



WEEK
FOUR
JULY 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts



3. SPINNING FOREVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Fidget spinners and spinning tops

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place fidget spinners and tops on a table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to explore and spin the toys and observe what happens.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over to the table and check out these cool toys."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Do you know what these do? All these toys spin! Let's play with them and watch them go! (Pause.) Wow! Those are spinning so fast—they are going forever and ever! Oh, the tops stopped! Let's spin them some more! That was really fun playing with all these toys."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "The tops didn't keep going forever, but today we'll hear about something that does go on forever and ever and ever and never stops. I can't wait to hear all about it."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by carrying a fidget spinner. Encourage children to walk while the spinner is moving and stop when it stops. Repeat until you reach your designated area.

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy forever because Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

HEAVEN
REVELATION 21, 22:1-5;
JOHN 14:3

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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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. FLIP SIDE

WHAT YOU NEED: "Flip Side" Activity Page, 8.5 x 11 paper, hole punch, scissors, yarn, painter's tape, and adhesive bandages

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY copy "Flip Side" on

8" x 11" paper and cut, one gingerbread person cutout per Small Group. Punch a hole at the top of the paper. Cut a 12" length of yarn and loop it through the hole.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to one at a time add a bandage to the gingerbread person cutout. Repeat two or three times, then flip it over to show no boo-boos.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad you're here today! Come over here and stand with me."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "This friend (*point to the cutout*) has some boo-boos. Will you help me cover our friend with bandages? Great! Come get a bandage from me and stick it on him. (*Pause.*) Our friend is looking better, but I think we need to add a few more bandages. Come get another bandage and stick it on him. (*Pause.*) Way to go! You covered all our friend's boo-boos. But look! (*Flip the cutout over.*) Now he's all better! No more boo-boos! Hooray!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about a place that Jesus is getting ready for us. And guess what? There will be no more boo-boos there! I can't wait to hear our story today!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by waving and saying, "Bye-bye, boo-boos!"

BIBLE STORY

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HEAVEN

REVELATION 21, 22:1-5;
JOHN 14:3

MEMORY VERSE

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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

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REVELATION 21, 22:1-5;
JOHN 14:3

MEMORY VERSE

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

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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, a fun-shaped pen, and stickers or a handstamp

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. Encourage the children to skip or jump 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 times they've been sick or had a boo-boo.

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 skip or jump all the way to our Small Group spot. Follow me! (*Skip or jump as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) Woo-hoo! 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.*)

"Our Bible Story today was about a very special place. Do you remember the name of the special place? (*Pause.*) Yes! Heaven! Jesus is in heaven right now getting it ready for all of His friends to be with Him forever! Wow! Thinking about being with Jesus forever gives me JOY, because **Jesus gives me joy! Who gives you joy? Jesus gives me joy! Yay! Jesus gives me joy!**

"We have been learning a Bible verse about how the good news of Jesus brings great joy! 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.*) Let's stand up and say that together. Then, anyone who wants to try and say it can give it a try! 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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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"You sound wonderful! (*Clap.*) Now I need everyone to sit down so we can take turns saying our Bible verse. Who's ready to try and say it by yourself? I have my stickers/handstamp ready! (*Give each child the opportunity to try and say the Bible verse.*) Everyone, clap for [child's name]! Here is your sticker! (*Say this with each child as they try and say the Bible verse.*) I am very proud of you for trying to say that Bible verse! When I count to three, I want everyone to stand up and show me your sticker/handstamp. One, two, three! (*Pause to look.*) Yay! (*Clap.*)

"Now let's sit back down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Today, we're going to make a list of times we've been sick or had a boo-boo. Maybe you hurt your knee, or bumped your head, or your tummy was really sick. When I say your name, tell me one time you had a boo-boo, or you were sick, 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: "It looks like we have all had a boo-boo or have been sick at one time. (*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 be (*say each child's name*)'s friend forever. Thank You that Jesus is getting heaven ready for all of His friends, where there will be no more (*read the list the children made*). We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."