

OLLIE'S

I SPY

DEVOTIONAL

**A 5-DAY INTERACTIVE DEVOTIONAL
ABOUT JESUS FOR PRESCHOOLERS**

DAY 1 | I Can Learn About Jesus

Let's talk about someone very special. His name is Jesus. Can you say "Jesus"? *(Pause for your child's response.)* God sent Jesus to us so He could be our friend forever, and we can read about Him in the Bible.

A long time ago, God sent an angel to a woman named Mary. The angel had a special message for her. Mary was going to have a baby boy! Can you guess who the baby was? *(Pause.)* Yes! The baby's name would be Jesus. Jesus is special because Jesus is God's Son. So, who is Jesus? Let's say it together . . . Jesus is God's Son!

After Mary found out she was going to have a baby, she and Joseph went to a town called Bethlehem. When they got there, they had to stay in a stable where animals lived. There they waited for Baby Jesus to be born. Then, it happened! Jesus was born! Mary wrapped Baby Jesus in some cloths to keep Him warm. Let's pretend to rock the baby. *(Rock a pretend baby.)*

But Jesus didn't stay a baby. He grew up to be a big boy and then a grown man.

When Jesus was a man, He did amazing things that only He could do. Jesus told a thunderstorm to stop, and it stopped! Jesus made a blind man able to see! He even fed a huge crowd of people with just a few pieces of bread and fish! Jesus did many amazing things. The people who saw what Jesus did wrote about it in the Bible.

Now we can learn more about Jesus by reading the Bible. Let's stop a minute and thank God for Jesus.



Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Thank You for the people who wrote about what Jesus did so we can learn about Him. Thank You for loving us, God. We love You, too. Amen.

Now, when we want to learn more about Jesus, where can we look? Yes, the Bible! Let's read some of the amazing things Jesus did.

Read these verses together from a Bible or a Bible app:

Matthew 8:23-27; John 9:1; John 9:6-7; Mark 6:34-44

Play I Spy:

Play this game after reading today's Scriptures. Together, look at the Bible picture for today's devotional *(above)*. Say, "I spy with my little eye something that moos." Guide your child to guess the answer *(cow)*. Continue, taking turns describing people, animals, and objects in the story picture.

DAY 2 | Jesus Wants to Be My Friend Forever

Let's talk about someone special who did something only He could do. If you know who it is, say His name when I count to three. Ready? One . . . two . . . three!

Yes! It's Jesus, and I'm going to tell you about the MOST amazing thing He did.

Jesus came to be our friend forever. He taught us how to love each other by being a good friend. What are some ways we can be a good friend to others? *(Listen to your child's answers.)* That's right. We can share. We can use kind words. We can help. There are many ways to be a good friend.

Jesus was a good friend to everyone—even when people made wrong choices. Have you ever made a wrong choice? *(Pause.)* Yep, me too. But even when we make wrong choices, Jesus loves us.

Now here's the MOST amazing thing Jesus did that only He could do.

One day, a very sad thing happened. Some angry people took Jesus away and hurt Him so badly He died. Jesus' friends buried Him in a tomb and rolled a big stone in front of it. Jesus was gone, and His friends were sad. But three days later, Jesus did something amazing that only He could do.

Jesus came back! That means Jesus is alive!

When Jesus came back, He went to see His friends so they would know He was alive. Then His friends told some people, and they told other people, and they told more people . . . and now we can know that Jesus is alive! We can know that He wants to be our friend forever.

So when I say, "Jesus wants to be . . .," I want you to say, "my friend forever!" Ready? Jesus wants to be . . . my friend forever! One more time! Jesus wants to be . . . my friend forever!

Let's close our eyes and talk to God together.



Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Thank You that He came back, just like He said He would. We love You, God. Amen.

Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever. Where can we read about Jesus? That's right! We can read about Jesus in the Bible. Let's read some more about Jesus right now.

Read these verses together from a Bible or a Bible app:

Matthew 28:5-10

Play I Spy:

Help your child find the word "Jesus" in today's Scripture as you read it together.

DAY 3 | Jesus Loves Me, No Matter What

We've been learning that Jesus loves us. Do you think Jesus loves EVERYONE, no matter what? *(Pause for an answer.)*

Here's a true story from the Bible. It'll help us answer that question.

Jesus had a friend named Peter. They went fishing together. Jesus let Peter help Him do important jobs. He taught Peter about God's love. Jesus and Peter were great friends.

Then, one night some angry people took Jesus away. We read about that last time. They hurt Jesus and said mean things to Him. This scared Jesus' friends, and they ran away. But Peter followed Jesus and the angry crowd.

While Peter waited to see what would happen, a girl asked him if he was Jesus' friend. Peter was so scared he said no, he wasn't Jesus' friend. That's very sad. Can you make a sad face?

A little later, another person asked Peter if he was Jesus' friend. Know what he said this time? He said, "No"! That's two times Peter said he wasn't Jesus' friend. That's very, very sad. Can you make another sad face?

Then another person asked Peter if he was Jesus' friend. Guess what Peter said this time. He said no again! That's three times Peter said he wasn't Jesus' friend. That's very, very, VERY sad. Can you make another sad face?

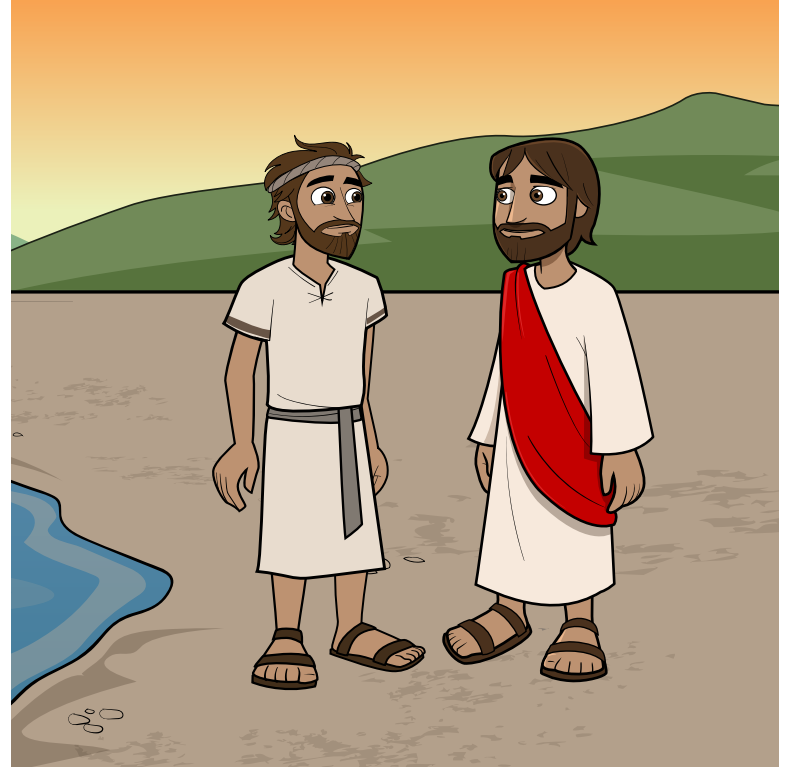
Right then, Peter looked up and saw Jesus looking at him. Peter knew what he'd done was wrong. He felt so bad he went away and cried.

But that's not the end of the story. Later, after Jesus died and came back to life, Jesus talked to Peter. Jesus wanted Peter to know He still loved him and would be his friend forever, no matter what. That made Peter so happy! Show me your happy face!

From then on, Peter told people that Jesus is God's Son. He told them Jesus loves them and wanted to be their friend forever. Guess what? Jesus loves you, too—no matter what!

Let's say that together: Jesus loves me, no matter what! Again! Jesus loves me, no matter what!

Let's close our eyes and thank God together.



Dear God, thank You for Jesus. Thank You that He loves us, no matter what. Help us to be brave and tell everyone that Jesus loves them. We love You, God. Amen.

Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever. Where can we read about Jesus? That's right! We can read about Jesus in the Bible. Let's read some more about Jesus right now.

Read these verses together from a Bible or a Bible app:

Luke 22:54-62; John 21:15-17

Play I Spy:

After reading today's Scriptures, guide your child to look around and "spy" people Jesus loves.

DAY 4 | Jesus Helps Me Love People

What've we learned about Jesus so far? *(Pause for answers.)*

We talked about when Jesus was born. Can you rock the baby?
(Pretend to rock a baby.)

We talked about something AMAZING that only Jesus could do. When He died, He came back to life! *(Raise your arms in celebration.)*

We talked about how Jesus loves everyone. Can you pretend to hug someone? *(Hug yourself.)*

Jesus wants us to love everyone, too. That isn't always easy, especially when they don't show love.

One person who didn't always show love was a man named Paul. Paul grew up believing you had to follow a lot of rules if you loved God—a LOT of rules!

Paul heard people say that Jesus is God's Son and that He had taught a brand-new rule. Not a lot of rules, just one rule. Jesus' one rule was: "Love others the way I have loved you."

This made Paul angry. He didn't believe Jesus is God's Son. He wanted people to follow all of the other rules. Do you know what Paul did? He started being mean to people who loved Jesus.

One day, when Paul was walking down the road, he saw a bright light and heard someone talk to him. Who do you think was talking to Paul? *(Pause.)*

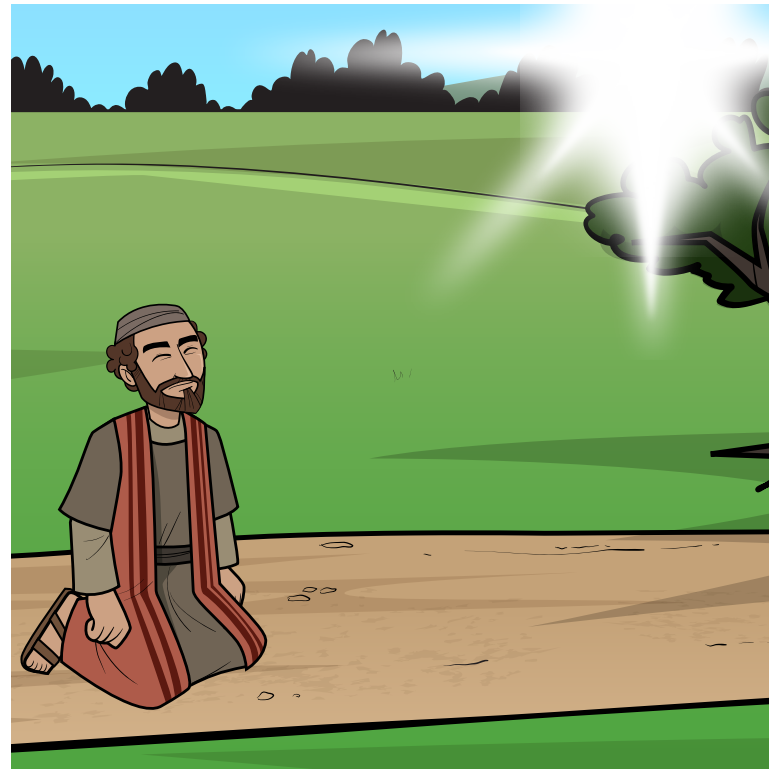
Yes! It was Jesus! Jesus asked Paul why he was doing mean things. Then Jesus told Paul to go to a house and wait. When Paul stood up, he couldn't see anything, but he did what Jesus told him to do. Someone led Paul to the house.

One of Jesus' friends went to see Paul. He helped Paul because Jesus had taught him the new rule: Love others the way Jesus loves you.

What do you think happened next? *(Pause.)* Jesus made Paul able to see again! Do you think Paul believed Jesus was God's Son after that? Yes!

Angry Paul, who was mean to people, became happy Paul who loved people and believed Jesus is God's Son!

In a minute, we'll read what Paul did next. First, let's close our eyes and talk to God.



Dear God, thank You that Jesus loves everyone, no matter what they've done. We love You, God. Please help us to love others. Amen.

Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever. Where can we read about Jesus? That's right! We can read about Jesus in the Bible. Let's read some more about Jesus right now.

Read these verses together from a Bible or a Bible app:

Acts 9:19b-22

Play I Spy:

After reading today's Scripture, flip through the photos on your phone and ask your child to "spy" people he or she loves.

DAY 5 | I Can Tell Others About Jesus

Do you remember Jesus' friend Peter? Peter was a fisherman. That means he would get in a boat, go out on the water, and catch fish.

But Peter didn't just fish. He told his friends and neighbors about Jesus. He told them that Jesus is God's Son, Jesus loves you, and Jesus wants to be your friend forever.

One day, some people knocked on Peter's door. They asked Peter to come tell all of their friends about Jesus.

Peter knew that Jesus loves everyone, no matter what they look like, what language they speak, where they live, or what they have done. So Peter said yes, he would go tell all those people about Jesus, even though they were different from him.

Peter told the people about the amazing things Jesus did that only He could do. Peter told them how Jesus had died and come back to life, just like He said He would. Peter told them he knew Jesus was alive, because he'd seen Jesus and talked with Him; he'd even eaten breakfast with Jesus! Peter said, "Jesus is God's Son, He loves you, and He wants to be your friend forever."

When the people heard these things, they believed it. They believed all the good things they heard about Jesus. Do you think they were happy to hear the good news? *(Pause for your child's answer.)*

What's some good news you've heard about Jesus? *(Pause.)* Let's practice telling others some good news about Jesus: "Jesus loves you." Can you say that with me? *(Repeat it with your child.)* Can you say it in a deep voice? *(Model a deep tone of voice.)* How about a high voice? Can you roar it like a lion? Can you whisper it in a little mouse voice?

Yes, everyone needs to know Jesus loves them!

Let's close our eyes and talk to God together.



Dear God, thank You that Jesus loves everyone, everywhere, no matter what they look like, where they live, what language they speak, or what they have done. Help us tell everyone, everywhere that Jesus loves them and wants to be their friend forever. Amen.

Jesus is alive, and He wants to be our friend forever. Where can we read about Jesus? That's right! We can read about Jesus in the Bible. Let's read some more about Jesus right now.

Read these verses together from a Bible or a Bible app:

Acts 10:34-35

Play I Spy:

After reading today's Scriptures, describe a random object in the room. See if your child can guess what it is and name a way they could use it to show love to someone.

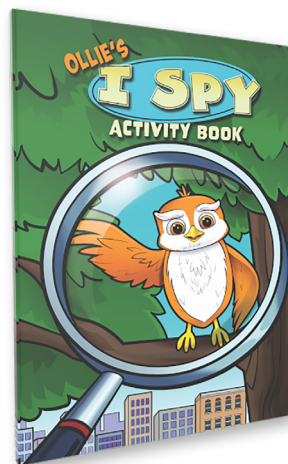
We hope you liked this devotional! It's based on *Ollie's I Spy Activity Book*, fun and engaging activities that help preschoolers learn more about Jesus. Learn More at TheParentCue.org

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