



WEEK  
**THREE**  
JUNE 2024

LARGE GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS  
STAGE

## 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" and "You Are with Me"

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 WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, 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; and "You Are with Me," available on OrangeKidsMusic.com; Optional: Dance Moves Videos for "Start the Party," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com, and "You Are with Me," available from OrangeKidsMusic.com

*Worship Leader enters.*

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

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

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "We can have joy and celebrate. Let's sing one more song.

*Lead children in singing "You Are with Me."*

"Thanks for worshipping with me today! [**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!"

*Host enters as Worship Leader exits.*



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10 MINUTES

## INTRO SKETCH

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Painting smock or apron, big paintbrush, and small paintbrush

*Host wears painting smock or apron and carries paintbrushes.*

*Host enters as Worship Leader exits.*

**HOST:** "Hello, friends! Welcome to [your environment or story time]! My name is [your name], and this week I did something SO fun. I invited all of my friends to . . . a paint party!

"First, I set up all the paints outside. Then we began painting! First, we painted with BIG brushes. Hold up your pretend paintbrush and paint big, long lines with me.

*Pretend to paint in long strokes with the big paintbrush.*

"Then, we painted with little brushes. Pretend to paint little, tiny dots with me.

*Pretend to paint in short strokes with the little paintbrush.*

"Next, we painted with our fingers!

*Wiggle your fingers.*

"The paint felt so ooey, gooey. It was awesome! And of course, we had a paint party finale . . . splatter painting! We dipped our paintbrushes in the paint . . .

*Pretend to dip a paintbrush in paint.*

". . . and then we SPLATTERED paint on paper!

*Pretend to splatter paint toward children.*

"My paint party was SO. MUCH. FUN. (Pause.) But the mess we made . . . Whew! I knew when I saw that mess that it was going to be SO hard to clean up. Oh, [name of Storyteller] has a true story from the Bible about some people who did something really hard. I'll be back later. Bye!"

*Storyteller enters as Host exits with paintbrushes.*

## STORY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Toy saw, toy hammer, cardboard bricks, large bin, and Bible; *Optional: Story Images and cardstock*

*Fill the large bin with cardboard bricks, a toy saw, and a toy hammer. Preset the bin in the storytelling area.*

*Storyteller enters, carrying a Bible, as Host exits.*

**STORYTELLER:** "Hello, everyone! I'm [your name], and I am here to tell you a true story from the Bible.



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10 MINUTES

*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.

*Hold up a toy 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.

*Hold up a toy 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.

*Pick up a cardboard brick with both hands, pretending it is very heavy.*

"Now pass your brick to someone next to you.

*Place the brick on the floor and build a simple line of bricks while you encourage the children to pass bricks.*

"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!

*(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!



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10 MINUTES

"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!"

**STORYTELLER: "Who can have joy all the time?"**

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

**STORYTELLER: "How about when you do hard things? Who can have joy all the time?"**

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

**STORYTELLER: "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

**STORYTELLER: "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. You did a great job! I'll see you next time! Bye!"

*Host enters as Storyteller exits, carrying Bible.*



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## OUTRO SKETCH

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

**HOST:** "Wow! The people had a hard job to do. Some people chose joy and celebrated God because the temple was being rebuilt!

"I think I (*point to self*) got the story. Did you (*point to children*) get it? If you did, say, 'Got it!' Get it?" (*Cup one hand behind ear.*)

**CHILDREN AND HOST:** "Got it!"

**HOST:** (*Give two thumbs-up.*) "Good! Cleaning up after my paint party is going to be hard, but I can choose joy.

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

*Host dismisses small groups and exits.*





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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, the introductory sketch, and the Bible Story. The Stage Script is written for those who gather their preschoolers together from multiple rooms and have a larger space on which to present the Bible Story. If you are pulling your children to a rug on one side of your preschool space, you may benefit from using the Rug Script.

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

A Worship 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 adult or teenager who relates well to preschoolers to tell the Introductory Sketch. If possible, use the same person for an entire month, as the Host role stays the same each month.

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
- "You Are with Me," available on the Never Better album on OrangeKidsMusic.com

##### 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
- Dance Moves Music Video for "You Are with Me,"

available from OrangeKidsMusic.com

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Download all songs available and have them ready to use.

#### 2. INTRO/OUTRO SKETCH

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Painting smock or apron
- Big paintbrush
- Small paintbrush

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Host wears painting smock or apron.

#### 3. BIBLE STORY

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Small table
- Birthday party hat
- Light-up Christmas necklace
- Party horn
- Small bag
- 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:

- Fill the large bin with cardboard bricks, a toy saw, and a toy hammer.
- Preset the bin in the storytelling area
- *Option: Copy Story Images on cardstock or download to display on a device or 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](https://bit.ly/FL_StartTheParty_June)