

BASIC TRUTH

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

BOTTOM LINE

YOU CAN FOLLOW JESUS.

BIBLE WORDS

**“Come and follow me,
Jesus said.”
Matthew 4:19, NIV**

Toddler classrooms are one of the most unique places in the church. Between the diaper changes, snacking, and rocking, there are small windows of playtime that are an amazing opportunity to teach children about their loving Heavenly Father. This curriculum is designed to bridge the gap as your young toddlers move from the baby room towards the twos.

We have provided four playtimes to teach the monthly bottom line through one-on-one as well as small group play. Repeat each activity as long as there is interest. Remember, toddlers LOVE repetition.

These toddler playtimes have also been produced as posters available at www.orangestore.org for you to hang on the wall for easy reference.

MONTHLY PLAYTIMES:

- Little People Line
- Following the Leader
- I Can Follow Jesus
- Color the Line

SUPPLIES:

- Plastic tub
- Little People®
- Tape
- Scarf
- Butcher paper
- Sharpie®
- Crayons

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1. LITTLE PEOPLE LINE

WHAT YOU NEED: Little People; plastic tub; tape

WHAT YOU DO: Make a line of tape on the floor. Have a small group of children dump the Little People from the plastic tub and then line them up on the tape. Then have the children themselves line up on the tape. Continue as long as there is interest.

WHAT YOU SAY: “Let’s see if we can line up our Little People friends on the tape. This one will be the leader. The others can follow him. Let’s count our friends. One, two, three. Great job counting! Do you think you can line up on the tape? Let’s try! [Child’s name] will be the leader. Then, [child’s name] will follow him, and [Child’s name] will follow him. (Continue until all children on the line are mentioned.) Great job! Awesome following. Did you know there is someone very special who asked us to follow Him? Jesus! You can follow Jesus.”

2. FOLLOWING THE LEADER

WHAT YOU NEED: Tape; scarf

WHAT YOU DO: Tape a path on the floor. Give the leader a scarf to wave in the air as he/she leads. Encourage the toddlers to follow the leader on the path. Make another child lead, and do it again. Continue as long as there is interest.

WHAT YOU SAY: “Friends, come and stand on this line with me. Who wants to be the leader? Great! Hold this scarf and wave it in the air. Everyone follow our friend along the path. Great job leading! And, great job to all of you for following the leader. Did you know there is someone very special who asked us to follow Him? Jesus! You can follow Jesus.”

3. I CAN FOLLOW JESUS

WHAT YOU DO: Sing the song below to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb.”

WHAT YOU SAY: “Friends, come and sing a song with me.

“I can follow, yes I can, yes I can, yes I can.

“I can follow, yes I can.

“I can follow Jesus.

“Great singing, everyone. Yes, you can follow Jesus!”

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4. COLOR THE LINE

WHAT YOU NEED: Butcher paper; Sharpie; crayons

WHAT YOU DO: Place butcher paper on the table, and draw lines with the Sharpie. Give toddlers crayons, and encourage them to follow the lines with their crayons. Continue as long as there is interest.

WHAT YOU SAY: “Come sit with me at the table and color! I’m going to give you a crayon. What color do you want? Great choice! I want you to use your crayon to follow this line. Can you draw along this line? Great job! You are following the line with the crayon. Did you know there is someone very special who asked us to follow Him? Jesus! You can follow Jesus!”