



DEEPER BIBLE

Friends Again

[15 min]

Supplies

- Bible
- simple puzzles

Easy Prep

- Set out puzzles around the room, and assemble them. If the puzzles will need to be moved due to other activities, assemble them on pieces of cardboard or card stock.

Tip

- Determine how many groups you'll need based on the size and quantity of your puzzles. Groups should be small enough that every child can contribute to putting the puzzles together.

Break Apart Puzzles

Have kids form small groups, and lead each group to a puzzle.

Say: **When someone hurts us, it can feel like our friendship is broken.**

Share about a time someone hurt *you*, such as a friend breaking a promise or a brother saying hurtful words.

Ask: • **Tell about a time someone hurt *your* feelings.** Encourage kids to share what the person did without naming a specific person. Kids may say someone wouldn't share with them, said something unkind, or didn't want to play with them on the playground.

Say: **Today we heard that Peter told people he wasn't Jesus' friend.**

After that, Peter probably thought Jesus didn't want to be *his* friend anymore and their friendship was broken. When we make wrong choices, it can feel like our friendship with God is broken, too. Let's think about that with these puzzles. Encourage kids to break apart their puzzles.

Put Puzzles Back Together

Say: **Jesus forgave Peter and was still Peter's friend. The Bible tells us that God is forgiving, too. That means he doesn't stay angry with us when we've made a wrong choice. Listen to this.** Read aloud Psalm 86:5.

Then encourage kids to work with their groups to put their puzzles back together.

Say: **God isn't angry about our wrong choices. He sent Jesus to take away all those wrong choices. Jesus puts our friendship with God back together like these puzzles. Let's thank God for his love and forgiveness.**

Lead kids to pray and thank God for his forgiveness.