

WEEK  
**TWO**  
JUNE 2022

SMALL GROUP  
**K-3**

**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



### OPENING ACTIVITY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Coloring materials, paper

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Give each kid a piece of paper.
- Set out the coloring materials.
- Invite the kids to draw joy—however they understand it.
- Ask, “What does joy look like?”
- To prompt their thinking, tell the kids they can write the letters of JOY and decorate them, draw a person or place that brings them joy, draw an abstract representation of the emotion of joy, or whatever they can think of!
- After they’ve finished, invite kids to share about their pictures with the rest of the group.

### TODAY’S BIBLE STORY

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

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

“Joy is a lot like happiness, but not exactly the same. People have a lot of different ideas of what joy really means. **[Transition] Let’s go to Large Group to see what joy looks like in action!**”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

### 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

### MAKE WAVES

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

### BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**





CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



### JOY-O-METER

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Joy-O-Meter Faces" Activity Pages, "Joy-O-Meter Cards" Activity Page, double-sided tape, coloring materials, clear contact paper or packing tape

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a face from the "Joy-O-Meter Faces" Activity Pages and coloring materials.
- Invite the kids to color their face.
- After they finish, cover the faces with clear contact paper or packing tape.
- Put a line of double-sided tape on a table or wall and stick the "0% Joy found" card to one end and the "100% Joy found" to the other end.
- Read the first "Joy-O-Meter" card.
- Instruct the kids to put their face along the Joy-O-Meter tape line to show how much joy they think they could find in that situation.
- Direct them to take their faces off the meter, then read the next card.
- Play until you run out of cards or as long as time allows.
- Leave the Joy-O-Meter tape line up for "Pray and Dismiss."

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#### WHAT YOU SAY:

"This game reminds us that you can **choose joy no matter what's going on**. Choosing joy doesn't mean you pretend nothing is ever wrong, and it doesn't mean you have to be happy about sad things. Choosing joy means you trust God and God's plan. God loves us all so much that we get to have a never-ending relationship together. That's a big thing to be joyful about, no matter what else happens.

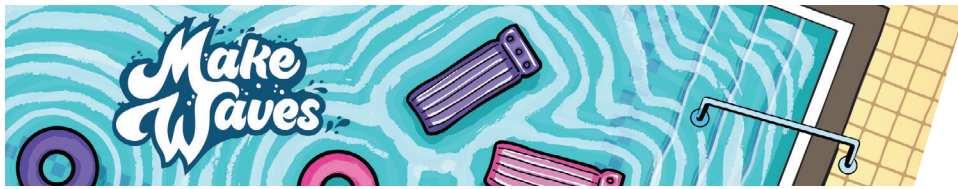
"But as much as we can have BIG JOY about God's forever plan, we can choose joy in small ways, too. How are you going to choose joy this week? (Invite kids to share. Prompt them to think of normal situations like being grateful for what they have, keeping a good attitude during a tense time, dealing with not having what they want, etc.)

"Those are all great ways you can **choose joy no matter what's going on.**"

#### Optional Discussion Questions for Older Kids

If you lead 4th, 5th, or 6th graders, consider asking these discussion questions:

- Have you ever seen someone who has joy in very difficult circumstances, like a person who's very sick but is still kind to others or someone who doesn't have a lot of things but is grateful for what they do have? What was that person like?
- Who is the most joyful person you know in real life? Why do you think so?
- What can you do if you're in a situation where you feel like joy is impossible?



CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO MOVE

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



### \* JOY JIVE [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY] WHAT YOU NEED: Bible

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Practice the hand jive motions ahead of time so you are comfortable with them.
- Assist kids as needed to find the verse with the navigation tips below.

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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

**Finding verses with kindergartners:** Guide kids to open the Bibles to the marked page. Point to "Galatians" at the top of the page as you say, "Galatians." Then guide kids to find the big number 5 on the page. Explain that this is the chapter number. Finally, guide them to look under the big 5 for the little 22 and explain that this is the verse number. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**Choose joy no matter what's going on.**

**Finding verses with 1st graders:** Guide kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Galatians in the list under "New Testament." You can help by telling them that Galatians starts with the letters G-A. When the kids find Galatians, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Galatians. Help the kids find the page. When they find Galatians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 5. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 22 and 23 in chapter 5. Tell them to leave their finger on the verse as you read it aloud. Then lead everyone to say the verse together.

### 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

- Read Galatians 5:22-23a as kids follow along, pointing to the words.
- Ask kids to name some of the good things this verse tells us the Holy Spirit helps us do.
- Teach kids the following "Joy Jive" to help them remember the fruit of the Spirit.
  - The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is (pat your thighs twice as you say) love, joy (and clap your hands twice as you say) and peace.
  - It is (with palms down, crisscross your RIGHT hand over your LEFT hand twice as you say) being patient (with palms down, crisscross your LEFT hand over your RIGHT hand twice as you say) kind and good.
  - It is being (tap your RIGHT fist over your LEFT fist twice as you say) faithful (tap your LEFT fist over your RIGHT fist twice as you say) and gentle (give a thumbs-up with your RIGHT hand while you point your thumb backwards over your right shoulder twice as you say) and having control (give a thumbs-up sign with your LEFT hand while you point your thumb backwards over your left shoulder twice as you say) of oneself.

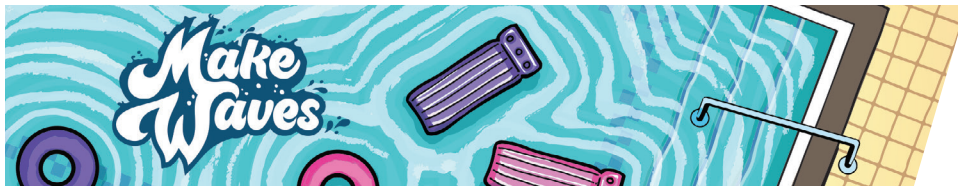
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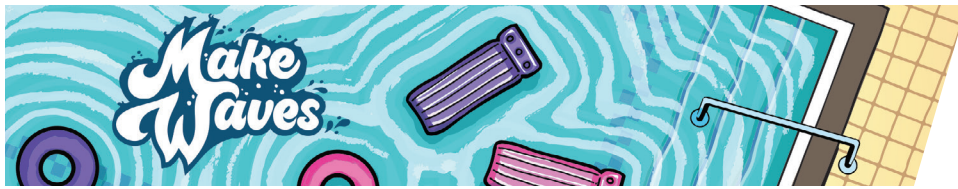
CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## (\*JOY JIVE, CONTINUED)

### WHAT YOU SAY:

"The fruit of the Spirit isn't apples and oranges. It's a different kind of fruit. It doesn't grow on trees. It grows inside of us when we follow Jesus. The Spirit helps us show love to others and be patient, kind, and good. Let's say our verse together one more time to help us remember all characteristics of the fruit of the Spirit. And since we're learning about JOY today, let's shout that one out especially loud. Here we go. (Say *Galatians 5:22-23a* in whatever translation you are using.) And don't forget, you can **choose joy no matter what's going on.**"





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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



### PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Joy-O-Meter" Activity tape line, face cards

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Gather the kids around the Joy-O-Meter.
- Give each kid the face they colored in the "Joy-O-Meter" Activity.
- Ask kids to evaluate their joy right this minute and place their face on the line.
- Remind kids that they can **choose joy no matter what's going on**, even if they're facing things that aren't so happy right now.
- Close your group time in prayer.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Dear God, You give us the gift of joy! We are joyful to be called Your children. We trust that You have a good plan for us, and we can have joy knowing You love us. Thank You! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, invite the kids to share the Joy pictures they made during "Opening Activity."

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