



God Loves Me

John 3:16; 1 John 4:9-10

Memory Verse

How you made me is amazing
and wonderful.
Psalm 139:14 NIrV

I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible.

Open the Bible for children to see, then set it down.

So, it's time to turn around (**spin around**) ... sit down (**sit down**) ... shake the wiggles out (**wiggle hands**) ... so we can hear (**cup hands behind ears**) what the story's all about!

Today's true story from the Bible comes from the book of John.

Have you ever given someone a gift? Maybe you made a card for your mom or dad because it was their birthday. Or maybe you gave your grandmother new slippers so her feet would be nice and warm. We give gifts to people to show them we love them.

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Well, there is someone who loves you very much—it's God! God made the whole world and everything you see and He also made you! God made all of us! And we know God loves us because He has given us a very special gift.

But God's gift isn't in a box—it's too big!

It isn't wrapped in beautiful paper like a birthday present, and we don't pull it out of a fun gift bag.

It's not a toy car or a doll or a trampoline ...

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God's special gift is a ... drumroll, please (**have the kids to a drum roll on their legs**) ... a Person. God gave us Jesus!

Jesus is God's Son, and Jesus wants to be our friend forever! But how long is forever?

Think of the big blue sky. It goes on and on. You can't see where the sky ends!

It just keeps going.

Or think about drawing with your favorite color crayon. You might start with drawing a short little line. And then you could draw it a little longer and a little longer. But what if you just kept drawing the line and you never ever stopped? Well, that line would go on forever!

Jesus will never ever stop being your friend, because Jesus wants to be your friend FOREVER! Jesus is the best gift!

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But God doesn't give us this amazing gift because it's our birthday or because we've been really, really good. God gave us Jesus because He loves us. The Bible teaches us that:

God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son (John 3:16 NIrV).
Jesus is a gift for every person God made. And God made you!

LEADER: Our story time is over, but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!

Prayer:

Dear God, thank You for giving us the greatest gift ever ... Jesus! You made us and love us so much that You gave us Your Son. That is wonderful and amazing. Thank You that we don't have to do anything to earn your love. Thank You for the amazing gift of Jesus. We love You so much. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.