

3-5 YEAR OLDS

# TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### BIBLE STORY

I can have joy

GOD WILL GIVE US JOY HABAKKUK 3:17-18

# 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**



# **SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction**

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive. Heart Moves Finding Joy



# **LARGE GROUP**



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**



# **GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect**

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.

Four Corners Verse Joyful Heart Even When . . . First to the Heart JOY Self-Portrait 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.



3-5 YEAR -OLDS

**PRELUDE** 

SOCIAL

**WORSHIP** 

**STORY** 

**GROUPS** 

HOME

10 MINUTES

### BIBLE STORY

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### KEY QUESTION

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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 SO excited to see you. We're having a GREAT time celebrating this month! Because we're learning that we can have joy, not just sometimes, but 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.' Ready? 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. It's time to start the party! So stand up and let's sing this together.

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

"That's such a fun song to sing. 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.

"You've got it! Tell me: Who can have joy all the time?"

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

**WORSHIP LEADER:** "Yes! We can have joy all the time because God loves us! Let's sing this together."

Lead children in singing "You Are with Me."



3-5 YEAR -OLDS

**PRELUDE** 

SOCIAL

**WORSHIP** 

**STORY** 

**GROUPS** 

HOME

10 MINUTES

"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.

# INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Pool goggles, and a ring pool float

Host enters, wearing swim goggles on their head and a ring pool float around the waist.

**HOST:** "Hi, friends! Welcome to [your environment or story time]! My name is [your name]! You'll never, ever, ever guess what we got at my house! (*Pause*.) We got a pool for our backyard!

"Okay, so maybe you could guess. My goggles and pool float are pretty good clues.

"I was so excited when my [family member] said we were getting a pool for our yard! I couldn't wait to JUMP right in! I got out all my favorite water toys.

"I found this float . . .

Turn around for the children to see the ring float.

"... and some pool noodles... and some dive rings... Oh! And I found a beach ball too! After I found all of my pool toys, I invited some friends to come over for a POOL PARTY!

"It was going to be the best pool party ever . . . until I saw the pool. It was NOT big like I thought it would be. It was a small pool!

"And I've already invited my friends to come over for a pool party!

Make a sad face.

"I don't know what to do. How can we dive for pool rings? Or play mermaids? Or play Sharks and Minnows in a small pool? (Pause.) I need to go think about this. I'll see you after the Bible Story! Bye!"

Storyteller enters as Host exits with the goggles and float.

### STORY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Food & Animals" and "Heart" Activity Pages, cardstock, artificial tree, artificial greenery garland, small planter box, spring-loaded clothespins, bag or basket, binder clip, chair, painter's tape, scissors, and Bible; Optional: twine and an additional chair for a simpler storytelling method; Optional: Story Images and cardstock

Preset the prepared artificial tree, chair, planter, and cutouts in the storytelling area. Option: For a simpler storytelling method, hang twine between two chairs, and clip all cutouts to the twine with clothespins.

Storyteller enters, carrying a Bible and a bag or basket with heart cutouts, as



3-5 YEAR OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

**STORY** 

**GROUPS** 

HOME

10 MINUTES

Host exits.

**STORYTELLER:** "Hi, friends! My name is [your name], and I'm here to tell you a true story from the Bible.

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

"Our story begins with a man named Habakkuk.

(Option: Display Story Image W5 01)

"One day, Habakkuk was thinking about God, and he started to pray. Habakkuk prayed:

Walk to the artificial tree with the fig cutout, and unclip the fig cutout.

"'Even if I don't have any figs (show fig cutout) on my fig trees . . .

(Option: Display Story Image W5 02)

Put the fig cutout in the basket, and pull out a heart cutout from the basket.

"'. . . I can have joy, because God (show heart cutout) loves me.'

Clip the heart cutout onto the tree. Walk to the grapes cutout, and unclip the grapes cutout.

"'Even if I don't have any grapes (show grapes cutout) on my grapevines . . .

(Option: Display Story Image W5 03)

Put the grapes cutout in the basket, and pull out a heart cutout from the basket.

"'. . . I can have joy, because God (show heart cutout) loves me.'

Clip the heart cutout onto the garland. Walk to the carrots cutout, and unclip the carrots cutout.

"'Even if no food (show carrots cutout) grows in my garden . . .

(Option: Display Story Image W5 04)

Put the carrots cutout in the basket, and pull out a heart cutout from the basket.

"'. . . I can have joy, because God (show heart cutout) loves me.'

Clip the heart cutout onto the planter. Walk to the chicken cutout.

"'Even if I don't have any animals (show chicken cutout) on my farm . . .



3-5 YEAR OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

**10 MINUTES** 

(Option: Display Story Image W5 05)

Put the chicken cutout in basket, and pull out a heart cutout from basket.

"'. . . I can have joy, because God (show heart cutout) loves me."

(Option: Display Story Image W5 06)

"Habakkuk knew that God loved him all the time, even when he didn't have the things he wanted. And knowing that God loved him all the time meant that Habakkuk could have joy all the time.

Put down the basket, keeping the last heart cutout in your hand.

"We can have joy all the time, because God loves us too! Point to yourself (point to self) and say, 'God loves me!"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "God loves me!"

**STORYTELLER:** "That's right! So let's think about it like Habakkuk did.

"If we don't get to have a cookie—does God still love us? (Pause.) Yes! (Show heart cutout.) God loves us! Can we still have joy? (Pause.) Yes! We can have joy all the time!

"What about if we really want a new toy at the store, but we can't have it? Does God still love us? (Pause.) Yes! (Show heart cutout.) God loves us! Can we still have joy? (Pause.) Yes! We can have joy all the time!

"How about if we don't get to do something we want to do—does God still love us? (Pause.) Yes! (Show heart cutout.) God loves us! Can we still have joy? (Pause.) Yes! We can have joy all the time!

"Habakkuk knew that God loved him all the time, and that's why he could have joy all the time. We know that God loves us all the time, so we can have joy all the time too! That's good news!

"So let me hear you say it! Who can have joy all the time?"

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

STORYTELLER: "One more time! Who can have joy all the time?"

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

**STORYTELLER:** "Great job! **[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!"



3-5 YEAR -OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

**WORSHIP** 

**STORY** 

**GROUPS** 

**HOME** 

10 MINUTES

# PRAYER

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, having joy all the time can be hard, especially when we don't get what we want or we can't do what we want to do. But when we remember how much You love us, and that nothing will ever change that, we truly can have joy all the time. Thank You for loving us so much, God. You're the best! In Jesus' name. Amen."

"Wow! That was a great story! I can't wait to see you next time! Bye!"

Host enters as Storyteller exits with the Bible and basket of cutouts.

# **OUTRO SKETCH**

WHAT YOU NEED: Pool goggles and float (from Intro)

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

**HOST:** "Wow! Habakkuk had joy all the time, because he knew God loved him all the time. God loves us all the time, so that means we can have joy all the time too!

"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:** "Good!

"I'm still disappointed we can't have a pool party with a GIANT pool, but I can still choose joy. My friends can still come over and we can splash each other with the water and dance around with our floats. We'll still have fun being together!

"God loves me so I can have joy all the time! [Transition] "And now it's time for more Bible fun. There's more to learn. Come on, everyone!"

Host dismisses small groups and exits.



3-5 YEAR -OLDS

**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, 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:

- Swim goggles
- Ring pool float

# WHAT YOU DO:

 Host wears pool goggles on their head and a ring pool float around their waist.



3-5 YEAR -OLDS

**PRELUDE** 

SOCIAL

**WORSHIP** 

**STORY** 

**GROUPS** 

**HOME** 

# **GETTING READY**

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

# 3. BIBLE STORY

### WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Food & Animals" Activity Page
- "Heart" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Artificial tree
- · Artificial greenery garland
- Small planter box
- Spring-loaded clothespins
- Bag or basket and Binder clip
- Chair, one per Large Group (preferably one with a tall back)
- · Scissors and Painter's tape
- Bible
- Option: Use twine and an additional chair for a simpler storytelling method.
- Optional: Story Images and cardstock

# LARGE GROUP VISUALS:

- Story Image W5 01
- Story Image W5 02
- Story Image W5 03
- Story Image W5 04
- Story Image W5 05
- Story Image W5 06

# WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Food & Animals" on cardstock and cut, one set per Large Group.
- Copy "Heart" Activity Page on cardstock and cut, four per Large Group.
- Clip the fig cutout to a leaf on an artificial tree.
- Tape the garland to the top of the chair to make a vine, and clip the grapes cutout in the middle of the greenery.
- Clip the carrots cutout to the inside of the planter box so the carrot tops are sticking out, and place the planter on the chair.
- Clip a binder clip to the bottom of the chicken cutout so it can stand freely on the floor.
- Put the heart cutouts into a bag or basket.
- Option: If you have the space, make multiple copies of the figs, grapes, carrots, and chicken cutouts.
- Option: For a simpler storytelling method, hang twine between two chairs, and clip all cutouts to the twine.
- 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. <u>bit.ly/FL\_StartTheParty\_June</u>