



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.

Herding Sheep

Sprinkle Joy 

Fluffy Sheep 

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

Find the Sheep

Color by Number Sheep

Found Sheep

Smooch Paint Sheep

Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home

Memory Verse Card

Parent Cue Card (*print or email*)

Parent Cue App



This symbol indicates an activity with potential allergens. Be sure to post allergy alert sign and inform parents at drop-off.



WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2024

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
RUG

PRELUDE SOCIAL **WORSHIP** STORY GROUPS HOME

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page; cardstock; Bible; instruments or music player; this month's worship song, "Start the Party," included in your monthly files; *Optional: Dance Moves Video for "Start the Party," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com*

LEADER: "Hi, friends! My name is [your name], and I'm SO excited to see you today! It's time to sing and dance and worship God—the One who made us and loves us! God gives me joy, all the time.

"When I ask, '**Who can have joy all the time?**' I want you to say, '**I can have joy all the time!**' **Who can have joy all the time?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "**I can have joy all the time.**"

LEADER: "Yes, **I can have joy all the time.** It's time to celebrate, so stand up on your feet, and let's 'Start the Party!'

Lead children in singing "Start the Party," this month's worship song.

"That's right! Jesus' love is for everyone and that gives us joy! **I can have joy all the time!** And the Bible teaches us that, '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.*)

"Let's learn our Memory Verse together. Are you ready? Watch me say it and do the motions, and then you can do it with me!

Lead children to say the Memory Verse with the motions.

"Great job, friends! [**Transition**] And now it's time to turn around, sit down, and shake the wiggles out (*wiggle hands*), so we can hear (*cup hands behind ears*) what the story's all about!"



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible; *Optional: Story Images and cardstock*

LEADER: "Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I can't wait to tell you a true story from the Bible.

Open Bible for children to see, then set it down.

"Our story begins with Jesus. Jesus is special because Jesus is God's Son. One day, Jesus told a story to teach us about how much God loves us. This story is about a shepherd who had 100 sheep.

(Option: Display Story Image W1 01)

"Wow! That's a lot of sheep!

"Hmm . . . what does a sheep say? Does a sheep say, 'Moooooo, moooooo?' *(Pause.)* No. *(Little chuckle.)* Does a sheep say, 'Quack, quack?' *(Pause.)* No. *(Little chuckle.)* Well then, what does a sheep say? Let me hear it!

Lean toward children to listen with one hand behind an ear.

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Baaaaa, baaaaa!"

LEADER: "Yes! Sheep say, 'Baaaaa, baaaaa!'"

"And a shepherd is someone who takes care of sheep. A good shepherd makes sure their sheep have food and water and that they don't get hurt or lost.

"One day, the shepherd in Jesus' story was counting his sheep, and the shepherd saw that one of them was missing! Oh no!

Hold up one finger.

"One sheep was missing!

"What do you think the shepherd did? *(Pause.)* Hold up one finger if you think the shepherd went to look for his lost sheep.

Hold up one finger.

"Yes! That's what the shepherd did!

(Option: Display Story Image W1 02)

"The shepherd went to look for his one lost sheep because the shepherd loved each and every one of his sheep.

(Option: Display Story Image W1 03)



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10 MINUTES

"When the shepherd found his lost sheep, he put the sheep on his shoulders and JOYFULLY ran home! He rejoiced because he found his lost sheep!

(Option: Display Story Image W1 04)

"Jesus told this story to teach us that God loves us like the shepherd loved his sheep. Every (*hold up one finger*) ONE is important to God. That's good news! And that's why we can have joy all the time! Because God loves us all the time!

"God loves you in the morning when you brush your teeth, so you can have joy in the morning! God loves you in the afternoon when you're playing, so you can have joy in the afternoon! God loves you when you go to bed, so you can have joy when you go to bed! God loves you all the time, so you can have joy all the time!

"So when I ask you, '**Who can have joy all the time?**' I want you to say, '**I can have joy all the time!**' Let's try it!

"Who can have joy all the time?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "I can have joy all the time!"

LEADER: "Now say it with a big smile! Who can have joy all the time?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "I can have joy all the time!"

LEADER: "Yes, I can have joy all the time! [Transition] Our story time is over (*pick up and close Bible*), but we're not through. Let's talk to God because God loves you!"

PRAYER

LEADER: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to teach us about how much You love us. Help us remember that we can have joy all the time because You love us all the time. You're the best, God! In Jesus' name. Amen.

"Well, that's our story for today! **[Transition]** "And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

Lead small group to the first activity.



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GETTING READY

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

Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive worship and the Bible Story. The Rug Script is written for those who pull their children to a rug (or area) to one side of their preschool space to tell the Bible Story. If you gather your preschoolers together from multiple rooms and have a larger space on which to present the Bible Story, you may benefit from using the Stage Script.

WORSHIP: INVITING PEOPLE TO RESPOND TO GOD (10 MINUTES)

A leader and live instruments are recommended to sing along with the music tracks. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

STORY: COMMUNICATING GOD'S TRUTH IN ENGAGING WAYS (10 MINUTES)

Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible Story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be "told" and not "read." Advanced preparation is necessary.

1. WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Leader(s)
- Instruments or music player
- "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Bible

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- This month's worship song, "Start the Party," included in your monthly files

OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- Dance Moves Music Video for "Start the Party," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut apart.
- Place "Memory Verse Card" in Bible at Proverbs 17:22.
- Download the song and have it ready to use.

2. BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- *Optional: Story Images and cardstock*

LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Story Image W1 01
- Story Image W1 02
- Story Image W1 03
- Story Image W1 04

WHAT YOU DO:

- *Option: Copy the Story Images on cardstock or download them to display on a screen.*

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

WONDER, LOOK AT GOD'S STORY: First Look offers weekly introductory sketches and Bible stories on the DVD titled "Wonder, Look at God's Story." This DVD is available for purchase at OrangeStore.org or as part of your monthly Media Package.

FIRST LOOK PINTEREST PAGE

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