, if the child goes in a direction toward the hidden Jesus, then the group can say "You're getting warm!" If he goes in a direction that is away from Jesus they can say, "You're getting cold!" When he gets very close to Jesus they can say, "You're getting hot!"
4. When Jesus is found tell the children, *Thank you for helping him find Jesus! I know you are going to help other friends find Jesus too.*
5. Repeat the activity allowing each child in the group to have a turn finding Jesus.



Conclusion

You do such a good job helping your friends here find Jesus. Your friends that don't come to church need to find Jesus too. But do you think that they need to find a paper Jesus like this one? No. They need to learn about Jesus and learn that he loves them. How can you help your friends find Jesus? (asking them to church, being a good friend, telling them about Jesus)

Teacher Tips

If the children get too excited, help them to calm down by asking them to use their "inside voices".





Circle of Friends

The children will make paper dolls representing friends they would like to tell about Jesus.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 light-colored piece of construction paper
- glue stick
- crayons or markers

For the teacher:

- tape
- marker
- yarn
- other decorative items: sequins, buttons, small bows, eyes

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for the teacher

Preparation

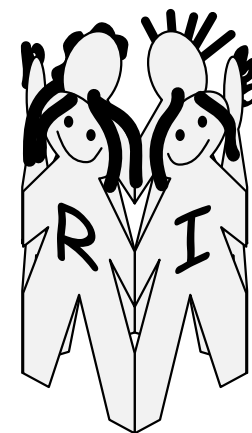
1. Cut out the figure stencil from the copy of Reproducible Page E.
2. Fold each piece of construction paper into 2" sections forming a fan. See Figure A.
3. Trace the figure stencil onto the folded piece of construction paper. See Figure B.
4. Cut out the figure from the folded paper being careful to not cut the paper's edges. See Figure C. NOTE: If you cut the edges, the figures will not be attached.
5. Write "F-R-I-E-N-D" across the figures as shown in Figure D.
6. Cut the yarn into 1" pieces for hair.
7. Make a model of the craft following the instructions.

Instructions

1. Give the children the decorative items and the crayons, and have them draw and decorate their "friends."
2. Write the names of the children's friends on the arms or legs of their figures.
3. Help the children to tape the hands and feet of the two end figures together forming the "circle of friends."

Conclusion

Talk about how friends help each other to know more about God. For example say, *Jesus was a good friend to others because he taught them about God. God is very happy when we are good friends to others.*



Bring Friends to Jesus

Friends of Jesus

Lesson 2

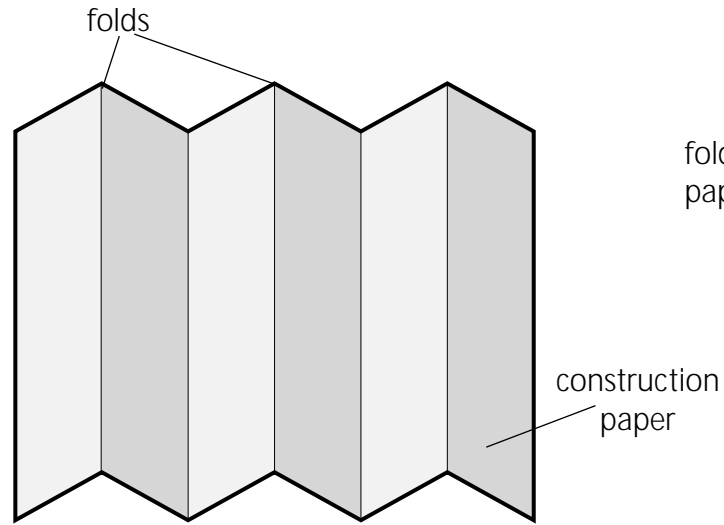


Figure A

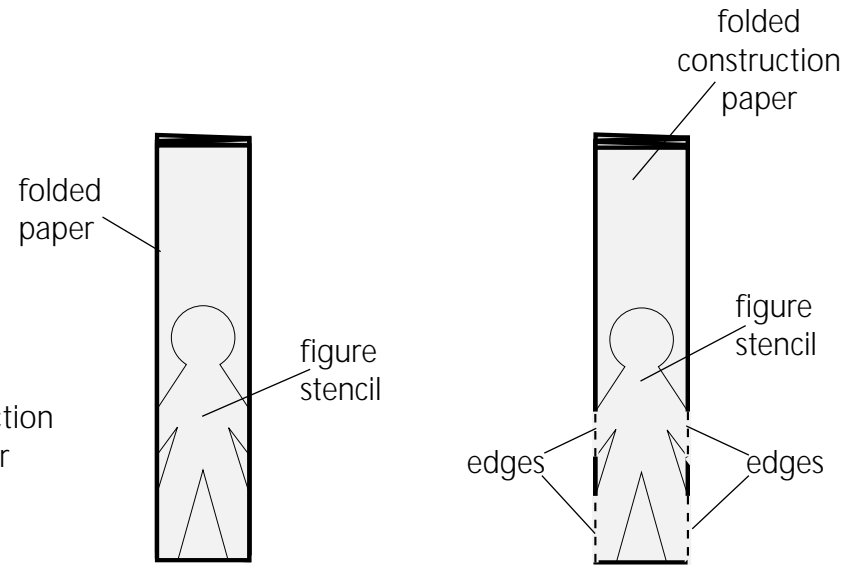


Figure B

Figure C

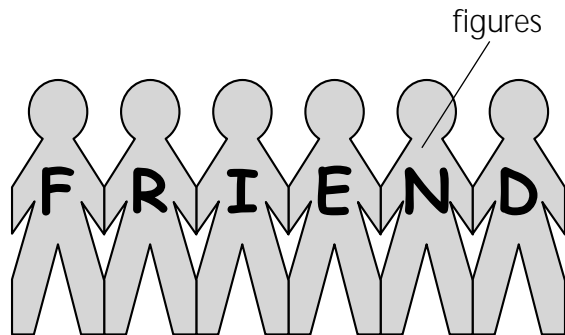


Figure D



Finished Craft



Bring Friends to Jesus

Our Friends

The children will make a list of their friends that they would like to see become friends of Jesus. They will discuss asking their friends to come to church so that they can learn more about Jesus.

Scripture Memory Verse

"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

John 13:34

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of white paper
- crayons or markers

Preparation

Familiarize yourself with the activity.

Instructions

Have each child draw a picture of one of their friends who doesn't normally come to church. Talk to the children as they work.

Jesus' friends names were Philip and Nathanael. What are the names of some of your friends? Have the children name their friends.

Ask each child about the friend they are drawing.

Do you think Jesus can be their friend too? Jesus wants your friend to also be his friend. Did you know that Jesus wants to be with all of your friends? How can we help our friends get to know Jesus better? (talk to your friends about him, ask your friends to come to church so that they can learn more about Jesus)

What would you like to tell your friends about Jesus? (He is friendly, giving, loving and kind.) Jesus loves every single person. He is always thinking about how he can help other people.

Scripture Memory Activity

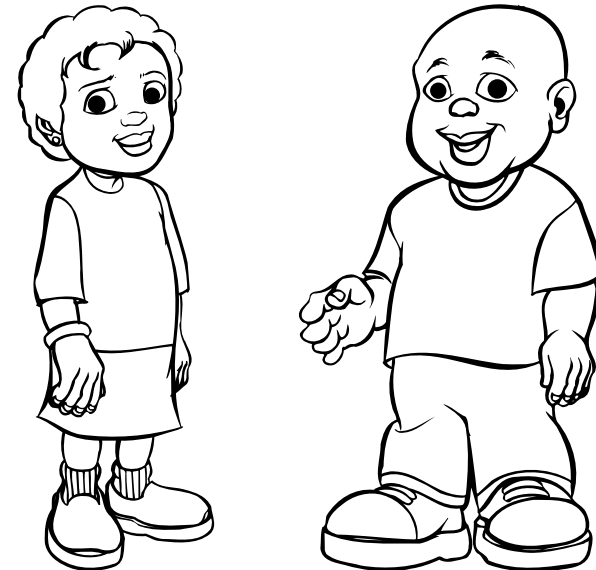
Touch your nose and have the children imitate you. *What are we doing? Yes, we're touching our noses.* Touch your knee. The children will imitate you. *Why did you touch your knee? You were imitating me. That's good!* Put your hand on your head. The children will follow. *Jesus likes it when we imitate him. He was such a good friend to others. He wants us to be good friends to people too. He wants us to be just like him. That's why our memory verse says "Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."* Repeat the memory verse a few times with the children.

Conclusion

Encourage the children to tell their friends about Jesus. Pray to thank God for friends to share with.

Teacher Tips

If there is time, play a game of Simon Says with the children.



“Love one another.
As I have loved you,
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John 13:34



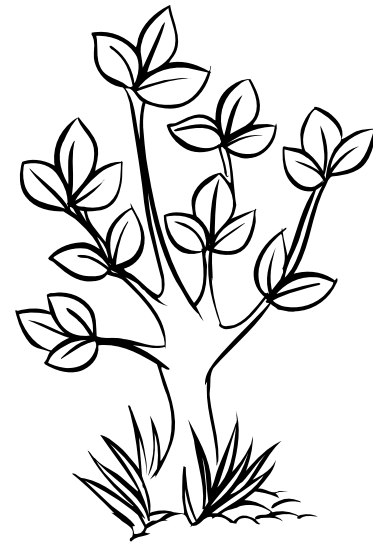
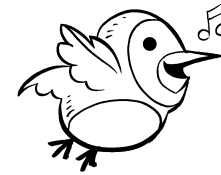
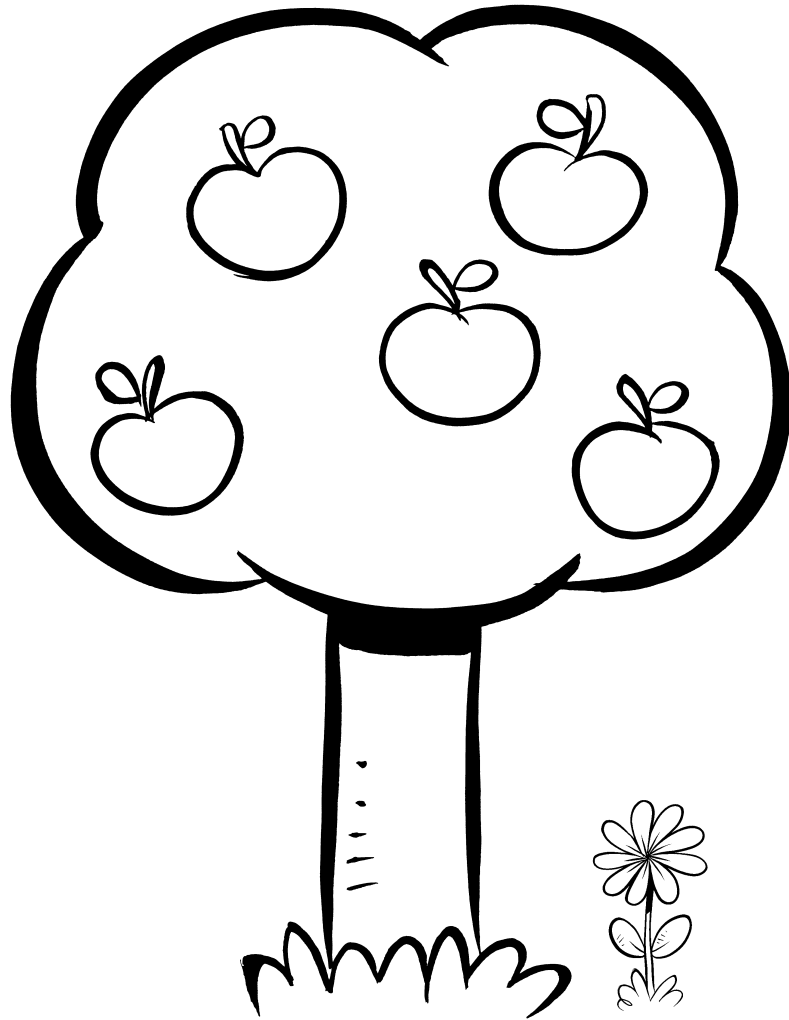
Core/Preclass

1 copy for each child

Apple-Tree

Page

A



Core/Bible Story

1 copy for the teacher

Friends of Jesus

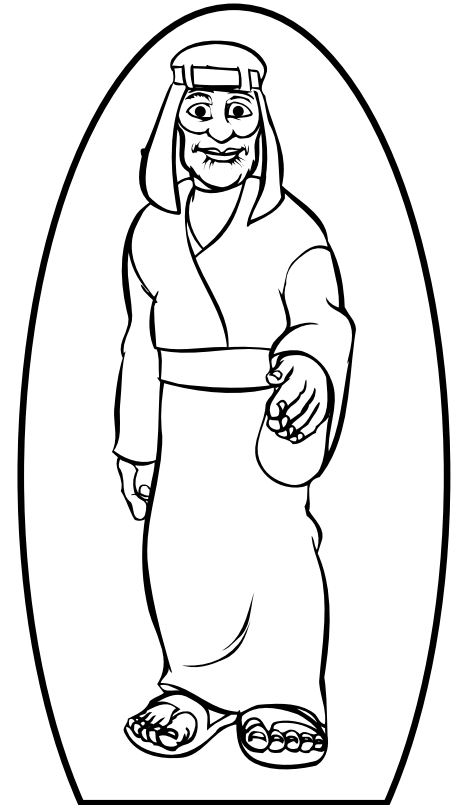
Lesson 2



Jesus



Nathanael

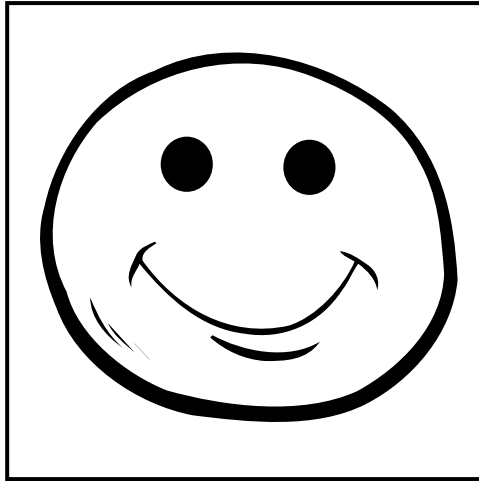
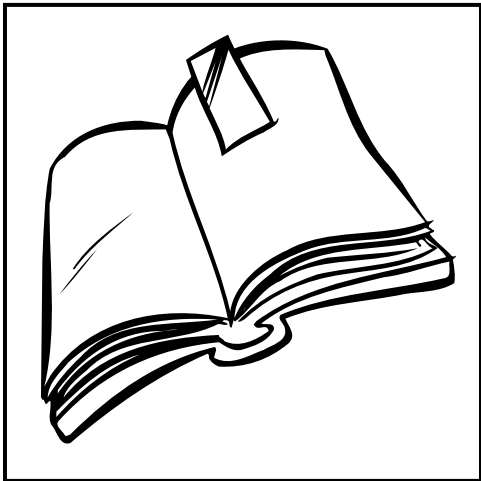
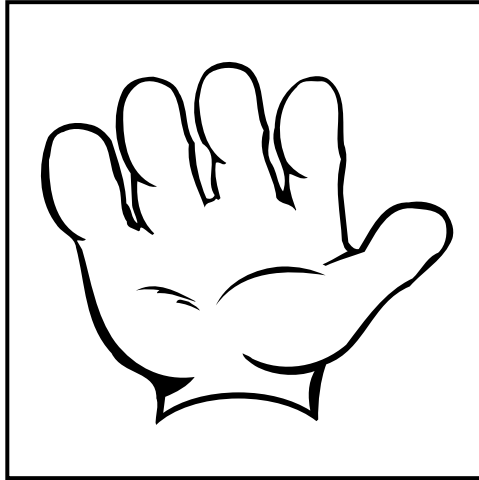
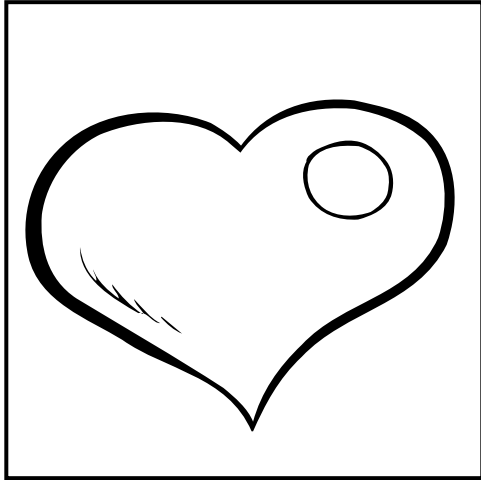


Philip



Core/Craft
1 copy for each child

Ready-to-use-idea
Page 2



mobile pictures

scripture text box

“Love one another.
As I have loved you
so you must love
one another.”

John 13:34



Supplement/Game

1 copy for the teacher



Jesus

Disciples
Page
D



Supplement/Craft

1 copy for the teacher

REPRODUCTION

Page

E

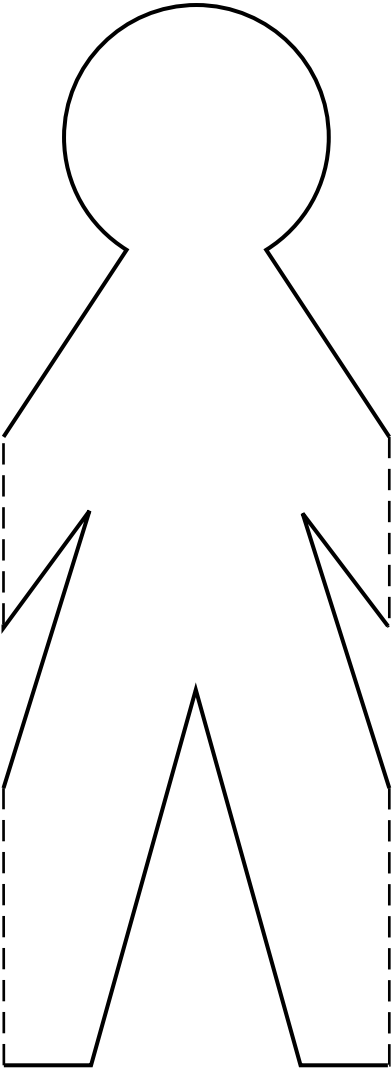


figure stencil

