

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy
The Apostles Are Treated Badly
Acts 5:17-42

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Choose joy no matter what's going on.

MONTHLY 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

STORRY SUPPLIES

- Five kid volunteers
- Host
- Bible
- Four large confetti poppers or confetti "flick sticks"
- Several traffic cones
- Silly helmet for the Host

HOST

- Masking or gaffer's tape
- Two large blue sheets (flat sheets) and possibly more if you have lots of kids in the room
- Extra-large beach ball plus extras if you're using multiple sheets
- Host's phone

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

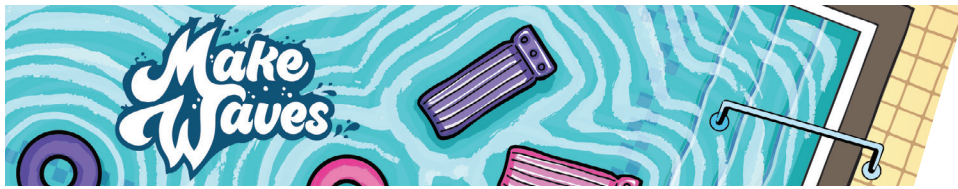
35
MIN

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **SUMMER IS HERE!!!!**
- **MAKE WAVES** Ñ What you do today can change the world around you
 - All month long, we will be talking about what it would look like if we could **CHANGE** the world around us
 - To **MAKE WAVES** means that we are being intentional about what we do each day because it can have bigger effects than we could ever imagine
- **Baptisms**
Something important to us at **MISSION** is recognizing when people are growing in their faith and being transformed by the love of Jesus. One of the ways that we express that at **MISSION** is through **Baptism**. It is an outward expression of an inward change/commitment to following Jesus.
- Every month, we host a class that focuses on taking the next step in your faith. **Baptism** is a step people take when they want to tell others they are serious about following Jesus. If you want to attend this class **NEXT WEEKEND** June 19th **DURING THE 9A SERVICE** and learn more, let your SGL know.

MONTHLY WORSHIP LINEUP:

Week 1 - Never Gonna Stop Singing & Let Go
Week 2 - This is Living & Graves Into Gardens
Week 3 - The Best Is Yet to Come & Who You Say I Am
Week 4 - Real Love & Waymaker



PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **STORY** **WORSHIP** **GROUPS** **HOME**

25 MINUTES 10 MINUTES

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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The Apostles Are Treated Badly
Acts 5:17-42

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MAKE WAVES

What you do today can change the world around you.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.
SLIDE: THEME
OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

WORSHIP

Worship Leaders enter

WORSHIP LEADER:

AUDIO: THIS IS LIVING
AUDIO: GRAVES INTO GARDENS

Host enters.

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)
OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME

OPENER

HOST: Hi, everyone! I'm so pumped to be here with all of you today. All summer at [your environment's name], we're making waves!

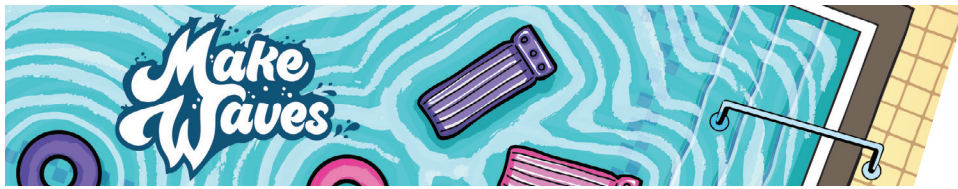
"Just like a big splash can send waves all the way across a pool, WE can make waves in the lives of the people we see every day. Because . . .

SLIDE: LIFE APP
OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME TRANSITION TO LIFE APP

"What you do today can change the world around you.

SLIDE: THEME
OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): LIFE APP TRANSITION TO THEME

"And you don't have to do it alone! You see, when you put your faith in Jesus, you have the gift of God's Holy Spirit. God's Spirit can help you show things like love, patience, kindness, and joy. That will really make a difference in the lives of the people you see every day!



WEEK
TWO
JUNE 2022

LARGE GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

"I've got a fun way to kick off our time today with a game that ALL of you get to play. Are you ready to make waves? (Pause for response.) Great!

Point to the tape line in the middle of the room.

"As you can see, there's a line dividing the room in half, so we've got two teams: this side and this side. (Point to the two sides of the room.) I've got one of these for each team.

Give a large blue sheet to each team. (If you have lots of kids in attendance, you may want to use two or three sheets per team. The idea is that all the kids will be able to hold the sides of the sheet.)

"Everyone, stand around the sheet, grab hold of it, and work together to hold it off the ground. Good! Now watch what happens when all of you shake your arms. You'll make waves. Let's try it now! (Pause to let them try.)

"That was perfect! Now to make it more fun, we'll toss out a beach ball. If the beach ball lands on your sheet, you've got to 'make waves' with your sheet to toss it back to the other team. We'll play for 30 seconds. When time is up, the team that DOESN'T have the ball on their side of the line gets a point! Are you ready? (Pause.) Great! Let's goooooo!

AUDIO: FUN MUSIC

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30-SECOND VERSION)

If you're not using a screen countdown, set a timer on your phone for 30 seconds.

Comment on the action. If the ball lands on the ground, quickly pick it up and toss it back onto the sheet of the team that dropped it.

Note: If you're using multiple sheets, you may want to raise the fun factor by throwing out multiple beach balls—in which case, the winning team for each round is the one with the fewest beach balls on their side after 30 seconds.

"That was great! Let's play again!

Play three rounds total. Celebrate both teams when you're done.

AUDIO: FUN MUSIC

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30-SECOND VERSION)

AUDIO: FUN MUSIC

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30-SECOND VERSION)

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP

"That was so fun! You all did great! I loved seeing you make waves together.



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25 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

Storyteller enters

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: "Hi, friends! I'm glad to be here with you as we find out how we can make waves. Remember, **what you do today can change the world around you!** And that was definitely true about the people in today's story. (*Hold up Bible.*) With the help of God's Spirit, they found JOY in the middle of a really tough situation.

"This took place during the earliest days of the church, not long after Jesus died on the cross. When Jesus died, people thought it was the end of everything He had started. But that all changed when He rose from the dead! Jesus appeared to more than 500 people over 50 days before He returned to heaven to be with God.

"But Jesus didn't leave His followers alone. On the day of Pentecost, the power of God's Spirit filled the brand-new believers with boldness and joy. God's Spirit would be with them even after Jesus had gone back to heaven."

PETER AND JOHN IN PRISON

STORYTELLER: "Okay, so here's where I need all of you to be a part of the story! Thousands of people began to follow Jesus. (*to audience*) That's like all of you!

"They shared their lives, their food, and their homes. They prayed and praised God together. (*to audience*) Let's do that right now!

AUDIO: CELEBRATORY SONG, CUED UP TO THE CHORUS—LIKE "HAPPY DAY - REMIX" BY ORANGE KIDS MUSIC OR "CELEBRATION" BY KOOL & THE GANG

Shoot a confetti popper and get everybody to jump up and dance for about 15 seconds. Then have everyone sit back down. Raise your hand and ask the kids to do the same, to get them to refocus.

"The apostles were praying, praising God, and healing people who were sick.

"Well, the religious leaders didn't like that. They didn't believe Jesus was the Son of God, and they didn't like how the believers were telling others about Jesus. These religious leaders took two of Jesus' closest friends, Peter and John, and put them in prison!

"Who would like to play Peter and John?"

Choose two kids to play Peter and John.

(*to the two kids*) "Peter and John, you're doing a great job of telling people about Jesus. But like I said, I'm afraid the religious leaders have put you in prison.

Put the traffic cones around the two kids to put them in "prison."



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25 MINUTES

(to audience) "Peter and John had to stay in prison overnight. The next day, the leaders released them.

Motion for Peter and John to walk outside of the cones—but keep them on stage.

"But they ordered Peter and John to stop talking about Jesus. Still, the joy of the Lord overflowed in the lives of the believers.

"You know what that means! Everybody up! One, two, three, four!"

AUDIO: CELEBRATORY SONG, CUED UP TO THE CHORUS—LIKE "HAPPY DAY - REMIX" BY ORANGE KIDS MUSIC OR "CELEBRATION" BY KOOL & THE GANG

Like before, shoot a confetti popper and get everybody to jump up and dance for about 15 seconds. Then have everyone sit back down. Raise your hand and ask the kids to do the same, to get them to refocus.

EVERYBODY IN PRISON

STORYTELLER: "Whew! It was an exciting time for the believers as more and more people began to follow Jesus. But the religious leaders were still grumpy about all this joy and celebration. They were upset that so many people were putting their faith in Jesus. So this time, the high priest and other leaders decided to throw ALL the apostles into jail.

"Hmmm . . . I need a few more apostles to join Peter and John in prison.

Bring up three more kids. Direct all five of them to go back inside the cones.

(to the five kids) "I'm sorry, believers. I know it's kind of dark and gross in there. Well, don't worry—you won't have to stay long.

(to audience) "You see, in the middle of the night, an angel of the Lord appeared in the prison and brought the apostles out!

Knock over a few of the cones, and bring the five kids out, but have them stay on stage.

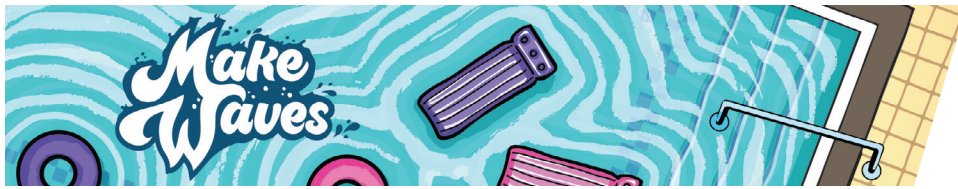
"Wow! That calls for another celebration!

AUDIO: CELEBRATORY SONG, CUED UP TO THE CHORUS—LIKE "HAPPY DAY - REMIX" BY ORANGE KIDS MUSIC OR "CELEBRATION" BY KOOL & THE GANG

Like before, shoot a confetti popper and get everybody to jump up and dance for about 15 seconds. Then have everyone sit back down. Raise your hand and ask the kids to do the same, to get them to refocus.

"SO good! I bet the believers were so excited to be free! The angel told them . . .

Open the Bible to Acts 5:20 (NIRV) and read.



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"Go! Stand in the temple courtyard . . . Tell the people all about this new life.

"Sure enough, the apostles went back to the temple and began to share about Jesus again. The religious leaders sent guards to bring the prisoners from the jail, but of course the prisoners weren't there."

Host enters as the prison guard, wearing a silly helmet. He/she looks at the cones and the empty "prison" in horror.

HOST: "Gee willikers! They're gone!"

STORYTELLER: "Finally, the captain of the guard and his officers went to get the apostles at the temple and bring them before the religious leaders."

Host walks over to the five kids and pretends to round/tie them up, then waves and exits.

LET THEM GO!

STORYTELLER: "The high priest had a very serious message for the apostles.

Open the Bible to Acts 5:28 (NirV) and read.

"We gave you clear orders not to teach in Jesus' name," he said. 'But you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching. You want to make us guilty of this man's death.'

"But listen to how Peter and the other believers responded!

Open the Bible to Acts 5:29-32 (NirV) and read. As you read, raise a different kid's hand every couple of lines and shake it like the kid is speaking forcefully.

"We must obey God instead of people!

"You had Jesus killed by nailing him to a cross. But the God of our people raised Jesus from the dead.

"Now Jesus is Prince and Savior. God has proved this by giving Jesus a place of honor with him.

"He did it to turn Israel away from their sins and forgive them. We are telling people about these things.

"Wow! The believers were filled with joy because of God's Spirit. That's why they were able to speak with such boldness in front of the religious leaders.

"A leader named Gamaliel ordered the guards to take the apostles outside. Then Gamaliel spoke to his fellow religious leaders. He reminded them that this had happened before. He said that sometimes someone would rise up and gather followers. When that person died, those followers would scatter.

"Gamaliel said to the other leaders . . .

Open the Bible to Acts 5:38-39 (NirV) and read.



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HOME

25 MINUTES

“Let me give you some advice. Leave these men alone! Let them go! If their plans and actions only come from people, they will fail. But if their plans come from God, you won’t be able to stop these men. You will only find yourselves fighting against God.

“That was some pretty smart advice—and the other religious leaders agreed. They called the apostles in, had them whipped, and ordered them not to speak in Jesus’ name. Then they let them go.

(to the five kids) “Did you hear that, apostles? You’re free again! If you’re feeling joyful, let me hear you say, ‘HIT IT!’”

KIDS: “HIT IT!”

AUDIO: CELEBRATORY SONG, CUED UP TO THE CHORUS—LIKE “HAPPY DAY - REMIX” BY ORANGE KIDS MUSIC OR “CELEBRATION” BY KOOL & THE GANG

Like before, shoot a confetti popper and get everybody to jump up and dance for about 15 seconds. Then have everyone sit back down and send the five kid actors back to their seats.

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “That was fun! So much joy!”

“But here’s the interesting part. Nothing really ‘fun’ was happening to the apostles in this story. Their joy didn’t come from the things that happened TO them—because, I mean, they kept getting thrown in prison!”

“Still, the believers were able to choose joy, no matter WHAT was happening. Their joy came from the good news about Jesus that they were sharing with others. They continued to share the story of Jesus everywhere. And more and more people believed!”

“God’s Spirit can fill US with joy, just like God’s Spirit filled the believers way back then. That’s why we can do this.

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“Choose joy no matter what’s going on.

“Let’s pray and talk to God about that now.”

SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

PRAY

STORYTELLER: “God, thank You for this reminder of how we can choose joy—even when things around us aren’t going our way. You helped the apostles choose joy in the middle of some really tough challenges. Help us find our joy in our relationship with You, so we can encourage others, too. Thank You for being with us through anything we face in life. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”



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25 MINUTES

CLOSER

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

HOST: “The early followers of Jesus had a lot to be joyful about. I mean, God had raised Jesus from the dead! God had given the Holy Spirit to everyone who believed.

“On the other hand, things weren’t always easy for the believers back then. They were often treated badly just for telling other people about Jesus. Still, no matter what happened, they chose to have joy.

“See, what those early believers understood was that their joy didn’t come from the things that happened TO them. Their joy came from God’s Spirit living INSIDE them! That’s why the believers were able to keep going and keep sharing the love of Jesus with others. That’s how they made waves!

“We can learn a lot from the believers in the early church. Just like they did, we can CHOOSE joy, even in a tough situation.

“Remember . . .

SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

“Choose joy no matter what’s going on.

“If we can get in the habit of choosing joy, we’ll be able to bounce back from tough things that happen to us. And of course, other people will notice! They’ll see that there’s something different about us because we’re able to **[Basic Truth] trust God no matter what** and find our joy from God. Maybe that’ll make them want to know more about putting THEIR trust in God, too.

“I know you all have some great ideas about how we can choose joy. Let’s go to Small Group and talk about it together!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS THE KIDS EXIT.

SLIDE: THEME

OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP