



WEEK
THREE
JUNE 2024

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
RUG

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.

Build Up
Rebuild
Instrument Exploration

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.

Sing the Verse
Building Blocks
Amazing Dominoes!
Tower Builders
Toolbox of Joy
Journal and Prayer

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

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" from Week One in 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 glad to see you today! We're learning about JOY this month! Did you know that we can have joy all the time? It's true! When we remember that God loves us all the time, we can have joy all the time. Tell me: **Who can have joy all the time?**"

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

LEADER: "That's right! **I can have joy all the time.** So let's start the party and celebrate together. Stand up on your feet and let's sing this together!"

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

"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.*) Say it with me!"

Lead children to say the Memory Verse with the motions.

"So when I choose joy, it helps others have joy too! **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] 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, everyone! I'm [your name], and I am here to tell you a true story from the Bible.

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

"Today's story begins with a beautiful building called the temple.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 01)

"The temple is where God's people would meet to learn about God and worship God, kind of like we do here at church. The temple was a very special place, but it had been destroyed.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 02)

"So God's people decided to rebuild the temple! Now rebuilding the temple was going to be a very hard job.

"Let's pretend to help the people rebuild the temple. Take out your pretend saw.

Pretend to hold a saw.

"Ready? Everyone, saw with me!

Pretend to saw back and forth.

"Back and forth. Back and forth. Back and forth. Whew! You can put your saw away. Take out your pretend hammers.

Pretend to hold a hammer.

"Ready? Let's hammer!

Pretend to hammer.

"You can put your pretend hammer away. It's time to lift some heavy bricks. Pretend you are holding something really heavy.

Pretend to pick up a heavy brick with both hands.

"Now pass your brick to someone next to you.

Pretend to pass a brick.

"These bricks are so heavy! Pick up another brick and pass it to the person next to you. Keep passing the bricks! Whew! You can stop now. That was hard!



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GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

(Option: Display Story Image W3 03)

"And it was really hard for God's people. They worked and worked and worked and they finished the first part of the temple!

"Temples are really big, and it was going to take a lot of hard work to rebuild it. But some people started celebrating that the work had begun.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 04)

"They played trumpets. Play your pretend trumpets with me!

Pretend to play a trumpet.

"They played cymbals. Play your pretend cymbals!

Pretend to play a cymbal.

"And they 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 look at the good things God is doing and have joy! We can play music, sing songs, and say 'thank You' to God. We can have joy all the time—even when we do hard things!

"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 that!"

LEADER: "Who can have joy all the time?"

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

LEADER: "How about when you do hard things? 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, help us to see the good and have joy—even when we do hard things. We know You love us and are always with us, and that is worth celebrating all the time! In Jesus' name. Amen."

"Thank you for helping me with today's story. **[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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PRELUDE **SOCIAL** **WORSHIP** **STORY** **GROUPS** **HOME**

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" from Week One, placed in Bible at Proverbs 17:22

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:

- 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 W3 01
- Story Image W3 02
- Story Image W3 03
- Story Image W3 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