



WEEK TWO – DECEMBER 2019

Bible Story: *The Weary World Rejoices* ▪ Luke 1:5–25; 57–80

Bottom Line: *You can have joy because anything is possible with God.*

Memory Verse: *“Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!” Philippians 4:4*

Life App: *Joy—Finding a way to be happy, even when things don’t go your way*

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

Summary: In Week Two, we head to Luke 1:5–25; 57–80 where we find Zechariah and Elizabeth. They were unable to have children. On top of that, they were older and it seemed impossible that they’d ever have a child of their own. But one day an angel came to Zechariah and told him that he would indeed have a son, and that son would prepare the way for the Promised One, Jesus. Zechariah and Elizabeth learned that anything is possible with God.

Bottom Line: *You can have joy because anything is possible with God. We will face some difficult moments throughout our lives. But no matter what we face, we can find joy because God can do anything. He may still allow us to go through whatever we’re facing, but He’ll be with us and will give us what we need to get through it.*

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: True or False Stories

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

What You Need: “True or False Stories” Activity Page, Bible

What You Do:

- Designate one side of your Small Group area as the “false” side and one side as the “true” side.
- Read the first story from the Activity Page.
- Allow time for kids to move to the side of their choice before revealing whether it was true or false.
- Encourage kids to make their own decisions, instead of following whatever their friends think.
- Continue with the rest of the stories.
- Two of the stories are from the Bible. If kids show interest in these stories, and you have time, look them up and read them to the group.

What You Say:

“Those were some crazy stories that seemed impossible, but they were all true. Well, all but the one that was ALMOST true! I kind of tricked you on that one. [Transition] Let’s go to Large Group where we’ll hear another story that will almost seem impossible.”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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)

1. Joy is Possible

[Application Activity]

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

What You Need: “Joy Is Possible” Activity Pages, white cardstock, markers, scissors, tape

What You Do:

- Give each kid an Activity Page and scissors.
- Encourage them to cut out the JOY outline.
- Then give each kid a piece of cardstock and tape.
- Instruct them to tape their “joy” template onto the piece of cardstock, using just a couple small rolls of tape to hold it in place.
- Encourage kids to think through various things that are hard for them.
- Prompt them with examples such as:
 - “Maybe you’re scared you’re not going to do well on the last spelling test of the year.”
 - “Maybe you don’t want Christmas break to start because your mom has to work and you’re going to be at boring day camp.”
 - “Maybe you’re trying to learn how to play a sport or a video game, and it’s not going well.”

- As you pass out markers, instruct kids to write as many scenarios as they can all over their paper (including on top of the Joy template.)
- The paper needs to be completely covered in words, so kids can repeat some of their thoughts and ideas.
- Instruct them to write words on top of words, so they end up with a jumble of text.
- Once they are finished, encourage them to carefully peel off their joy template from the cardstock, revealing the word “JOY” in the midst of all of their difficult scenarios.

What You Say:

*“Would anyone mind sharing one of their difficult scenarios? (Allow time for kids to share.) You all really came up with some great examples! **[Make It Personal]** (Share a personal example of something that’s hard or challenging for you, or something you want to happen, but it hasn’t yet come to fruition. Talk about how you gain joy from serving such a powerful God.) Whatever challenging situation is thrown your way, **[Bottom Line]** you can have joy because anything is possible with God.”*

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

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

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Encourage your group to pray this prayer with you.
- Pause where each (repeat) is written and allow kids to repeat the words.

What You Say:

*“Dear God. (Repeat.) Thank You for showing me that nothing is impossible through You! (Repeat.) When I’m faced with something hard and I don’t see a way out (repeat) I know that You can always help me. (Repeat.) I thank You so much for letting me belong to You, the God of the impossible! (Repeat.) Help me be a light to others and to teach them (repeat) that **[Bottom Line]** you can have joy because anything is possible with God. (Repeat.) In Jesus’ name, amen!” (Repeat.)*

As adults arrive to pick up, have each kid display their “Joy Is Possible” page. Ask them to tell their adults about one of impossible/challenging situations they wrote down. Also, don’t forget to hand out this month’s content overview to each parent!