This resource, intended for children in grades K-1, will follow the pattern established by the “God and ...” P.R.A.Y. program already in print. The writer’s task is to develop three resources – Counselor Manual, Student Book, and Adult Mentor Workbook – based on the following outline. The Counselor Manual will provide guidance for leading four one-hour sessions.

Curriculum Goals
The goals of the “Jesus and Me” program are:
• To provide an opportunity for children and their families to explore their faith together
• To introduce children to some of the stories of Jesus in the Gospels
• To teach children how to find the Gospels in the Bible
• To help children relate four characteristics of Jesus to their own lives

The learning objectives for each session are:
• Describe the characteristics of a (teacher, friend, healer, storyteller)
• Identify Jesus as a (teacher, friend, healer, storyteller)
• Identify Jesus as the Son of God
• Name people in your life who is a (teacher, friend, healer, storyteller)
• Explain how you can be a (teacher, friend, healer, storyteller)

Session 1: Jesus Was a Storyteller
Scripture: Matthew 13:1-9
Memory verse: “And Jesus told them many things in parables.” (Matthew 13:3 NRSV)

Session 2: Jesus Was a Teacher
Scripture: Mark 6:30-34
Memory verse: “Jesus went about among the villages teaching.” (Mark 6:6b NRSV)

Session 3: Jesus Was a Friend
Memory verse: “I have called you friends” (John 15:15 NRSV)

Session 4: Jesus Was a Healer
Scripture: Luke 5:12-13
Memory verse: “Jesus cured all who were sick” (Matthew 8:16 NRSV)
The development of each session in the Counselor Manual will include the following sections:

- Goals for This Session
- Bible Background for the Leader
- What You Will Need (list of supplies)
- Personal Reflection (ways to help the Counselor connect the scripture to his/her life experiences, questions for discerning what God is saying to him/her in this text)
- Look Back (a review of the previous session)
- Opening Activity (ways to help the learners engage with the theme)
- Explore the Theme (more in depth ways to get into the theme)
- My Life and Jesus (connect the characteristic of Jesus with the children’s own lives)
- Craft Activity (create something that can be built on from session to session, a centering project)
- Sending Out (offer suggestions for how the children may apply their learning from this session in their daily lives, how might they serve others, share this session with others)

This resource is intended to be very interactive and experiential, rather than paper and pencils. The writer will employ a variety of strategies to help the children become physically and mentally involved in exploring each session’s theme. Because children use a variety of approaches in learning, the sessions will employ multiple strategies including music, art, movement, as well as individual and group activities. The Counselor Manual will include all the instructions for activities to use with the children, including templates, if necessary. Each session in the Counselor Manual will include the Student Book page for easy reference.