



GAME 1: COME TO ME!

In this game, kids will move toward the leader each time she calls out a prompt that describes them.

Let's play a game called Come to Me. You'll all start on the other side of the room from me. I'm going to say, "Come to me if ..." and then I'll say something that may or may not describe you. For example, I might say, "Come to me if you like to play video games." If you like to play video games, you'll take one step toward me. Let's see how many of you end up making it all the way to me.

Line the kids up side by side on one end of the room or space. Stand across from the kids. Begin reading the "Come to me if ..." list below. The game ends when most (or all) of the kids have come to you.

Leader Tip: To add a more physical challenge to the game, have kids balance on one foot and then hop toward you.

Works great with
the Jesus Calls the
Disciples lesson!

Make It Inclusive: To include kids with limited mobility, invite them to think of “Come to Me” categories and to call out their ideas.

Come to me if ... (you can also personalize the statements to fit your group)

- you like broccoli.
- you like strawberries.
- you like swimming.
- you like snow.
- you like soccer.
- you like to read.
- you wear glasses.
- you have a pet.
- you have a sister or brother.
- you do not have a sister or brother.
- you have blonde hair.
- you have brown hair.
- you have red hair.
- you have black hair.
- you like salad.
- you have a birthday this month.
- you’ve been to the ocean.
- you play baseball.
- you like chocolate cake.
- you love winter.
- you love summer.
- you lost a tooth recently.
- you dislike bugs.
- there is an “S” in your name.
- there is an “M” in your name.
- you’ve ever broken a bone.
- you’ve ever been fishing.

Wow! Many of you like a lot of things and have done a lot of things! In God’s big story, we’re going to hear about when Jesus called His disciples to follow Him, but not just special, super smart, or fancy people were called. The people He called were regular fishermen. We’ll learn that we can follow Jesus too!

GAME 2: RESCUE ME!

In this game, relay teams will race back and forth “rescue” one person at a time.

Ahead of time, tape a “start” line and “finish” line on the floor, several feet apart.

Divide your group into two teams, and have them line up at the start line. Send one kid from each team to the finish line.

Works great with the
Jesus and the Woman
at the Well lesson!

Make It Inclusive: To include kids who with limited mobility, invite them to help you lead! They can be the timekeeper, keep track of how many people were rescued on each team, and call out, “Start” and “Stop.”

Leader Tip: For an added challenge, change how the rescuer has to travel across the room (hopping on one foot, crawling, rolling, etc.).

We’re going to play a game called Rescue Me! For this game, each round will have a rescuer who needs to get a teammate from one side of the room to the other. Here’s the catch: You have to do it in a specific way, and you only have two minutes to do it!

Point to the finish line. **For the first round, the kids at the finish line are the rescuers for your team. Your job is to rescue one teammate. When I say, “Go,” you’ll walk “heel-to-toe” to the start line and rescue one teammate by gently tagging him. Together, you’ll both bunny hop back to the finish line. Then the person who was just rescued will walk “heel-to-toe” to the start line again and rescue the next teammate. Together, the next two will bunny hop to the finish line. Each time, the player who was just rescued will be the one to rescue the next teammate. You’ll have two minutes to see how many of your teammates you can rescue, so you need to be quick.**

Put two minutes on the timer, and start the activity. Do as many rounds as time allows.

You all did a great job with that rescue relay. Another word for rescue is save. We all need to be saved by God. Today we’re learning in God’s big story that God sent Jesus to save us.

GAME 3: FIND SOMETHING YOU LOVE

SUPPLIES: scissors (prep only), tape, posterboard or paper (2 sheets), markers

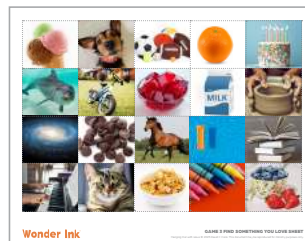
Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Something I Love Printable (enough pictures for each kid in your group)

Works well with
the Jesus and the
Children lesson!

In this relay-style game, kids will take turns choosing pictures of something they love and taping them to their team's posters.

Make It Inclusive: If there are kids in your group with limited mobility, have kids gather around the Something I Love posters at tables or on the floor. Rather than run to the posters, kids can simply take turns choosing pictures of something they love and taping them to their team's posters.

Ahead of time, print the Something I Love Printable, and cut apart the pictures. You'll need at least one picture for each kid in your group. Use a marker to write "Something I Love" on both posterboards or sheets of paper, and tape each to the wall at kid-level. Set out the pictures from the printable along with some tape on the floor near the poster. Also set several markers on the floor.



Divide your group into two teams. Have each team line up across the room from one of the Something I Love posters.

Today's game is called Find Something You Love. When I say, "Go," one person from each team will run to your team's "Something I Love" poster and find a picture from the pile on the floor that shows something they love. They'll get a small piece of tape and tape it to the poster. If you don't see anything pictured that you love, you can use a marker and draw or write something you love on the poster. Then run back and tag the next player from your team, who will do the same thing. Keep going until everyone on your team has gone.

When everyone is ready, begin the activity by having the first kids in line on each team run to their team's poster and add the things they love to their team's list.

Wow! You all came up with full lists of things that you love. Today in God's big story, we're talking about love and the love Jesus has for us—especially for children.

GAME 4: SEEK AND FIND

SUPPLIES: small object, timer (cell phone, second hand on watch/clock)

Works well with
the Jesus and
Zacchaeus lesson!

In the game, kids will seek for and find a hidden object.

Make It Inclusive: If you have kids with limited mobility in your group, modify the game by having all the kids sit in one place and look around the room to find the hidden object (similar to “I Spy”).

Show the kids the object that will be hidden. **Today’s game is called Seek and Find. I’m going to hide this object somewhere in this room. Your job is to seek and find the** (insert name of object). **But how quickly can you find it? We’ll see! I’m going to time each round and see just how quickly you can seek and find the** (insert name of object).

When the kids are ready, ask them to close their eyes and place their heads in their hands while you hide the object. Then ask them to open their eyes and explore the room for the object. After playing several rounds, gather the kids back together.

Leader Tip: Depending on the age range, you can make the object easier or harder to find.

During some rounds, you were having a hard time finding the (insert name of object). **It wasn’t easy to see because it was hidden so well. Today in God’s big story, we’re learning about a man named Zacchaeus who was seeking for Jesus but having a hard time finding Him. In the end, it was Jesus who found Zacchaeus, and Zacchaeus’ life was changed forever!**

GAME 5: TISSUE FREEZE

SUPPLIES: tissues (1 per kid)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: upbeat music from the [Hanging Out with Jesus Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Works well with the
Jesus and the People
with Leprosy lesson!

In this game, kids play a version of Freeze Tag in which they must keep a tissue balanced on their head, and the only way to become unfrozen is to receive help from another player.

Make It Inclusive: If a child has limited mobility, invite him to be the official DJ, who chooses what song to play and starts and stops the music.

Today's game is called Tissue Freeze. Each of you will put a tissue on your head. As the music plays, you'll walk around the room. You have to keep moving, and you can't touch the tissue with your hands. If the tissue falls off your head, you become frozen. The only way to be unfrozen is for someone who is still in the game to come and put the tissue back on your head. Then you'll be unfrozen, and you can rejoin the game.

Give everyone a tissue, and have them place it on their heads. Start playing upbeat music from the [Hanging Out with Jesus Elementary Spotify playlist](#). Play as long as time allows.

This was a simple game, but it required someone to help you if you became frozen. You needed another person to put the tissue back on your head, so you could rejoin the game. Today in God's big story, we're learning that Jesus cares for everyone. One way He shows He cares is by helping us when we need help. We're learning how Jesus showed compassion and care for people who were sick and needed help.

GAME 6: SEND IT FLYING

SUPPLIES: paper (1 sheet per kid), large plastic hoop, table, painter's tape, pencils

Works well with
the Nicodemus Visits
Jesus lesson!

In this game, kids will make paper airplanes and fly them toward targets.

Leader Tip: Invite kids to create the targets for this game! Have them create based on what they see in your space.

Make It Inclusive: Kids with delayed fine motor skill development may struggle to fold a paper airplane. Invite them to decorate a sheet of paper (they can color it, draw designs on it, put stickers on it, etc.). Then pair them up with a leader or older kid who can fold their paper into an airplane.

Give each kid a sheet of paper, and encourage them to create a paper airplane. (Help younger kids as needed, or pair up younger and older kids so they can help each other!) Have kids write their names on their airplanes. Place a strip of painter's tape on the floor for the kids to stand behind. Set the large plastic hoop on the floor about 10 feet from the line. Then use painter's tape to create a square on the floor somewhere beyond the hoop that can be used as an additional target.

Today's game is called Send It Flying. Each of you has created a paper airplane. The goal of this game is to see who can send their airplane flying so it lands on a specific target (i.e., the large plastic hoop, the taped square on the floor). You can try as many times as you'd like.

Begin when everyone is ready. Kids can retrieve their airplanes and fly them as many times as time allows.

Wow! You sure did a good job of sending those airplanes flying through the air toward the target. Those airplanes couldn't fly by themselves. You had to help them get to their target. We all miss the mark of what God knows is best (that's called sin—it's the wrong things we do), and we need God's help. But God didn't leave us alone. He sent Jesus to forgive us, save us, and help us. Today in God's big story, we're learning about a man named Nicodemus who had a lot of questions and needed some help from Jesus.

GAME 7: PICTURE REVIEW

SUPPLIES: tape

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Hanging Out with Jesus
Bible Story Pictures

Works great as a
review of the Hanging
Out with Jesus series!

In this series review game, kids will listen to descriptions of people from the six Hanging Out with Jesus lesson Bible stories and move to the picture that matches that story

Leader Tip: For Preteens. Make it a race to see who can touch the picture first.

Make It Inclusive: For kids who are unable to run to the pictures, print a second set of pictures and let them toss a beanbag onto the picture to choose it.

In this series review game, kids will listen to descriptions of people from the six Hanging Out with Jesus lesson Bible stories and move to the picture that matches that story.

Ahead of time, print the Bible Story Pictures from the Hanging Out with Jesus series, and tape them to the wall in different places in your room.

In the Hanging Out with Jesus series, we've learned the stories of six different people (or groups of people) who got to hang out with Jesus. What do you think it would be like to actually hang out with Jesus in person? What would you do with Him if He was physically here with us? Allow the kids to respond. **In the game, you'll all start in the middle of the room** (point to a designated spot in the middle), **and I'll call out clues about the people from each story who "hung out" with Jesus. You'll run to the picture from the story I'm describing.**

Invite all the kids to stand in the middle of the room. Point out each picture, and review the story that goes with it. Call out each clue, and encourage the kids to run to the picture your clues describe.

- **He was in a tree.** (Answer: Jesus and Zacchaeus)
- **They were sick.** (Answer: Jesus and the People with Leprosy)
- **They were fishermen.** (Answer: Jesus Calls the Disciples)
- **He was a Pharisee.** (Answer: Nicodemus Visits Jesus)
- **Their parents brought them to Jesus.** (Answer: Jesus and the Children)
- **She was a Samaritan.** (Answer: Jesus and the Woman at the Well)
- **He came to meet with Jesus at night.** (Answer: Nicodemus Visits Jesus)
- **They met Jesus near the Sea of Galilee.** (Answer: Jesus Calls the Disciples)

- **He was a wealthy tax collector.** (Answer: Jesus and Zacchaeus)
- **She met Jesus around noon outside of her town.** (Answer: Jesus and the Woman at the Well)
- **They left their jobs and followed Jesus.** (Answer: Jesus Calls the Disciples)
- **They were considered “unclean” according to Jewish law and lived outside of town.** (Answer: Jesus and the People with Leprosy)
- **The disciples got irritated that they were hanging around Jesus.**
(Answer: Jesus and the Children)

Remember, Jesus loves us more than we can imagine, and He invites us to hang out with Him ... forever!