



WEEK  
**TWO**  
JULY 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS  
STAGE

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus helps us have joy.

**WEDDING AT CANA**  
**JOHN 2:1-11**

### MEMORY VERSE

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."

**LUKE 2:10, ESV**

### KEY QUESTION

Who gives you joy?

### BOTTOM LINE

Jesus gives me joy.

### BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

### PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

### SMALL GROUP

**15**  
MIN

#### **SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction**

*Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.*

Helping Fun

Six

Make a Jar

### LARGE GROUP

**20**  
MIN

#### **WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God**

#### **STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways**

"Best Friend" and "I Love You So Much"

Bible Story

Prayer

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN

#### **GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect**

*Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.*

Share the Verse

Story Jars

Color-Changing Water Jars

Jars to Jesus

Special Turn

Journal and Prayer

### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)

Parent Cue App



This symbol indicates an activity with potential allergens. Be sure to post allergy alert sign and inform parents at drop-off.



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PRELUDE      SOCIAL      **WORSHIP**      STORY      GROUPS      HOME

10 MINUTES

### BIBLE STORY

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### LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

### WORSHIP

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" from Week One in Bible; instruments or music player; this month's worship song, "Best Friend," included in your monthly files; and "I Love You So Much," available on OrangeKidsMusic.com; *Optional: Dance Moves Videos for "Best Friend," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com, and "I Love You So Much," available from OrangeKidsMusic.com*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Hey, everyone! My name is [your name], and I'm SO glad you're here today! Did you know that **Jesus gives me joy?** It's true!

"When I ask, '**Who gives you joy?**', I want you to say, '**Jesus gives me joy!** **Who gives you joy?**'"

**CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER:** "**Jesus gives me joy.**"

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "That's right! **Jesus gives me joy.** He's our best friend. Sing this out with me.

*Lead children in singing "Best Friend," this month's worship song.*

"That's right! **Jesus gives me joy!** And the Bible teaches us that: 'I bring you (move upward-facing palms to one side) good news (move flat hand from chin to palm) of great joy (brush flat hands upward twice) that will be for all the people; (arms out wide) Luke 2:10. (Open hands like a book.)

"Let's learn our Memory Verse together. Are you ready? Watch me say it and do the motions, and then you can do it with me!

*Lead children to say the Memory Verse with the motions.*

"Way to go, friends! We have good news of great joy for ALL people! Jesus loves us and wants to be our friend FOREVER. Jesus is a best friend who we can trust! Sing this with me."

*Lead children in singing "I Love You So Much."*

"Thanks for worshipping with me today! [**Transition**] And now it's time to turn around, sit down, and shake the wiggles out (wiggle hands), so we can hear (cup hands behind ears) what the story's all about!"  
Host enters as Worship Leader exits.



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## INTRO SKETCH

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Small table, tray, and toy tea set (*teapot and cups*)

*Preset a small table in the storytelling area.*

*Host enters, carrying prepared tea tray, as Worship Leader exits.*

**HOST:** "Hello, friends! Welcome to [your environment or story time]! My name is [your name]! Guess what I'm doing this afternoon with my friends.

*Place tea tray on table.*

"I'm having a tea party! My aunt gave me this tea set, and I'm about to have my very first tea party! Wouldn't it be fun to have a fancy party like a king or a queen? Instead of cookies, we could eat fancy, teeny, tiny sandwiches.

"Pretend you're holding a fancy, teeny, tiny sandwich with me, and nibble it, like this.

*Pretend to nibble a small sandwich.*

"So fancy! But we're not having teeny, tiny sandwiches today. We're having cookies and tea.

*Pretend to pour tea into tea cups.*

"Some tea for you . . . and some tea for you . . .

*Shake the tea pot realizing there is no more tea.*

"Oh no! I ran out of tea! I've invited all of my friends to a tea party, but now I don't have any tea. I don't know what to do. (*Short pause.*) I'm going to see if I can find more tea while you listen to a Bible Story. I'll see you after the story! Bye!"

*Storyteller enters as Host exits with the tray and tea set.*

## STORY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bible, small table (*from Intro*), fun preschool music, six large jars, a pitcher of water, and a cup;  
*Optional: Story Images and cardstock*

*Preset the large jars, pitcher of water, and cup close to the storytelling area but out of sight of the children.*

*Storyteller enters, carrying a Bible, as Host exits.*

**STORYTELLER:** "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I'm here to tell you a true story from the Bible.

*Open Bible for children to see, then set it down.*

"Our story begins at a wedding party where everyone was celebrating a bride and groom.



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(Option: Display Story Image W2 01)

"Lots of their friends were at the wedding party to celebrate. Jesus and His friends, the disciples, were at the wedding party to celebrate. And Mary, Jesus' mom, was at the wedding party to celebrate!

"There was music . . .

*Play fun preschool music.*

". . . and there was dancing . . .

*Begin to dance.*

". . . and there were lots of special food and special wedding drink. All of the people were having so much fun at the wedding party . . .

*Stop playing music and dancing, and look at the children.*

". . . but then there was a big problem! (Short pause.) They ran out of special wedding drink! Oh no!

*Make a big surprised face.*

"Everyone, make an 'Oh no' face with me, and say, 'Oh no!'"

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER:** "Oh no!"

**STORYTELLER:** "Well, when Mary, Jesus' mom, found out, she knew it would make the bride and groom very sad if they knew they had run out of special wedding drink. So Mary went to Jesus for help.

"You see, Mary knew that Jesus is God's Son and Jesus can do anything. Mary told Jesus what happened, and then she told the helpers to do whatever Jesus said.

(Option: Display Story Image W2 02)

"Jesus told the helpers to fill up six big jars with water. Count the jars with me!"

*Pull the six jars out, one at a time, as you count them with the children.*

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER:** "One . . . two . . . three . . . four . . . five . . . six!"

**STORYTELLER:** "Whew! Six jars, just like Jesus said. Now we have to fill them with water. Count with me, again!"

*Pick up the large pitcher of water and pour water into each jar.*

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER:** "One . . . two . . . three . . . four . . . five . . . six!"

**STORYTELLER:** "There! The jars have water, just like Jesus said . . . but water is not a special wedding drink. It's just



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water. But . . . Jesus wasn't done.

"Next, Jesus did something amazing! Something only Jesus can do! Jesus told the helpers to dip a cup into the jar of water.

*Dip a cup into one of the jars.*

*(Option: Display Story Image W2 03)*

"When the helper brought the cup out of the jar, it wasn't water anymore! It was special wedding drink!

*Place cup on the table.*

"Jesus' disciples and the helpers were amazed! Jesus did something that no one else can do! Jesus changed the water into special wedding drink! Wow!

"Jesus helped Mary, the disciples, and the helpers have joy! Now the helpers could give the bride and groom the special wedding drink, and everyone could continue celebrating the bride and groom!

"Jesus gave the people at the wedding joy and Jesus can give us joy too. That's why, when I ask you, '**Who gives you joy?**', I want you to say '**Jesus gives me joy!**' Let's try that!"

**STORYTELLER:** "**Who gives you joy?**"

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER:** "**Jesus gives me joy!**"

**STORYTELLER:** "Again! **Who gives you joy?**"

**CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER:** "**Jesus gives me joy!**"

**STORYTELLER:** "Yes, **Jesus gives me joy!** **[Transition]** Our story time is over (*pick up and close Bible*), but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"

### **PRAYER**

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, thank You for Jesus. Thank You that Jesus wants to be our friend forever and that He can help us have joy. You're the best, God! In Jesus' name. Amen.

"Thanks for being such great listeners! I'll see you next time! Bye!"

*Host enters as Storyteller exits, carrying Bible.*



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## OUTRO SKETCH

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

*Host enters as Storyteller exits.*

**HOST:** "Wow! The people at the wedding ran out of special wedding drink. But Jesus did something only He can do and turned water into special wedding drink! Jesus helped the people at the wedding have joy, and Jesus can help us have joy too.

"I think I (*point to self*) got the story. Did you (*point to children*) get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?" (*Cup one hand behind ear.*)

**CHILDREN AND HOST:** "Got it!"

**HOST:** (*Give two thumbs-up.*) "Good!"

"Knowing Jesus is my friend forever gives me joy! I can't turn water into a special drink, like Jesus did, but I can make more tea for my tea party. See you next time! Bye!"

**[Transition]** "And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

*Host dismisses small groups and exits.*