

Today's Suggested Schedule—February 2026, Week 3

Today's Bible Story: Mary and Martha • Luke 10:38-42

Jesus wants to spend time with me.

Key Question: Who loves you?

Bottom Line: Jesus loves me.

Memory Verse: *Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."* • Matthew 19:14 NLT

Supplies NOT Included in the Activity Bags

Social: Providing time for fun interaction

Sensory Bin

- Beans
- Sensory bin
- Toy kitchen toys

Play Doh Mat (NOT Walkertown)

- Play doh

Small Group (25 minutes)

Memory Verse Activity- Lacing Heart

Bible Story Review- A Visit to Martha's

- crayons

Application Activity- Pause to Pray

- Baby wipes or paper towels

Journal and Prayer

Bible Story Summary- Mary and Martha

Martha welcomes Jesus into her home and busies herself with preparations, while her sister Mary sits and listens to Jesus teach. Martha is upset and asks Jesus to tell Mary to help her, but Jesus gently tells her that Mary has chosen what is better—spending time with Him. Jesus reminds Martha—and us—that being with Him is more important than doing things for Him.

Social -Providing Time for Fun Interaction

Sensory Bin

Supplies

- Dried beans
- Toy kitchen supplies
- Sensory Bin
- Sensory Bin materials labeled Mary and Martha

To Talk About

- Jesus and his disciples walked everywhere.
- Martha invited them to her house.
- Mary was Martha's sister.
- Martha was busy taking care of everyone while Mary listened to Jesus.
- Martha was upset because Mary wasn't helping her.
- Jesus said Mary had made a good choice.
- Do you forget to put God first?
- How can you remember to put God first?

Play Doh Mat

Supplies

- Playdoh

Talk About:

- Jesus and his disciples walked everywhere. They didn't have hotels like we do today.
- Martha invited Jesus to the house. She was busy taking care of the house and her guests. What do you think she was doing?
- Mary listened to Jesus. Why do you think she listened to Jesus teach instead of helping Martha?
- Martha was upset because Mary was not helping her. When have you been upset?
- Jesus knew Martha was upset. He told her Mary had made a good choice to listen to him.
- Talk about a time when you forgot to put Jesus first.

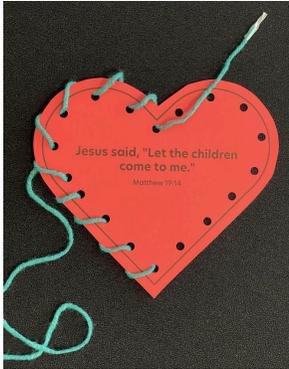
Would You Rather:

- Walk places or ride in a car?
- Invite someone to your house or tell them to get a hotel room?
- Be busy or listen to Jesus?
- Be worried or make a good choice?
- Put Jesus first or last?
- Keep working or listen to Jesus?



Lesson Activities

1. Memory Verse Activity- Lacing Heart



What You Need:

- “Lacing Heart” Activity Page
- Yarn
- Clear tape
- Hole punch

What You Do:

Give each child a heart. Show how to lace the string in and out of the holes around the edge. As children lace their heart, lead them in saying the Memory Verse. Pause a few times, letting the children echo you.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come join me over here and let’s do the motions as we say our Memory Verse together. Ready? It goes like this. ‘Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) “Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,” (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14. (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job everyone! I have something special for us to do with our time today that will help us practice our verse.”

During the Activity: (*Hold up a lacing heart.*) “What shape is this? (Pause for responses.) That’s right! It’s a heart! Hearts make us think of love! **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves you!** That’s right! Jesus loves you and wants you to come to Him. We are going to practice saying the words of our Memory Verse together as you weave the yarn in and out of the holes of your heart. Ready? ‘Jesus said: “*Let the children come to me*”’ (*Matthew 19:14 NIV*). Keep lacing and saying it with me! (*Repeat as desired.*) Look at all these beautiful hearts! They remind us that Jesus loves us and wants us to be close to Him.”

After the Activity: “The Bible teaches us that Jesus loves us and wants us to be near Him. ‘Jesus said, “Let the children come to me.”’ That means you, and you, and you, and you! (*Point to each child.*) **Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me!**”

2. Bible Story Review- A Visit to Mary and Martha's



What You Need:

- “A Visit to Mary and Martha’s” Activity Page
- Crayons
- Permanent marker

What You Do:

Write each child’s name on their paper.

Encourage children to color their pictures. Help slide each child’s Martha strip through the slits in their paper. Demonstrate how to make Martha move.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “I’m so happy to see you today, friends, come sit with me and let’s make some story art to help us remember today’s true story from the Bible.”

During the Activity: “Look, on your paper is a picture of Mary sitting with Jesus in the house she lives in with her sister, Martha. But where is Martha? (*Pick up the paper strip with Martha on it.*) Here she is. Color your big picture and the picture of Martha. (*Pause.*) Nice job. Let’s review with your pictures. Our story begins with Martha. Point to Martha. (*Pause.*) She and Jesus were friends. One day, Jesus and His friends, the disciples, came to Martha’s house. Martha was so excited! She cleaned and cooked and was busy the whole time but her sister, Mary, sat next to Jesus and listened to everything He said. Let’s attach the paper strip with Martha on it to your paper. (*Slide the strip through the slits on each child’s paper.*) Pull the strip back and forth to make Martha busy. (*Pause.*) Martha thought her sister Mary should help her instead of sitting with Jesus and that made her upset. But Jesus said that Mary was doing the best thing. Jesus told Martha that spending time WITH Him was the most important thing. Being with Jesus is more important than doing things for Him.”

After the Activity: “Jesus loved Martha and wanted her to spend time with Him. Jesus wants us to spend time with Him too, because Jesus loves you and **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves me. Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me!**”

3. Application Activity- Pause to Pray

What You Need:

- Baby wipes or paper towels

What You Do:

Invite children to pretend they are doing chores, such as dusting, wiping, and cleaning, around the room. Randomly call out “FREEZE!” When everyone freezes, say, “Let’s pray to Jesus!” Have children fold their hands if they can, close their eyes (if they want to), and say a short prayer together. Repeat several times.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, in our Bible Story today, Martha got so busy doing things for Jesus’ visit that she didn’t spend time with Him. We’re going to pretend we are busy doing chores. But every time I say, ‘FREEZE!’ we will stop what we’re doing and spend time with Jesus by praying.”

During the Activity: “Let’s get busy! Dust the table ... wipe the shelves ... pretend to sweep the floor. FREEZE! (*Pause.*) It’s time to pray! (*Pause for children to get into a prayer position.*) Dear Jesus, thank You for loving us. Okay, let’s all get back to our chores! (*Repeat several rounds.*) You all did such a great job stopping what you were doing to spend time with Jesus!”

After the Activity: “In our Bible Story, when Martha got upset that Mary wasn’t helping, Jesus told Martha that spending time WITH Him was more important than doing things for Him. Jesus loved Martha and wanted her to spend time with Him. Jesus wants us to spend time with Him too, because Jesus loves you and **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves me. Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.**”

4. Journal and Prayer

What You Need:

- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen

What You Do:

Encourage children to act like they are sweeping and cooking as you walk to your Small Group spot. Freeze and put your hand to your ear then sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity: Review the Memory Verse and hand motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of places we can spend time with Jesus.

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’re going to pretend to cook and clean as we walk to our Small Group spot. Follow me and pretend to sweep and pretend to hold a bowl and stir the ingredients all the way to our Small Group spot! (*Pretend to hold a broom and sweep, then pretend to hold a big bowl with one arm and stir with the other as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Everybody freeze and sit where you are and listen. (*Put your hand up to your ear.*) One, two, three, sit down with me and let’s talk about today’s Bible Story.”

During the Activity: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) “In our Bible Story today, we learned that Jesus wants us to spend time with Him! Jesus loves us, and He likes it when we talk to Him, read our Bibles, sing songs to Him, and even dance with joy! Jesus wants us to spend time with Him because Jesus loves you and **[Bottom Line] Jesus loves me. Who loves you? [Bottom Line] Jesus loves me.**

“Hey! That reminds me of the new Bible verse we are learning today! It says, ‘Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) “Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,”’ (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14.” (*Open hands like a book.*) Let’s stand up and say that Bible verse together! Just say what I say and do what I do! ‘Jesus said (*tap finger to middle of each palm*) “Let the children (*point to children*) come to me,”’ (*move hands toward self*) Matthew 19:14.” (*Open hands like a book.*) Yay! (*Clap.*)

“Let’s sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Mary spent time with Jesus in the home she lived in with her sister, Martha. I like to spend time with Jesus outside. We can spend time with Jesus anywhere, because He always wants to spend time with us. Let’s make a list of our favorite places to spend time with Jesus. It can be your bedroom, your yard, a park, your car . . . ANYWHERE! When I say your name, tell me your favorite place to spend time with Jesus, 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 as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

After the Activity: (Hold up journal.) “This is a wonderful list! 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.)*

“Dear God, it is an amazing feeling knowing that Jesus loves us and wants to spend time with us. Jesus really is the best friend we could ever have. Thank You that we can spend time with Jesus anywhere, like ... *(read the list the children made)*. I pray we will remember that wherever we are, we can stop and spend time with Jesus. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”