



WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



3. COLOR BY NUMBER SHEEP

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Color by Number Sheep" Activity Page; cardstock; and blue, green, and brown washable markers

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Color by Number Sheep" Activity Page onto cardstock, one per child. Place the pages and markers on the table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Point out the key at the bottom of the page. Review the numbers and their corresponding colors from the key. Emphasize that the number four is to be left white. Encourage children to color their paper.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come find a spot at the table! I have a fun page for us to color."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "It's a color-by-number page. That means that each spot with a number has a color that goes with it. Look at the key at the bottom. Do you see the number one? What color is next to the number one? (Pause.) That's right! So in the picture, when you see a '1,' color it blue. So let's match up the numbers and colors to see what's on our page! Can you find the number '4'? What color is next to number 4? (Pause.) That's right! There is NO color there. That means when you see a '4' on the page, you can leave it white. Okay, get coloring! (Pause.) What did you create? (Pause.) A sheep! That's right!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story, we learned there was a shepherd who had one hundred sheep, but one was missing! What did the shepherd do? Did he leave the ninety-nine sheep to find the missing sheep? Yes! Because the shepherd loved each and every one of his sheep! The shepherd loves his sheep just like God loves us! God loves us so we can have joy! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!"**

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

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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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

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25 MINUTES

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

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5. SMOOSH PAINT SHEEP

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Smooch Paint Sheep" Activity Page, light blue cardstock, white washable paint, googly eye stickers, baby wipes, and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Smooch Paint Sheep" on light blue cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Fold each Activity Page in half, then open.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to guess what animal they will make today by looking at the head, tail, and legs on their paper. Squeeze a baseball-sized amount of paint in the middle of each child's paper and ask children to fold their paper in half and rub or pat their paper. Instruct children to carefully open their paper to reveal the sheep they made. Give each child two googly eye stickers to put on their sheep. Clean hands with baby wipes as needed.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends! Come sit at the table with me. We're going to do a fun smooch painting today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at your paper! There is a head, four legs, and a tail! What do you think this animal is? (Pause.) Those are good guesses. Let's add some paint to your paper. (Squeeze paint in the middle of each child's paper.) Now fold your paper in half and rub or pat it like this. (Demonstrate.) Good job! Unfold your paper and let's see what animal you made. (Pause.) You made a sheep! How cute! But something is missing. What do your sheep need? (Pause.) Yes, they need eyes! Let's use these stickers to give them eyes." (Give each child two googly eye stickers to put on their paper.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, we learned about a shepherd who had one hundred sheep! That's a lot of sheep. But one of his sheep went missing and the shepherd was sad. He left all the other sheep and went to find the missing one because he loved each and every one of his sheep. He loved his sheep just like God loves US. We can have joy all the time because we are important to God and God loves us 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, cardstock, scissors, Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in

your Bible at Proverbs 17:22. *Note:* Keep this card in your Bible all month long.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lead the children to pretend to be sheep 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 the children to help you make a list in the journal of people they love.

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 we're sheep while we walk to our Small Group spot. Follow me and say 'baa-baa-baa' all the way to our Small Group spot! (*Say 'baa-baa-baa' like a sheep as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) We made it, little sheep! 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, Jesus told a story about a shepherd and his sheep. What did the shepherd do when one of his sheep was lost? (*Pause.*) That's right! The shepherd looked for his lost sheep because he loved all of his sheep. And what did the shepherd do when he found his lost sheep? (*Pause.*) Right, again! The shepherd celebrated! Jesus told this story so we can know how much God loves us. God loves us even MORE than the shepherd loved his sheep! And knowing how much God loves us can give us joy all the time! That's why when I ask you, **'Who can have joy all the time,'** I want you to say, **'I can have joy all the time!'** Let me hear you! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!** Yay! (*Clap.*)

"We're going to learn a new 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.*)

BIBLE STORY

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because God loves me.

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LUKE 15:1-7

MEMORY VERSE

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(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"Raise your hand if you have ever taken medicine. *(Pause.)* Me too! Medicine makes you feel better. And guess what! JOY makes you feel better too! JOY is good medicine! Stand up with me and let's say our new 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.)* You sound awesome! *(Clap.)* I love learning Bible verses with you! 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 people we love. When I say your name, tell me one person you love 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: "Look at all of the people we love. *(Hold up journal.)* Let's 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, thank You for loving us like the shepherd loved his sheep. We love *(read the list the children made)*. It gives us so much joy to know that You love us even more! You love [child's name]. You love [child's name]. You love . . . *(name each child)*. Help us remember how much You love us so we can have joy all the time! You are amazing, God! And we love You. In Jesus' name. Amen."