



WEEK  
**THREE**  
JUNE 2024

SMALL GROUP

**2** YEAR  
-OLDS

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### BIBLE STORY

I can have joy  
when I do hard things.

**EZRA AND THE REBUILDING  
OF THE TEMPLE**  
EZRA 3:10-13

### 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.

JOY! JOY! JOY!

Hammer Together!

Build It

### 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.

Pin the Heart

Blocks and Bells

Construction Relay

Hard Hat

### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)

Parent Cue App



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**2** 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. JOY! JOY! JOY!

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to stand in front of you.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Sing the following words to the tune "If You're Happy and You Know It" with the motions.

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

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Hello, friends! It's wonderful to see you today! Come stand in front of me. I have a new song for us to sing and move to."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Our new song is all about JOY! Listen and follow along.

"If you have JOY all the time, clap your hands. (*Clap, clap*)  
If you have JOY all the time, clap your hands. (*Clap, clap*)  
If you have JOY all the time, then your face will surely show it.  
If you have JOY all the time, clap your hands. (*Clap, clap*)

"If you have JOY all the time, stomp your feet. (*Stomp, stomp*)  
If you have JOY all the time, stomp your feet. (*Stomp, stomp*)  
If you have JOY all the time, then your face will surely show it.  
If you have JOY all the time, stomp your feet. (*Stomp, stomp*)

"If you have JOY all the time, shout 'hooray!' (*Hooray!*)  
If you have JOY all the time, shout 'hooray!' (*Hooray!*)  
If you have JOY all the time, then your face will surely show it.  
If you have JOY all the time shout 'hooray!'" (*Hooray!*)

(Repeat as desired.)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "That was so much fun. Let's go hear about some people who had joy—even when they had something hard to do!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by continuing singing and doing the movements to the song.

## BIBLE STORY

I can have joy when I do hard things.

**EZRA AND THE REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE**  
**EZRA 3:10-13**

## 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.



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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. HAMMER TOGETHER!

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Foam blocks, golf tees, and toy hammers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Set the foam blocks, golf tees, and plastic hammers on the table.

### BIBLE STORY

I can have joy when I do hard things.

**EZRA AND THE REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE**  
**EZRA 3:10-13**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Gather the children around the table. Demonstrate to the children how to press the golf tee into the foam, and then hammer it into the foam with the hammer. Remind them to stop hammering when the tee is almost all the way into the foam. Encourage the children to hammer in one tee, then pass the foam to another friend for a turn.

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

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, gather around the table with me."

### MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

**PROVERBS 17:22, ESV**

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Today, we're going to use these golf tees (*hold up a golf tee*) as nails. Can you pretend the tee is a nail with me? I want you to stick the pointy end into the foam so it stands up. (*Pause.*) Now use the hammer like this to tap the tee into the foam. (*Demonstrate.*) Make sure you stop before you tap the tee all the way into the foam! When you finish tapping the tee into the foam, pass the hammer to the friend next to you so they can have a turn. (*Pause.*) Keep hammering, friends. (*Repeat as long as desired.*) It is so fun to build things together!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "In our Bible Story today, we'll hear about a BIG construction project that required LOTS of God's people helping each other and building—just like we practiced with these hammers."

### KEY QUESTION

Who can have joy all the time?

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by leading the children to act out different construction jobs, like hammering, sawing, lifting boards, turning a screwdriver, holding a drill, etc.

### BOTTOM LINE

I can have joy all the time.

### BASIC TRUTH

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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. BUILD IT

**WHAT YOU NEED:** rectangular sponges in a variety of sizes, 12" x 18" black construction paper, small bowls, water, plastic tablecloth, and paper towels; *Optional: scissors*

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Cover the table with a tablecloth. Place pieces of construction paper on the table, one per

child. Set the sponges on the table. Fill bowls halfway with water. Option: Cut some of the sponges into smaller rectangles.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage the children to lightly dip the sponges into the water, then stamp their paper to build a wall.

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

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come find a spot around the table. Look! Today we have paper, water, and sponge bricks. We can use these to build a wall! Do you want to see how?"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Lightly dip your bricks into the water, then stamp it on the paper. Do you see the brick shape? (Pause.) Do it again! (Pause.) Use the different sizes and see how fast you can build a wall. (Pause.) Wow! You are amazing at building! That was a lot of fun!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today we're going to learn about some people who helped to rebuild a really great building, and I can't wait to hear it!"

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to stamp bricks to build as you walk.

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when I do hard things.

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OF THE TEMPLE  
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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. PIN THE HEART

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Butcher paper; red, washable marker; and heart stickers or heart sticky notes

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Lay the butcher paper on the table. Draw a large heart outline in the center with the red

marker. Gather the children around the heart.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Call each child, one at a time, giving each a heart sticker or sticky note. Instruct the child to stand in front of the butcher paper, close their eyes, and then attempt to stick the heart inside the butcher paper heart. Ask them to open their eyes to see if their heart made it inside the heart on the butcher paper. Then, lead the children to repeat the Memory Verse. Repeat, allowing each child the opportunity to place their heart on the page as you say the Memory Verse together.

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

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come gather around the table! What do you see? (Pause.) A great, big heart! Hearts make me think of love! Let's say our verse as we do the motions together. '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:** "When I call your name, I'll give you a heart. I want you to close your eyes and see if you can place your heart on the inside of this great big heart. Then we'll all say the Memory Verse together. Ready? [Child's name], here's a heart for you! Close your eyes and see if you can place it inside the heart. (Pause.) Okay, open your eyes! Great job. Let's say our Memory Verse together. 'A joyful heart is good medicine,' Proverbs 17:22. (Continue with each child.) Look at all the hearts! So much love!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "God loves us and that gives us joy! Let's say our verse one more time with the motions. '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.) Super-duper, friends! Tell me: **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!**"

### BIBLE STORY

I can have joy when I do hard things.

**EZRA AND THE REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE**  
**EZRA 3:10-13**

### MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

**PROVERBS 17:22, ESV**

### KEY QUESTION

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO IMAGINE

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



## 2. BLOCKS AND BELLS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Large building blocks, preschool-safe wrist bells or handbells, and painter's tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Make a large square or rectangle on the floor with painter's tape.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Ask children to cover the tape with blocks. When all the tape is covered, give each child a bell. Lead the children in celebrating by saying, "Yay, God!" as they shake their bells. Repeat as desired.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Come stand around this big rectangle with me. I need some friends to help me do something hard. Will you help me? (Pause.) Yay! Thank you!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "I need you to help me cover all of this tape with these blocks. I know we can do it if we work together! (Pause.) Look! We did it! Let's celebrate with music! (Hand each child a bell.) Shake your bells and say, 'Yay, God!' with me! (Shake bells.) Yay, God!" (Repeat as desired.)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "In our Bible Story, God's people had to do something hard. They had to rebuild the temple where they worshipped God together. When they finished building the first part of the temple, some of the people had joy and celebrated with music. We can have joy when we do hard things too, because we can have joy all the time. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!**"

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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. CONSTRUCTION RELAY

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Toy construction hard hats, blocks or cardboard bricks, and painter's tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Place blocks in a pile one on one side of the activity area. Put a line of tape on the opposite

### BIBLE STORY

I can have joy when I do hard things.

**EZRA AND THE REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE**  
**EZRA 3:10-13**

side.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Give each child a hard hat. Encourage them to take turns choosing a block and running it down to the tape line to rebuild the temple. Repeat as desired.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

### MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

**PROVERBS 17:22, ESV**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come build something with me. What do you see here? (Pause.) Yes, it is a whole bunch of blocks. We're going use these blocks to rebuild the temple, just like they did in our Bible Story."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Let me give each of you a hard hat so you look like a builder. Builders wear hard hats to protect their heads. Now, when I tell you it's your turn, you are going to take a block, run to the tape over there, and put your block down to rebuild the temple. [Child's name], you go first. Take your block and put it on the tape. Great job! [Child's name], now you go. Put your block next to your friend's block or on top of it. (Continue with each child.) Great job, builders! Look at that amazing temple you rebuilt."

### KEY QUESTION

Who can have joy all the time?

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "We heard about people who rebuilt the first part of a real temple in our Bible Story today. They had to work VERY hard to rebuild the first part of the temple. Some of the people played trumpets and sang songs to celebrate that the temple was being rebuilt. They chose joy even when the job was hard. And we can choose joy too! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!**"

### BOTTOM LINE

I can have joy all the time.

### BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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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**

I can have joy when I do hard things.

**EZRA AND THE REBUILDING OF THE TEMPLE**  
**EZRA 3:10-13**

**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.

**4. HARD HAT**  
**[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Hard Hat" Activity Page, cardstock, sentence strips, dot markers, heart stickers, glue sticks, stapler, scissors, and a permanent marker

**WHAT YOU DO:** Copy "Hard Hat" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their construction hat cutout.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to decorate their construction hat cutout and sentence strip. Ask children to glue their hat cutouts to the sentence strip. Measure the sentence strip around each child's head and staple with the closure facing out. Cover staple with a heart sticker.

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

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends! Come join me at the table. Today in our Bible story, we heard how God's people started to rebuild the temple. What do builders wear on their heads to protect them? (Pause.) Hard hats! Let's make our very own hat to wear!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Use the markers and heart stickers to decorate the hat cutout and your paper strip. (Pause.) Great! Glue your hat to the paper strip. (Pause.) Now let's measure it around your head and I will staple it together. (Pause.) Put another heart sticker right here to cover the staple. Now your hard hats are ready to wear!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Starting to rebuild the temple was a hard job. But some people celebrated that the temple was being rebuilt. They played music and sang songs to God about how good God is and how thankful they were. They had SO much JOY! We can be like the people who chose to celebrate. We can have joy and play music, sing songs to God, and say, 'Thank You' to God. We can have joy all the time. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.**"





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## 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. JOY! JOY! JOY!

**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. HAMMER TOGETHER!

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

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Foam blocks
- Golf tees
- Plastic hammers

#### 3. BUILD IT

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

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Rectangular sponges in a variety of sizes
- 12" x 18" black construction paper
- Small bowls
- Water
- Plastic tablecloth
- Paper towels
- *Optional: scissors*

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Cover the table with the tablecloth.
- Place pieces of construction paper on the table, one per child.

- Set the sponges on the table.
- Fill bowls halfway with water.
- Option: Cut some of the sponges into smaller rectangles.
- *Option: Copy "Allergy Alert" on cardstock, list soil, and post at the door.*

### 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. PIN THE HEART

##### [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:

- Butcher paper
- Red, washable, nontoxic marker
- Heart stickers or heart sticky notes

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Lay the butcher paper on the table.
- Draw a large heart outline in the center with the red marker.



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## GETTING READY

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

### 2. BLOCKS AND BELLS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Large building blocks
- Preschool-safe wrist bells or handbells
- Painter's tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Make a large square or rectangle on the floor with painter's tape.

### 3. CONSTRUCTION RELAY

[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:**

- Toy construction hard hats
- Blocks or cardboard bricks
- Painter's tape

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Place blocks in a pile on one side of the activity area.
- Put a line of tape on the opposite side.

### 4. HARD HAT

[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:**

- "Hard Hat" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Sentence strips
- Dot markers
- Heart stickers
- Glue sticks
- Stapler
- Scissors
- Permanent marker

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Copy "Hard Hat" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their construction hat cutout.

### 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](https://bit.ly/FL_StartTheParty_June)