



WEEK  
**THREE**  
JUNE 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      **GROUPS**      HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO MOVE

an activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn



### 1. SING THE VERSE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Gather with the children and review the Memory Verse with the motions.

### BIBLE STORY

I can have joy when I do hard things.

**EZRA AND THE REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE**  
**EZRA 3:10-13**

### MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

**PROVERBS 17:22, ESV**

### KEY QUESTION

Who can have joy all the time?

### BOTTOM LINE

I can have joy all the time.

### BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Sing the Memory Verse to the tune of "Wheels on the Bus."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come stand with me! Let's say our Memory Verse with the motions. 'A joyful (*brush flat hands upward twice*) heart (*tap chest twice with fingertip*) is good medicine,' (*move flat hand from chin to palm*) Proverbs 17:22. (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "A joyful heart IS good medicine. Let's put the words to our Memory Verse in a song. Listen as I sing it first, then we can all sing together.

(*Sing to the tune of "Wheels on the Bus."*)

"A joyful heart is good medicine,  
Good medicine, good medicine.  
A joyful heart is good medicine.  
Proverbs 17:22.

"Now let's all sing together! (*Repeat as desired.*) That was so fun! 'A joyful heart is good medicine,' Proverbs 17:22."

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Let's do the motions as we say our verse one more time. 'A joyful (*brush flat hands upward twice*) heart (*tap chest twice with fingertip*) is good medicine,' (*move flat hand from chin to palm*) Proverbs 17:22. (*Open hands like a book.*) We can have joy all the time because God loves us. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!"**



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**MADE TO CREATE**  
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



**BIBLE STORY**  
  
I can have joy  
when I do hard things.  
  
**EZRA AND THE REBUILDING  
OF THE TEMPLE**  
**EZRA 3:10-13**

**MEMORY VERSE**  
  
"A joyful heart  
is good medicine."  
  
**PROVERBS 17:22, ESV**

**KEY QUESTION**  
  
Who can have joy all the time?

**BOTTOM LINE**  
  
I can have joy all the time.

**BASIC TRUTH**  
  
God loves me.

**5. TOOLBOX OF JOY**  
**[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]**  
**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Toolbox of Joy" and "Tools" Activity Pages, 11" x 17" paper, cardstock, washable markers, heart and smiley-face stickers, glue sticks, scissors, and permanent marker

**WHAT YOU DO:**  
**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Enlarge and copy "Toolbox of Joy" on 11" x 17" paper and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Copy "Tools" on cardstock and cut, one set per child.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to decorate their toolbox and tools. Fold each child's paper. Ask children to rub the glue stick on both sides of the shorter edge of their paper, then fold the paper, and press together to adhere. Encourage children to insert each of their tools into their toolbox.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible Story.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**  
**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends! We did a lot of building today. Let's make our very own toolbox with tools!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "This big piece of paper will turn into your toolbox! But first, I need you to decorate it with the markers and the stickers. (Pause.) Great! Now decorate the tools too. (Pause.) Now, let's make your toolbox. (Fold the paper where indicated, then lay flat.) Rub your glue stick on these two short sides. (Pause.) Now we'll fold your paper, and look—it makes a pocket for all your tools! Slide each tool into the pocket. (Pause.) You are all set to go to work with your toolbox of joy!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "In today's story, we heard how God's people started rebuilding the temple that had been destroyed. It was a hard job, but some people started celebrating after they got the first part rebuilt! They played trumpets and cymbals, and they sang songs to God about how good He is and how thankful they were. They had SO much JOY! We can be like the people who chose to celebrate. We can look at the good things God is doing and have joy! We can play music, sing songs to God, and say 'thank You' to God. We can have joy all the time. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.**"



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## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



## 6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a journal, and a fun-shaped pen

### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on

cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Proverbs 17:22. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Lead the children to pretend to hold a hammer and hammer things as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the Memory Verse and hand motions, then encourage children to help you make a list in the journal of things that are hard to do.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to pretend to hammer things while we walk to our Small Group spot. Everyone, hold up your pretend hammer like this! (*Hold up your hand like you're holding a hammer.*) Great! Now every time I count to three, we'll stop and pretend to hammer something. Follow me! One, two, three! Stop and hammer! One, two, three! Stop and hammer! One, two . . . (*Continue doing this until you reach your Small Group spot.*) We did it! We hammered our way right to our Small Group spot! Now let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story today, God's people did something hard. What did they do? (*Pause.*) Yes, they rebuilt the temple. When they finished building the bottom of the temple, some of the people stopped and started celebrating! They played music and sang songs! They had joy even when doing something hard! We can have joy when we do hard things too, because we can have joy all the time! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!**"

## BIBLE STORY

I can have joy  
when I do hard things.

**EZRA AND THE REBUILDING  
OF THE TEMPLE  
EZRA 3:10-13**

## MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart  
is good medicine."

**PROVERBS 17:22, ESV**

## KEY QUESTION

Who can have joy all the time?

## BOTTOM LINE

I can have joy all the time.

## BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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## (6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"Now let's talk about the Bible verse we have been learning. It says, 'A joyful (*brush flat hands upward twice*) heart (*tap chest twice with fingertip*) is good medicine;' (*move flat hand from chin to palm*) Proverbs 17:22. (*Open hands like a book.*) Did you hear that? Having JOY is like taking medicine that makes you feel better! Stand up with me, and let's say our Bible verse together. Just say what I say and do what I do. 'A joyful (*brush flat hands upward twice*) heart (*tap chest twice with fingertip*) is good medicine;' (*move flat hand from chin to palm*) Proverbs 17:22. (*Open hands like a book.*) Great job! (*Two thumbs up.*) Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*)

"Today, we're going to make a list of things that are hard to do. I'll go first. I think [name of action] is a hard thing to do. (*Write your hard thing in the journal.*) There! Now, when I say your name, you can tell me something you think is hard to do and I will write it in our journal." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Thank you for making this list with me. We can use it when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, sometimes we have to do hard things, like (*read the list you and the children made*). I'm so glad we can have joy all the time, even when we do hard things, because You love us all the time. Help us remember how much You love us the next time we do something hard. It may even help us to sing a song to You while we do the hard thing! We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."