



WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2024

SMALL GROUP

2 YEAR
-OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy
because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart
is good medicine."

PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

KEY QUESTION

Who can have joy all the time?

BOTTOM LINE

I can have joy all the time.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

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.

Let's Celebrate!
Lost Sheep
Sheep Care

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Start the Party"
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.

Memory Verse with Motions
Where's the Sheep?
Hide and Seek Sheep
Sheep Puppet

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Memory Verse Card
Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)
Parent Cue App



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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. LET'S CELEBRATE!

WHAT YOU NEED: Cotton balls or pom-poms

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to stand in a circle with you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Give each child a few cotton balls/pom-poms. Count to three with the children and have the children toss the cotton balls/pom-poms in the air to celebrate.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP LUKE 15:1-7

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come stand in a circle with me. (Pause.) Let's celebrate!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Hold on to these cotton balls/pom-poms! When we count to three, let's toss them in the air to celebrate. (Pass out the cotton balls/pom-poms.) Let's count together! One, two, three! Toss your cotton balls in the air. (Pause.) Pick them up and let's do it again! (Repeat as desired.) That was so much fun counting and celebrating with you!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today we're going to hear a story about a shepherd who counted his sheep. Let's go hear about him."

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by having the children count to three and toss their pretend cotton balls in the air.

KEY QUESTION

Who can have joy all the time?

BOTTOM LINE

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



2. LOST SHEEP

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper party hats and small toy sheep

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Line up the party hats on the table. Place the toy sheep under one of them.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lift the hat with the sheep under it to show the children where it is. Slowly slide the hats around, then ask children to guess the hat they think the sheep is under. Lift the hat that they guess to see if they are correct. If correct, repeat the activity, moving faster this time. If not, lift the other two hats to find the sheep.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come join me at the table!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at these party hats! One of these hats has a toy sheep under it. (*Lift the hat with the sheep under it.*) Keep your eyes on the hat with the sheep as I move them around. (*Pause.*) Now let's see if we can find the sheep! Which hat do you think the sheep is under? (*Lift the hat they choose.*) You found it! Let's play it again! (*Repeat as desired.*) You are so good at looking for the lost sheep."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about a shepherd who lost one of his sheep. Let's get ready to hear our true story from the Bible to see if he finds it!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to be sheep by saying, "Baa, Baa" as you walk to the story area.

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role play to enhance their learning



3. SHEEP CARE

WHAT YOU NEED: Plush or Little People® sheep, small bottle of water, toy food, and blocks

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place all the items on the table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to care for their sheep as they give them water, feed them, and create a pen with the blocks to protect them.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come gather around the table."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "What do you see? (*Pause.*) Sheep! That's right. Let's take care of our sheep. We can give them water and food and use these blocks to create a pen to keep them safe. Let's pretend to be shepherds and take care of our sheep! (*Pause.*) You did a great job taking care of your sheep."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "You did all the things a shepherd does to take care of their sheep! Today in our Bible Story, we'll hear about a shepherd who loved ALL his sheep."

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to herd sheep while walking to Large Group, just like a shepherd.

BIBLE STORY

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LUKE 15:1-7

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



1. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Say the Memory Verse and teach the motions to the children.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Repeat the verse with the motions and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP LUKE 15:1-7

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, join me over here. We have a brand-new Memory Verse and motions to learn! Everyone, listen and watch me. 'A joyful (brush flat hands upward twice) heart (tap chest twice with fingertip) is good medicine (move flat hand from chin to palm),' Proverbs 17:22. (Open hands like a book.) Great job!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Now let's do it together! Are you ready? 'A joyful (brush flat hands upward twice) heart (tap chest twice with fingertip) is good medicine (move flat hand from chin to palm),' Proverbs 17:22. (Open hands like a book.) Nice job. Let's do it again." (Repeat several times.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our Memory Verse teaches us that joy is like medicine that we take to help us feel better. We can have joy all the time because God loves us. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.** Let's say that one more time, friends. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time."**

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

KEY QUESTION

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

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



2. WHERE'S THE SHEEP?

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Basket or plastic bin, one small toy sheep, small toy animals, and confetti

Note: You may want to prepare more than one basket/bin of animals, depending on the number of children you have.

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place the animals in the basket/bin.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to look through all the animals to find the sheep. As the children look through the animals, name the animals, and make the animal sounds. When a child finds the sheep, celebrate with confetti and cheers! Put the sheep back in with the other animals and repeat.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come sit with me! Look at all the animals in the basket! This is a sheep. (Hold up toy sheep.) What does a sheep say? (Pause.) Yes! Sheep say: 'Baa!'"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Close your eyes while I hide this sheep in with the other animals. (Put the sheep in the basket/bin.) Open your eyes! Look through all these animals and see if you can find the sheep. That's a [animal]! [Animal]s say: [sound]! (Repeat with the other animals.) You found the sheep like the shepherd in our Bible Story found his sheep! (Clap.) Yay! Hooray! (Toss confetti.) Let's play again." (Repeat as desired.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus told the story about the shepherd and his sheep to teach us that God loves us. God loves you and **God loves me!** We can have joy all the time because God loves you and **God loves me!** That's why when I ask you, '**Who can have joy all the time?**' I want you to say, '**I can have joy all the time!**' Ready? **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time! Yay! I can have joy all the time!**" (Toss confetti.)

KEY QUESTION

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



3. HIDE AND SEEK SHEEP

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Plush sheep

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Show children the plush sheep. Tell them you are going to hide it for them to find.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to close and cover their eyes as you hide the sheep. Make sure to hide it in a way where the children can easily find it. Once hidden, call for the children to open their eyes and search for the sheep. Once you find the sheep, celebrate together, then call for the children to close and cover their eyes as you hide the sheep again. Continue as time and interest allow.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand here with me! Look at this cute toy sheep. Let's play a game of hide and seek with it."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Close and cover your eyes while I hide the sheep. (Pause.) Okay! The sheep is hidden! Open your eyes and go find the sheep! (Pause.) Hooray! You found the sheep! Let's play again! (Repeat as desired.) We found the sheep, just like the shepherd in our Bible Story! And what did we do when we found it? We celebrated! Hooray!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Just like the shepherd loved his sheep, God loves you and me. And because He loves us, we can have joy! Tell me: **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!**"

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy
because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

MEMORY VERSE

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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



4. SHEEP PUPPET

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Sheep Puppet," and "Sheep Label" Activity Pages, cardstock, Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent, cotton balls, craft glue, scissors, baby wipes, and a permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Sheep Puppet" on cardstock and cut, one per child and leader. Copy "Sheep Label" on label paper, one label per child. Write each child's name on their sheep. Make a sheep puppet for the leader.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to glue cotton balls to their sheep. Clean hands with baby wipes as needed. Ask children to add the label to the back of their sheep. Show how to slide the sheep onto their fingers to make it into a puppet.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story using the sheep puppets.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends! Come over and join me at the table! Let's make a cute little sheep puppet to help us remember how much God loves us."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Glue some cotton balls to your sheep's body to make it nice and fluffy. (Pause.) Great! Now turn it over and add this sticker to the back. (Pause.) It tells you where to find today's story in the Bible. See the two holes at the bottom of your sheep? Slide a finger in each opening, and look, now your sheep has legs! Walk your sheep around the table. Keep your sheep close and we'll use them to review our Bible Story."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, we learned about a shepherd who had A LOT of sheep. Move your little sheep all around. (Pause.) But one of his sheep went missing! (Hide your sheep in your lap.) This made the shepherd sad. He left all the other sheep and went to find his missing sheep. (Put your sheep back on the table.) The shepherd loved each and every one of his sheep. He loved his sheep just like God loves US. We can have joy all the time because we are important to God and He loves us all the time! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.**"

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age-appropriate and hands-on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible Story.

Prepare to offer one or more of the following activities as preschoolers arrive. Let one or two teachers lead activities in different areas of the room while another teacher greets parents and children at the door.

1. LET'S CELEBRATE!

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Cotton balls or pom-poms

2. LOST SHEEP

Made to Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paper party hats, three per Small Group
- Small toy sheep

3. SHEEP CARE

Made to Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role-play to enhance their learning

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Plush or Little People® sheep
- Small bottle of water
- Toy food
- Blocks

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real-life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

1. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

2. WHERE'S THE SHEEP?

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Explore: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Basket or plastic bin
- One small toy sheep
- Small toy animals
- Confetti

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place the animals in the basket/bin.

3. HIDE AND SEEK SHEEP

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Plush sheep



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HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

4. SHEEP PUPPET

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Sheep Puppet" Activity Page
- "Sheep Label" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Avery® Labels #5160 or equivalent
- Cotton balls
- Craft glue
- Scissors
- Baby wipes
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Sheep Puppet" on cardstock and cut, one per child and leader.
- Copy "Sheep Label" on label paper, one label per child.
- Make a sheep puppet for the leader.

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's Parent Cue card.
- Copy the Memory Verse Card to hand out or make available to parents.
- Copy "Going Home" and hang it on the door where Small Group Leaders can reference and remind parents of the Bottom Line and Memory Verse as parents pick up their children.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource, the **Parent Cue app**.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

- Visit our Pinterest page to see craft samples and suggested supplies. bit.ly/FL_StartTheParty_June