



WEEK
FIVE
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. FOUR CORNERS VERSE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: ""Four Corners Large" and "Four Corners Small" Activity Pages, cardstock, and painter's tape

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Four Corners Large" on cardstock, one set per Small Group. Tape these pictures in four corners of the room at child's height. Copy the "Four Corners Small" onto cardstock, two sets per Small Group.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Point out the pictures of party items around the room. Shuffle the cards and stack them on the floor, face down. Select a child to flip a card. Encourage everyone to find the matching party item on the wall and run to that corner. Say the verse together. Go back to the stack of cards and ask another child to flip a card. Continue until each child has had a turn to flip the cards.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand here in the middle with me! Let's say our verse as we do the motions. Ready? '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: "Do you see the party items around the room? What do you see? (*Point to each corner and name the items together.*) Great job! These cards have matching pictures, and when I call your name, draw a card and find the picture that matches on the wall! [Child's name], draw a card and find the matching picture. (*Pause.*) Lead us to the picture. (*Pause.*) You found the [item]. Let's say our verse together. 'A joyful heart is good medicine,' Proverbs 17:22. Super-duper! Let's go back to the middle and pick another card. (*Continue with each child.*) That was really fun finding all the party pictures with you."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "I love our Memory Verse! It reminds us that a joyful heart is like medicine. What does medicine do? It helps us feel better! We can have joy when we remember that God loves us! God gives us joy all the time. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!**"

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy no matter what.

**GOD WILL GIVE US JOY
HABAKKUK 3:17-18**

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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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



5. JOY SELF-PORTRAIT
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: "JOY Self-Portrait" Activity Page, cardstock, crayons, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "JOY Self-Portrait" on cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to draw a picture of themselves inside the large O.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:
BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "We've been learning that we can have joy all the time—no matter what! Come sit at the table and let's create!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "On your paper, there is a very big word—that word is JOY. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.** That's right! See all the space inside the 'O' on your paper? (Point to the 'O'.) I want you to draw a picture of yourself in the 'O'. (Pause.) These are fantastic pictures!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our story, we learned about a man named Habakkuk. Habakkuk knew that God loved him all the time and that gave Habakkuk joy all the time. We can have joy all the time because God loves us too. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.** One more time! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.**"

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy no matter what.

**GOD WILL GIVE US JOY
HABAKKUK 3:17-18**

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

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God loves me.



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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, fun-shaped pen, heart stickers, and stickers or handstamp

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.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Tell the children to smile their biggest smile 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 guide the children to put a heart sticker by their name as you write it in the journal.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children.

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy
no matter what.

GOD WILL GIVE US JOY
HABAKKUK 3:17-18

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.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to smile our biggest smiles while we walk to our Small Group spot. Show me your biggest smile! Wow! You have wonderful smiles! Now keep smiling and follow me to our Small Group spot! (*Smile as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Okay all of you wonderful, smiling faces, it's time to sit down and 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, Habakkuk prayed to God and told Him that even if he didn't have any figs on his fig trees, he could have joy because God loved him. Even if he didn't have any grapes on his grapevines, he could have joy because God loved him. Even if his garden didn't grow any food, he could have joy because God loved him. Even if he didn't have any animals on his farm, he could have joy because God loved him. Wow! Habakkuk had joy all the time—no matter what he had or didn't have because he knew that God loved him. And we can have joy all the time too, because God loves you and **God loves me! Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!**"

"We have been learning a Bible verse about joy. 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.*) I love this verse because it teaches us that choosing to have a joyful heart makes us feel better! Stand up with me and let's say that 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.*)"



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(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"You sound amazing! (*Clap.*) Now I need everyone to sit down so we can take turns saying our Bible verse. Who's ready to try and say it by yourself? I have my stickers/handstamp ready! (*Give each child the opportunity to try and say the Bible verse.*) Everyone, clap for [child's name]! Here is your sticker/handstamp! (*Say this with each child as they try and say the Bible verse.*) I am very proud of you for trying to say that Bible verse! When I count to three, I want everyone to stand up and show me your sticker/handstamp. One, two, three! (*Pause.*) Yay!" (*Clap.*)

"Now let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Today, I am going to write your names in our prayer journal. When I say your name, you can put a heart sticker by your name in our journal, because God loves you! [Child's name]! (*Spell out name letter-by-letter.*) There! Now you can put this heart by your name because God loves [child's name]! (*Repeat this with each child. Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Look at our names! (*Hold up journal.*) We can have joy all the time because God loves us! Let's pray and thank God for loving us! Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for loving (*say each child's name*). Knowing You love us helps us have joy all the time . . . no matter what! You're the best, God, and we love You very much. In Jesus' name. Amen."