



# JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER

## TEAM

### CEO

Reggie Joiner

### DIRECTOR OF MESSAGING

Kristen Ivy

### DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL STRATEGY

Brittany Compton Robertson

### DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM

Kathy Hill

### DESIGN AND BRAND MANAGER

Sharon van Rossum

### CREATIVE TEAM

Brittany Compton Robertson

Kathy Hill

Autumn Ward

Ashley Hiers

Donna High

Sharon van Rossum

Deb Springer

McKenzie Causey

Missy Purcell

### WRITERS

Autumn Ward

Ashley Hiers

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## BIBLE WORDS

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

**REVELATION 1:18, NIV**

Easter

**MATTHEW 26:20-50;  
27:1-2; 28:1-7**

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## BOTTOM LINE

**JESUS IS ALIVE.**

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## BASIC TRUTH

**JESUS WANTS TO BE MY  
FRIEND FOREVER.**

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The extended toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the story and craft element that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos.

The extended toddler curriculum is designed to be used IN ADDITION to the monthly toddler curriculum.

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## STORY TIME

- Draw It
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## CRAFT TIME

- Friends

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## STORY TIME

*Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story. Some kids (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!*

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Preschool Bible, butcher paper, and markers

**LEADER:** "Hello, friends. Join me over here on the floor. I'm so glad to see you today. Today's TRUE story from the Bible is about Easter and why we celebrate.

"Our story begins with Jesus and His friends, the disciples, having dinner together. *(Draw a table and stick people sitting around.)* After they finished dinner, they went to the garden to pray. *(Draw trees, flowers, bushes, and stick figure men.)* While they were in the garden, some really mean men took Jesus away. *(Draw angry face stick people.)*

"Those mean men hurt Jesus so bad that He died. It was very sad. *(Draw a sad face with tears.)* Jesus' friends took His body and buried it a tomb. *(Draw a semi-circle tomb with an opening, and add a stick figure man lying down.)* They rolled a big rock in front of the opening. *(Draw a big rock over the opening and color it in.)*

"One, two, three days *(write the numbers as you say them)* went by, and when the disciples went to the tomb, the rock had been rolled away, and the tomb was empty. *(Draw the empty tomb and the rock to the side of it.)* **Jesus is alive!** Jesus came back just like He said He would. *(Draw a stick figure man with a happy face.)* **Jesus is alive!** And that is why we celebrate Easter."

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## CRAFT TIME

*Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time. Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times. Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.*

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Happy" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, yellow dot markers, wet wipes, and a pen

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy the "Happy" Activity Page onto cardstock and cut (*one per child*).

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Retell the story. Encourage children to fill in the happy face with the yellow dot marker.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Today we learned that Easter is the special day we celebrate that **Jesus is alive!**"

"What do you see on your paper? (*Pause.*) There's Jesus and a great big smiley face! Jesus wants to be your friend for ever and ever! Take your marker and fill in the happy face. (*Pause.*)"

**"Jesus is alive. Yay! Jesus is alive!** And that is why we celebrate Easter."