



WEEK
ONE
JULY 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



1. HALO LAUNCHERS

WHAT YOU NEED: Turkey basters, facial tissues, and yellow circle stickers

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place a yellow sticker in the center of each facial tissue, one or two per child. Set the

tissues and turkey basters on the table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how the tissues look like angels with yellow halos. Demonstrate how to drape the tissue over the turkey baster (*sticker side up*) and squeeze the end of the baster to puff out the air and launch the angel into the air. Help children with the placement of the tissue. Continue as time and interest allow.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come gather here around the table. I have a fun activity for us today."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at these tissues! Do you see the yellow sticker on them? What do they remind you of? (*Pause.*) They remind me of little angels with halos. Do you think we can make them fly? (*Pause.*) Let's see! If we place the tissue on top of the turkey baster like this and then squeeze the bottom, the air inside will make it launch! (*Demonstrate.*) Whoa! How fun! You try! Make sure you can see the sticker when you place it on the turkey baster. (*Pause.*) That was SO fun making all the angels fly!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, we'll hear about an angel who gave a special message to some shepherds who were in a field."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to deliver a special message. Lead the children to cup their hands around their mouths as megaphones and say: "Hear ye, Hear ye! I have a very special announcement!"

BIBLE STORY

Jesus came to give the world joy.

SHEPHERDS AND ANGELS
LUKE 2:8-20

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.



WEEK
ONE
JULY 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
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



5. GOOD NEWS

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Good News" and "Good News Label" Activity Pages, cardstock, Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent, paper cups, paper straws, cotton balls, glue sticks, washi tape, and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Good News", one set per child. Copy "Good News Label" on label paper, one label per child. Punch a small hole in the bottom of each cup, big enough to slide the straw through. Write each child's name on their cup.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to turn their cup upside down and glue the picture of the shepherds to it and a few cotton balls on it for sheep. Turn the cup around and add their label. Help children tape the angel to the top of their paper straw. Ask children to put the straw into the hole in the cup.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come sit at the table with me. We learned that Jesus came to be everyone's friend forever. Let's celebrate and make something special to help us remember the good news."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Turn your cup upside down. Who is this a picture of? (Hold up the picture of the shepherds.) It's the shepherds from our Bible Story! Glue the shepherds to your cup. (Pause.) What do shepherds take care of? (Pause.) Sheep! That's right. We can use these cotton balls for sheep. Glue them to your cup. (Pause.) Turn your cup around and add this label. It tells you where you can look in the Bible to find today's story. Who told the shepherds the good news? (Pause.) An angel! Help me tape this angel to the top of your straw. (Pause.) Slide it into the hole in your cup. (Pause.) Great job!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus came to give the whole world joy. **Who gives you joy? Jesus gives me joy.** One more time: **Who gives you joy? Jesus gives me joy.**"

BIBLE STORY

Jesus came to give the world joy.

SHEPHERDS AND ANGELS
LUKE 2:8-20

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.



WEEK
ONE
JULY 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



BIBLE STORY

Jesus came to give the world joy.

SHEPHERDS AND ANGELS
LUKE 2:8-20

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.

6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page, cardstock, 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 Luke 2:10. *Note:* Keep this card in your Bible all month long. Encourage the children to fly like angels as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Review the Memory Verse and hand motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of people they can tell the good news about Jesus.

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 flying like angels while we go to our Small Group spot. Follow me, little angels, and let's fly! (*Pretend to fly like an angel as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Here we are! 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 sent an angel to tell the shepherds that His Son, Jesus, had been born. Then the sky filled with angels praising God! The shepherds had so much joy they ran to see baby Jesus! Then they ran to tell everyone in town about Jesus so those people could have joy too! Jesus came to give the world joy. That means **Jesus gives me joy**, and Jesus gives you joy! **Who gives you joy? Jesus gives me joy!**

"The Bible verse we're going to start learning today are the words the angel said to the shepherds. It says, '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.*) So cool! Let's stand up and say that together. Just say what I say and do what I do. '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.*)



WEEK
ONE
JULY 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

“Wow! You sound like the angel who told the shepherds the good news about Jesus! Way to go! 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 can tell the good news about Jesus. When I say your name, tell me one person you can tell about Jesus and I will write their name 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 the people we can tell the good news about Jesus! (*Hold up journal.*) Let’s use our list 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 sending Jesus to give every person in the world joy. That is such good news! Help us tell (*read the list the children made*) that Jesus loves them, and He wants to be their friend forever. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”