The Thankful Woman—February 2021, Week 4

Today's Bible Story: Jesus loves me, no matter what.
The Thankful Woman • *Luke 7:36-50*
Memory Verse: "A friends loves at all times." Proverbs 17:17, NIrV
Key Question: Who loves you?
Bottom Line: Jesus loves me.
Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

INTRO ACTIVITY:

Heart Hunt

Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

What You Need: "Heart Hunt" Activity Page, copy paper, paper or plastic cups, construction paper in various colors, scissors, crayons or washable markers in various colors, and painter's tape

What You Do:
Before the Activity: Copy "Heart Hunt" on copy paper, one per child. Cut ten hearts out of construction paper, each one a different color. Hang the hearts around the room. Place crayons or markers that match the heart colors in cups, one per child.

NOTE: The Activity Page is set up so you can hunt for ten hearts or cut the paper in half and only hunt for five hearts.

During the Activity: Have children hunt for the hearts and fill in the hearts on their paper with the color heart they find.

After the Activity: Talk about what hearts mean and how we'll hear a story about someone who loves us, no matter what.

What You Say:
Before the Activity: "I'm so happy to see you today, friends! We're going on a heart hunt! When you find a heart, decide what color it is then use that color crayon or marker to fill it in on your paper."

During the Activity: "Ready to heart hunt? Grab a paper and a cup and go hunting! *(Pause.)* Keep going until you find one heart of every color. *(Pause.)* Did you find them all? *(Pause.)* Hooray! You did it! Great job heart hunting!"

After the Activity: "In our story today, we'll hear how Jesus loves us like He loved the woman who had made bad choices. Jesus loves us, no matter what!"

VIDEO: The Thankful Woman: *Watch today's Bible Story Video with Pastor Robin!*

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REVIEW ACTIVITY

Heart Walk

Live for God | Application Activity
Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

What You Need: "Heart Walk" Activity Page, colored cardstock, butcher paper, scissors, clear contact paper, music player, and a fun, upbeat worship song ("Whole Lotta Bit", for example)

What You Do:
Before the Activity: Copy "Heart Walk" on colored cardstock, one per child. Place on the floor spaced around the room and secure with contact paper. Cut one larger heart out of butcher paper and secure to the floor with contact paper. Cue music.

During the Activity: Encourage children to walk around the hearts while the music plays. When the music stops have the child that is standing on the large heart tell what they are thankful for. Repeat as long as desired.

After the Activity: Talk about how we are thankful because Jesus loves us.

What You Say:
Before the Activity: "Everybody, come join me on the hearts. When the music starts, walk around, and when it stops, stand on a heart."

During the Activity: "Here we go. *(Start the music.)* Keep walking until the music stops. *(Pause the music.)* Who stopped on the great big heart? *(Pause.)* Tell me one thing you are thankful for. *(Pause.)* That's a great thing to be thankful for. Let's go again. *(Repeat as long as desired.)* That was so much fun! Now sit down on the heart closest to you."

After the Activity: "The woman in our story was so thankful that Jesus loved her and forgave her for all the bad choices she had made. Jesus loves us, no matter what we've done. Jesus loves us so much that He wants to be our friend forever! Tell me, **Who loves you? *[Bottom Line]*** **Jesus loves me.** That's right!"

MEMORY VERSE

SAY: "Our Bible story, today, was about how Jesus loves us, no matter what. Even though the woman in the story had made a lot of wrong choices, Jesus still loved her and forgave her. Jesus did that because a friend loves at ALL times. And the Bible verse we learned this month will help us remember that a friend loves at ALL times, because it says:

"'A friend loves at all times.' Proverbs 17:17.

"Let's stand up and say that with the motions together, one more time, then anyone who wants to say it can give it a try!"

"'**A friend** *(hook your pointer fingers together)*

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loves *(hug yourself)*
at all times,' *(stretch your arms out and turn in a circle)*
Proverbs 17:17." *(Open hands like a book.)*

JOURNAL AND PRAYER

SAY: "Today, we learned that Jesus loves us, no matter what. Jesus loves us when we're happy, sad, angry, and even when we make wrong choices. Anytime we make a wrong choice, we can talk to Jesus about it and tell Him we're sorry. Jesus will always love us and forgive us, because Jesus is a friend who loves at all times.

"Today, we'll make a list of wrong choices we've made. Everyone has made a wrong choice before, even me. That's why everyone needs to know that Jesus loves them, no matter what. I'll go first and write that I am sorry for . . . *(share a preschool appropriate wrong choice as you write it down).* Now when I say your name, you to tell me a wrong choice you've made, and I will write it in our prayer journal. Get ready and listen for your name!

(Say each child's name and write down what they say. Remember to print the names so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)

"You are very brave to share your wrong choices, just like the woman in the Bible story was very brave to go to Jesus. Let's use this list when we talk to God. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer
"Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to love us, no matter what. Thank You that He is the kind of friend who forgives us every time and will never, ever stop loving us. Every person in the world has made wrong choices, and we all need Jesus to forgive us. Today, we want to say we are sorry for *(read the list the children made).* I pray *(name each child)* will always talk to You about their choices and trust that Jesus loves them, no matter what. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."

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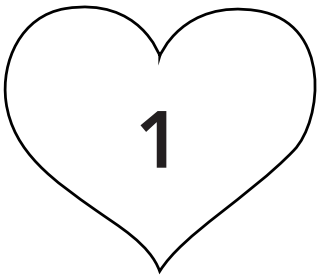
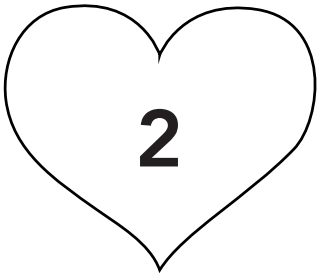
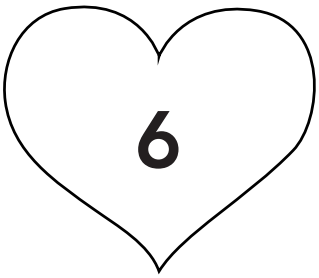
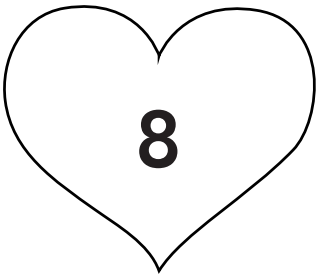
Jesus loves me.

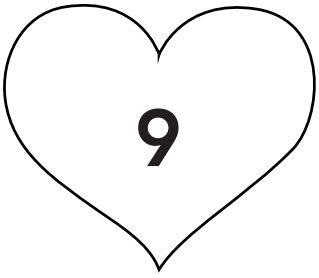


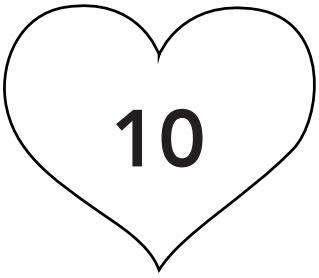


Jesus loves me.









Copy on copy paper. One per child. If desired, cut in half and use only the 1-5 side.
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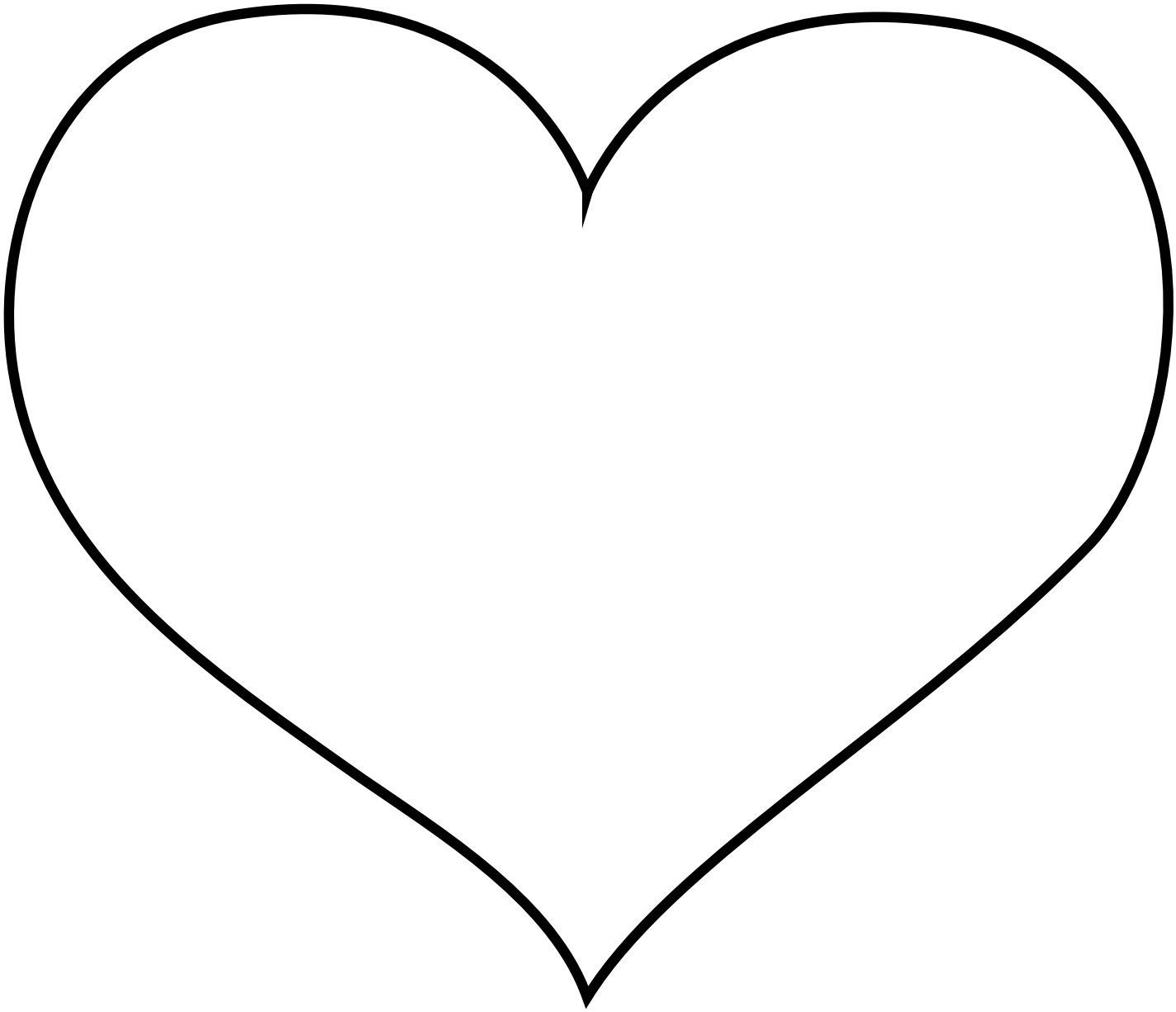

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