



## Good Buddies

"A friend loves at all times.  
He is there to help when trouble comes"  
Proverbs 17:17 (NIrV).

## Children's Sermon

By Brenda Carpenter

For today's lesson try to have available a class picture of you when you were young or a picture of you and some of your friends.

"Does anyone know who is in this picture? Look really close and see if you can find someone you know. (Pass the picture around the circle.)

This is a picture of my friends and me when we were in school. How many of you have a very special friend that you might call your best friend? This is someone who you really like to play with. (Give the children time to respond.)

Best friends are those with whom you can share both your happy and your sad times. They are friends who are there to help you when you need them.

Can anyone think of friends that are always there when you need them? They never leave for vacation, never sleep, and when you call them, they are never too busy? The only friend that I can think of is JESUS. He is always there when I need Him. He is my number one best friend!

There are several stories in the Bible about friendship: David and Jonathan (1 Samuel 20:42); Mary, Martha, and Lazarus (John 11); Job and his friends (Job 2:11-13). Read these verses together and talk about how each verse shows friendship.



## Song: Good Buddies

(Words and Music by Mary Rice Hopkins)

Play and sing the song to introduce the Children's Sermon

### Good Buddies

David loved Jonathan a whole whole lot  
They were good friends...as tight as a knot  
Two old gray men from tiny tots  
Their love was like a rock  
Their love was like a rock

(Chorus)

Good Buddies Good Buddies  
I need a friend like you  
Someone to help me through  
Good Buddies Good Buddies  
I'm gonna be a good good buddy to you  
Buddy to you buddy to you buddy to you

Peter was fishing on a boat  
He was bored to tears  
And he couldn't cope  
But a friend said take your net and go  
On the other side he found fish below.....

(Chorus 2)

Buddies  
They were fishin' buddies  
I need a friend like you  
Someone to help me through  
Good Buddies Fishin' Buddies  
I'm gonna be a good good buddy to you  
Buddy to you buddy to you buddy to you

Mary and Martha were different kinds  
Martha was rushing most of the time  
But Mary was patient she waited behind  
But both would share their last dime...

(Repeat Chorus 1)

As iron sharpens iron you sharpen me  
We'll stick together...like peanut butter  
We're family

(Repeat Chorus 1)

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## Buddy Art

Sometimes doing things all by yourself is not fun. It is always more fun to have a friend around to play with. Here is a fun art activity that you can do with two or more friends. Be creative and see what you can come up with.



### Have Available:

- Paper
- Scissors
- Glue / tape
- Crayons / Markers
- All different types of things to create with



Have one friend start a drawing or a creation. Set the timer for 30 seconds. When the timer goes off, the art goes to the next friend to add to it. Again, set the timer for 30 seconds and keep passing the art around or back and forth until the creation is done. Look what two or more friends can create when they work together.

## Good Buddies Frame ~ Craft

The first day of school can sometimes be stressful and scary for small children: New teacher, new room, new friends.

Today they will get to make their own frame to put a picture of their new buddies to take home and show mom and dad.

You will need either a digital camera and printer or a Polaroid camera with a lot of film.

### For Today's Craft You Will Need:

- Craft sticks or cardboard frame
- Glue
- Different beads or sequins
- Markers

Before starting, have the words "Good Buddies" written across the top or bottom of each frame. Be available to help those children who may want to make their frames out of the craft sticks. Allow the children to decorate their frames however they would like. Take a group picture of the children and copy them to put into their frames.



## Find a Buddy ~ Activity

For this activity, you may need a large space in the room; or if the weather allows, play this game outside.



Explain to the children that whatever you call out, they need to find a friend that has the same thing. Have them hold hands and put them really high in the sky for all to see.

Come up with some really fun and different things for them to find in their friends. For example, call out: A color they may be wearing, all who have something in their hair, all boys who are wearing shorts, one who is wearing tennis shoes, which friend went to the beach this summer, etc. Be very creative and get involved with them.

## Circle of Friends ~ Snack

During snack time today, sit in a circle so everyone can see each other. Talk about the different types of food each child might like. What is their favorite toy? Use this time to allow the children to get to know each other.

Remember to emphasize manners while talking. They need to wait till there is no food in their mouths and no talking while someone else is talking. Manners always matter!



## **Closing Prayer**

Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of friends. Help us this year to not only get to know each other more but to get to know YOU more. Thank you for being the best friend that never leaves us and is always there when we need you.

In Jesus Name, Amen

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Layout and design of Mary Rice Hopkins' Devotion in Motion by Linda Stevenson

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