



WEEK
TWO
JULY 2024

SMALL GROUP
2-3

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Fancy Dancing Hidden Picture

NOTE: Each kid gets a hidden picture.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Heard It Through the Grapevine
Wedding at Cana
John 2:1-11

WHAT YOU DO:

- Each kid gets a page see if they can find all the items at the party

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Jesus showed us how to have joy.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"We need lots of supplies to throw a good party—balloons included! *[Transition]*
Today in Large Group, we'll hear about what Jesus did when a very important party supply was missing."

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!"
Philippians 4:4, NIV

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Joy—Choosing to celebrate what God is doing

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing



*** 2. EVERYDAY JOY**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: “Everyday Joy” Activity Pages, colored pencils or crayons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a set of the “Everyday Joy” Activity Pages.
- Say: “We’re going to be creating a journal that will help you share joy in the ordinary, everyday moments!”
- Pre-assemble the six pages from the “Everyday Joy” Activity Pages in order for sides like a booklet.
- Set out the coloring supplies.
- Direct kids to color the front of their book.
- Once kids finish coloring, invite them to turn to page one of their journal, read through it together, and give them some time to complete it.

TODAY’S BIBLE STORY

I Heard It Through the Grapevine
Wedding at Cana
John 2:1-11

WHAT YOU SAY:

“You can use these journals throughout the week to remember to celebrate the joy that God gives us— even in the ordinary, everyday moments. Let’s look at the next few pages together. *(Direct kids to flip through the pages as you talk through the pages.)* Does anyone want to share one thing that brings them joy? *(Invite responses.)* Can anyone share how God is working in their joy? *(Invite responses.)*”

TODAY’S BOTTOM LINE

Jesus showed us how to have joy.

“This Everyday Joy Journal will be a great tool for us this week! Sometimes it’s not easy to find something to celebrate, right? Maybe we’re having a tough week or our day just isn’t going how we planned. But, if we take a few moments each day this week to think about how God is with us, it can help us choose joy no matter what we’re facing. After that, we can show others how to find joy too!

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

“Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!”
Philippians 4:4, NIV

[Make It Personal] *(Share an age-appropriate story about a time you found something to celebrate even when it was hard.)* “Remember, friends, **Jesus showed us how to have joy.** Whatever we’re going through, we can trust that Jesus is at work doing something good and sharing His overflowing joy with everyone around us.”

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Joy—Choosing to celebrate what God is doing

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



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3. I WILL SAY IT AGAIN

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, dot stickers, paper, and markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide kids into teams of 3-4 kids.
- Give each team a Bible.
- Direct each team to look up the Memory Verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below.

***Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders:** Guide them 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 Philippians in the list under "New Testament." When the kids find Philippians, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Philippians. Help the kids find the page. When they find Philippians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 4. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 4 in chapter 4.*

- Give each team a sheet of dot stickers, a piece of paper, and a marker.
- Instruct each team to stick 17 dot stickers for the NIV onto their paper in any form or shape they want.
 - For the NIV, instruct each team to use 12 dot stickers.
- Direct the kids on each team to write each word of the Memory Verse onto a sticker in order.
 - 17 stickers means one sticker for each word of the Memory Verse in the NIV, and one for the reference.
 - 12 stickers means one sticker for each word of the Memory Verse in the NIV, and one for the reference.
- Encourage the teams to spend some time trying to memorize the verse.
- After some time, challenge the kids on each team to put a blank dot sticker on top of a few words and see if they can still recite the verse.
- Instruct the kids on each team to continue challenging themselves by placing blank stickers on top of the Memory Verse words until they can recite the verse in its entirety!

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Some things are worth repeating! And this Memory Verse is for sure worth repeating! It even says so in the verse. *"I will say it again!"* (Philippians 4:4). Knowing these truths from the Bible is important in helping us choose joy in our everyday lives. It helps us discover that **Jesus showed us how to have joy**. When you're stumped and just can't seem to find something to celebrate, you can always flip open God's Word to remember what God has done."



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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask: "Who is one person you can share joy with this week? How can you celebrate in a way that includes someone else?"
- Close the group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, thank You for giving us the opportunity to celebrate each and every day! You are always at work for our good—even when it's hard to see. Help us find You in the little moments of our days. Help us to see Your goodness when we're playing at the park, or doing chores, or even when we find ourselves bored. May we never forget the amazing and important invitation You have given us to this celebration! We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids to show off their Everyday Joy Journals.

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