



WEEK  
**TWO**  
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. HELPING FUN

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Colorful parachute and small playground ball

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Spread the parachute out in the middle of an open space in the room. Ask each child to pick

a color and grab that handle.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Put the ball on the parachute. Show children how to gently move the parachute to help the ball roll to a designated color. Continue until all children get a turn to get the ball in front of them.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Come here, friends! Look at all the beautiful colors on this parachute! Come stand at the color you like and grab the handle. When I call your name, I want you to gently raise your handle. Ready to give it a try? [Child's name], raise your handle. (Pause.) Great! (Continue with each child.) Freeze the parachute and I'll show you what we're going to do."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "We practiced raising our handles gently, watch what happens when I put the ball on the parachute. (Pause.) Let's try and move the ball to one of the [color] spots. (Guide children to raise their handle.) Good job! Everyone, freeze. We did it! This time, let's try and get it to a [color] spot. (Continue until the ball has been to each child.) Everyone did a great job helping get the ball to each color!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "That was fun helping each other. In our Bible Story today, we'll hear a story about how Jesus helps people have joy. Let's go hear all about it."

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by asking the children to help you by being extra quiet while they walk.

## 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.



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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



**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.

**5. SPECIAL TURN**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Special Turn" Activity Page, cardstock, washable markers, brads, and marker

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Special Turn" on cardstock and cut, one set per child. Make a small cut as indicated by

the "x" on both the jar and the circle. Write each child's name on their paper.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to color their jar and then color half the circle blue and the other half purple. Place the jar on top of the circle, insert the brad and fasten. Demonstrate how to turn the circle to show the change from water to special wedding drink.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Today we heard about something that happened that was so special only Jesus could do it. Let's make a moving picture to help us remember today's story."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "In our story, Jesus, His friends, and His mom were at a wedding party celebrating when the special wedding drink ran out. Jesus' mom asked Jesus to help, so Jesus asked the helpers to fill up six big jars with water. Can you color the jar on your paper? (Pause.) Great! Now, see the line on the circle cutout? Color one side blue for water, and the other side purple, for the special wedding drink. (Pause.) Then, Jesus asked the helper to dip the cup into the jar of water and when he brought it out, it was filled with the special wedding drink! (Attach the two pieces together and demonstrate how to turn it.) You try. (Pause.) Good job! We can turn the paper, but only Jesus can turn water into special wedding drink!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Jesus gave the people at the wedding joy, and Jesus can give us joy too. **Who gives you joy? Jesus gives me joy.** One more time. **Who gives you joy? Jesus gives me joy.**"



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO REFLECT**  
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



**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.

**6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER**  
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]  
**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a journal, and a fun-shaped pen

**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 Luke 2:10. Keep this card in your Bible all month. Show the children how to sound party hand horns 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 things we need help with.

**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 make party horns with our hands, like this, while we walk to our Small Group spot. (Pretend one of your hands is a horn and make a horn sound.) Now you make a party horn with your hand and follow me! (Encourage the children to play their party hand horn as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.) That was fun! 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 did something that only He can do. Do you remember what Jesus did? (Pause.) Yes! Jesus turned six big jars of water into special wedding drink! Everyone that knew what Jesus did to help them was amazed, and they had so much joy! Jesus can give us joy when He helps us too! That's why when I ask you, 'Who gives you joy?' you can say, 'Jesus gives me joy!' Ready? **Who gives you joy? Jesus gives me joy!**

"The Bible verse we're learning 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.) These are the words the angel said to the shepherds. Jesus is good news! Stand up and let's say this verse and do the motions together this time. 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.)



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25 MINUTES

## (6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

“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 things we need help with. Just like Mary talked to Jesus when she needed help, we can talk to Jesus when we need help too. When I say your name, tell me one thing you need help with, 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:** “Thanks for making this list with me. (*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 giving us Jesus to be our friend forever and help us. Knowing we have Jesus is good news that brings great joy! When we need help with things like (*read the list the children made*) help (*say each child’s name*) talk to You about it so You can help us. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name. Amen.”