



WEEK TWO – MAY 2019

Bible Story: *Walking on Sunshine* ▪ Acts 5:17–42

Bottom Line: *Choose joy no matter what's going on.*

Memory Verse: *“The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself.” Galatians 5:22–23a, NIV*

Life App: *What God is doing in you to change the world around you*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what.*

Summary: Next, we head to Acts 5:17–42 where Luke records the trouble that Jesus’ disciples faced when they started spreading the message of Jesus. No matter what happened to them, the Holy Spirit gave them what they needed to find joy, even when it was difficult.

Bottom Line: *Choose joy no matter what's going on. From not making the team to struggling in a class at school, kids of all ages struggle with what it means to have joy when life is hard. Through this lesson, we pray they start to discover what God can do in them to help them choose joy.*

9:00-9:10 | 10:30-10:40 - KIDS ARRIVE

Team Welcomes Kids *(Providing Time for Fun Interactions)*

"Je-sus loves me.

2 lap pats – 2 claps

Je-sus loves me.

2 lap pats – 2 claps

Jesus loves [child's name]"
shout out the name

1. Early Arriver Idea

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: paper; markers or crayons

What You Do:

- Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up.
- Invite kids to share one good thing and one not-so-good thing that happened during their week.
- Ask them to draw pictures that show how they felt.

2. Emoji Code

Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: “Emoji Code” cards (Activity Pages)

What You Do:

- Show kids an “Emoji Code” card.
- Pause and give kids a chance to solve the code.
- Guide kids to place their finger on their nose (or make another discreet sign) when they think they know the answer.
- Call on a volunteer to answer.
- Continue with the remaining cards, ending with the “Choose Joy” card.
- Variation: (This is a great option after you’ve gone through most of the cards together as a group.) Direct kids to sit in a circle. Guide each child to hold their hands above their head as you give them a card. Kids hold the cards above their heads while you call out the ANSWERS to the codes. Kids look around and identify the child with each answer. Hold the “Choose Joy” card in reserve, inviting kids to “decode” it at the end of the game.

What You Say:

If kids guess “choose joy:” [Transition] “In our Bible story today we’ll hear about some people who chose joy even when it was difficult. Let’s go learn more.”

If kids don’t guess “choose joy”: [Transition] “Let’s go to Large Group and get some clues that’ll help us solve the code.”

9:10-9:35 | 10:40-11:05 - LARGE GROUP

*Bible Story – INTRO, Story, OUTRO Videos (whatever works best for your few)
Worship SONGS*

9:35-10:05 | 11:05-11:35 - SMALL GROUP

GROUPS

(Creating a Safe Place to Connect)

2. Line Up

[Memory Verse Activity]

Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Bibles, “Memory Verse Phrases” Activity Page, and tape

What You Do:

- Encourage kids to look up Galatians 5:22–23a using the navigation tips from Week One, and review it together.
- Instruct the students to line up shoulder to shoulder.
- Tape a memory verse phrase from the Activity Page onto each child’s back. Don’t allow kids to see the phrase you’ve chosen for them.
- Kids must work together to get themselves in verse order, lined up shoulder to shoulder.
- When they think they’ve arranged themselves correctly, check their work by reading the verse aloud.

What You Say:

“If a pear tree produces pears and an apple tree produces apples, what ‘fruit’ does this verse tell us that the Holy Spirit will produce in us? (Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control) Which of these fruits are we talking about today? (Pause.) How can you have joy even when things aren’t awesome? (Pause.) Who can you call on to help you? (Pause.)”

*“Remember, we’re learning all month long that when we trust Jesus as Savior, we have the Holy Spirit to help us. And God’s Spirit will produce the fruit of love, joy, and peace and all the wonderful things listed in this verse. We don’t have to pretend to be happy using our own strength. God is with us and He will help us to **[Bottom Line] choose joy no matter what’s going on.**”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Index Cards; pencils

What You Do:

- Allow kids to choose a partner. Give each child an index card and a pencil.
- Encourage kids to write down something they need prayer for this week.
- Let the kids exchange cards and pray for each other either silently or out loud.
- Encourage the kids to take the cards home to pray for each other this week.
- Close your time in prayer.

What You Say:

*“Heavenly Father, thanks for loving us so much. You are a great big God, and you already know what’s on our hearts and what’s written on these cards. In each of these situations, help us to **[Bottom Line] choose joy no matter what’s going on.** We love You so much. It’s in Jesus’ name we pray, amen.”*

*As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to share their high/low stories from earlier and talk about how through the Holy Spirit we can **[Bottom Line] choose joy no matter what’s going on.***