



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" 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.

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

SMALL GROUP
3-5 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. HERDING SHEEP

WHAT YOU NEED: White beach balls and fly swatters

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Inflate the beach balls and place them in a large, open area of the room. Give each child a fly swatter.

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy
because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to herd the sheep to one corner of the room and then to another corner by pushing the ball with the swatter.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come over here! Look at these white beach balls. Let's pretend these are sheep. We need to get them from here to there. We can push them along using these." (*Hold up a fly swatter.*)

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Help each other, friends! These sheep are all over the place! (*Pause.*) Gently push the sheep to get them over there. (*Pause.*) Don't lose any sheep. Whew! We got them all over here. Okay, let's move them all over there. (*Repeat as desired.*) Great job herding the sheep!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In today's Bible Story, we'll hear about a shepherd who took care of a lot of sheep."

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart
is good medicine."

PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to herd sheep.

KEY QUESTION

Who can have joy all the time?

BOTTOM LINE

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BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

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. SPRINKLE JOY*

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert Poster," cardstock, sprinkles or confetti-dyed rice, plastic or foam trays, paintbrushes, butcher paper, and marker; *Optional:* raw white rice, gallon resealable bags, neon food coloring, vinegar, measuring cups and spoons, wax paper, and airtight storage container in place of sprinkles or dyed rice

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy
because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

**Note: Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (in the Prelude folder) and post it at the door to your room.*

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list sprinkles (or rice), and post at the door. Cover the table with a piece of butcher paper. Fill the bottom layer of each tray with sprinkles, at least four trays per Small Group. Place trays around the table with the paintbrushes. Write the word "Joy" in large block letters on the butcher paper above each tray.

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart
is good medicine."

PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

Option: Make confetti-dyed rice if you do not already have dyed rice from previous activities. Divide rice into several bags, add a teaspoon of vinegar for each cup of rice and as many drops of food coloring as desired. Seal the bag and shake to distribute the color. Spread the rice out on wax paper to dry, one hour to overnight. Once dried, pour the rice into the container. Save for future use.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to look at the word "Joy" written on the butcher paper and practice drawing each letter in the sprinkles or rice with the paintbrush. Continue with each child.

KEY QUESTION

Who can have joy all the time?

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

BOTTOM LINE

I can have joy all the time.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends! Today we're going to have some fun spelling the word JOY in sprinkles! Joy is when you feel happy no matter what!"

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's take turns using our paintbrushes to spell the word JOY. Follow the letters written above each tray. J-O-Y, JOY! (Pause.) Wow! Great job! Smooth out the sprinkles! Now our friends can have a turn. (Continue until each child has a turn.) That was so much fun getting to write the word JOY in sprinkles!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "We can have joy no matter what happens around us, because God loves us. If we're sad, we can still have joy. If we're hurt, we can still have joy. If we don't feel our best, we can still have joy, because God loves us. Let's go hear about someone who had joy in our Bible Story!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by chanting: "J-O-Y, joy!"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

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. FLUFFY SHEEP*

WHAT YOU NEED: "Allergy Alert Poster;" "Fluffy Sheep" Activity Page; cardstock; Con-Tact® paper; shaving cream; craft sticks; small, plastic bowls; paper towels; and scissors

*Note: Be sure to list the items you will be using today on the "Allergy Alert Poster" (in the Prelude folder) and post it at the door to your room.

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy
because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list shaving cream, and post at the door. Copy "Fluffy Sheep" on cardstock, four per Small Group. Place "Fluffy Sheep" copies on the table and cover them with contact paper, being sure to cover the cardstock fully so it sticks to the table. Invite children to the table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Place a large dollop of shaving cream on the sheep. Encourage children to spread the shaving cream all over the sheep. Then, give each child a craft stick and demonstrate how to shear the sheep and put the wool in the bowl. Use paper towels as needed. Continue as long as there is interest.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Introduce the Bible Story.

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart
is good medicine."

PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come to the table and see what I have. What animal do you see? (Pause.) Yes, it's a sheep!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Do you know what the fluffy stuff on a sheep is called? (Pause.) Yes, it's called wool. But these sheep don't have any wool. We need to add it. I'm going to give you some shaving cream, and I want you to put it all over the sheep. (Demonstrate.) Yay! Now, our sheep have wool."

"In the summer, when it's hot out, the sheep need to have their wool sheared. That's when the farmers take the wool off the sheep. Let's take the wool off our sheep with these craft sticks. Watch how I do it. (Demonstrate.) Now it's your turn. Take the wool off and put it in the bowl. (Pause.) Great job!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "You did such an awesome job taking care of these sheep. Today, we're going to hear a story about a shepherd who was taking care of his sheep. I can't wait!"

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by pretending to be sheep.

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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SMALL GROUP
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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

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. MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Say the Memory Verse and teach the motions to the children.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Repeat the verse with the motions and invite the children to do it with you. Repeat several times.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, join me over here. We have a brand-new Memory Verse and motions to learn! Everyone, listen and watch me. '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: "Now let's do it together! Are you ready? '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.) Nice job. Let's do it again." (Repeat several times.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Our Memory Verse teaches us that a joyful heart is like medicine that makes people feel better. And we can have joy all the time because God loves us. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.** Let's say that one more time, friends. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.**"

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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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



2. FIND THE SHEEP

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Find the Sheep" Activity Page, colored cardstock in four colors, and confetti

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Find the Sheep" on colored cardstock, two of each color per Small Group. Place the eight

sheep around the room.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Ask children to go find the sheep. Every time a sheep is found, celebrate together with cheers, clapping hands, and confetti. Once all eight sheep have been found, sit together, count the sheep, and match the sheep by color. Repeat the activity if time and interest allow.

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Come here, everyone! I need your help finding some lost sheep! Jesus told a story about a shepherd who looked for his lost sheep. Let's pretend we are shepherds, and we are looking for lost sheep too. Each time we find a lost sheep, we will celebrate, just like the shepherd in Jesus' story celebrated!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's go shepherds! (Pause.) Yay! You found a sheep! (Clap, cheer, and toss confetti.) Yay! Hooray! (Bring the sheep with you.) Oh, yay! You found a sheep too! (Clap, cheer, and toss confetti.) Yay! Hooray! (Continue until all eight are found.) We found all of the sheep! Now let's sit down so we can match the colors. (Match the sheep.) Look! You matched all of the colors! Way to go! Now let's count the sheep together. (Count the sheep together.) Wow! Great counting! We have eight sheep!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Jesus told the story about the shepherd and his sheep so we can know how much God loves us. God loves you and **God loves me** . . . A LOT! And when we remember how much God loves us, we can have joy all the time! (Point to children.) You can have joy all the time and (point to yourself) and **I can have joy all the time!** So tell me: **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!** (Toss confetti.) Yay! **I can have joy all the time!**"

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

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BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



3. COLOR BY NUMBER SHEEP

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Color by Number Sheep" Activity Page; cardstock; and blue, green, and brown washable markers

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy the "Color by Number Sheep" Activity Page onto cardstock, one per child. Place the pages and markers on the table.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Point out the key at the bottom of the page. Review the numbers and their corresponding colors from the key. Emphasize that the number four is to be left white. Encourage children to color their paper.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come find a spot at the table! I have a fun page for us to color."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "It's a color-by-number page. That means that each spot with a number has a color that goes with it. Look at the key at the bottom. Do you see the number one? What color is next to the number one? (Pause.) That's right! So in the picture, when you see a '1,' color it blue. So let's match up the numbers and colors to see what's on our page! Can you find the number '4'? What color is next to number 4? (Pause.) That's right! There is NO color there. That means when you see a '4' on the page, you can leave it white. Okay, get coloring! (Pause.) What did you create? (Pause.) A sheep! That's right!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story, we learned there was a shepherd who had one hundred sheep, but one was missing! What did the shepherd do? Did he leave the ninety-nine sheep to find the missing sheep? Yes! Because the shepherd loved each and every one of his sheep! The shepherd loves his sheep just like God loves us! God loves us so we can have joy! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!"**

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.



WEEK
ONE
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SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

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



4. FOUND SHEEP

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Parachute and cotton balls

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Place one cotton ball in your pocket.

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Place cotton balls on the parachute and launch them into the air. Encourage the children to find all the cotton-ball "sheep." Once all are collected, tell the children that one is still missing, and encourage them to search for it. Reveal the "missing sheep" and celebrate with the children. *(Repeat as desired.)*

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bottom Line.

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart is good medicine."

PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come stand in a circle with me here."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Let's place these sheep on our parachute. *(Toss all the cotton balls on the parachute.)* Now everyone, grab the parachute, and let's bounce the sheep around. Ready? One, two, three, bounce! *(Pause.)* Wow! Our sheep are everywhere! Let's be shepherds and bring them all back over. *(Pause.)* Did we get them all? *(Pause.)* Oh no, one is STILL MISSING! Let's look for it. *(Take the sheep out of your pocket.)* Here it is! We found it—let's celebrate! *(Clap and cheer.)* Hooray! Let's play again!" *(Repeat as desired.)*

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Wow, friends! That was so much fun bouncing the sheep and bringing them back. What a joy it was to find our missing sheep. God loves us like the shepherd loved his sheep. We can have joy because God loves us. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!** One more time! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!**"

KEY QUESTION

Who can have joy all the time?

BOTTOM LINE

I can have joy all the time.

BASIC TRUTH

God loves me.



WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2024

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

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



5. SMOOSH PAINT SHEEP
[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Smooch Paint Sheep" Activity Page, light blue cardstock, white washable paint, googly eye stickers, baby wipes, and permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Smooch Paint Sheep" on light blue cardstock, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. Fold each Activity Page in half, then open.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to guess what animal they will make today by looking at the head, tail, and legs on their paper. Squeeze a baseball-sized amount of paint in the middle of each child's paper and ask children to fold their paper in half and rub or pat their paper. Instruct children to carefully open their paper to reveal the sheep they made. Give each child two googly eye stickers to put on their sheep. Clean hands with baby wipes as needed.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible Story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends! Come sit at the table with me. We're going to do a fun smooch painting today!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Look at your paper! There is a head, four legs, and a tail! What do you think this animal is? (Pause.) Those are good guesses. Let's add some paint to your paper. (Squeeze paint in the middle of each child's paper.) Now fold your paper in half and rub or pat it like this. (Demonstrate.) Good job! Unfold your paper and let's see what animal you made. (Pause.) You made a sheep! How cute! But something is missing. What do your sheep need? (Pause.) Yes, they need eyes! Let's use these stickers to give them eyes." (Give each child two googly eye stickers to put on their paper.)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "In our Bible Story today, we learned about a shepherd who had one hundred sheep! That's a lot of sheep. But one of his sheep went missing and the shepherd was sad. He left all the other sheep and went to find the missing one because he loved each and every one of his sheep. He loved his sheep just like God loves US. We can have joy all the time because we are important to God and God loves us all the time! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.**"

BIBLE STORY

I can have joy
because God loves me.

STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

MEMORY VERSE

"A joyful heart
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PROVERBS 17:22, ESV

KEY QUESTION

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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page, cardstock, scissors, Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Proverbs 17:22. *Note:* Keep this card in your Bible all month long.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Lead the children to pretend to be sheep as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you. Review the Memory Verse and hand motions. Then, encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of people they love.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Pray with the children using the list you made in the journal.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "It's Small Group time! Today we're going to pretend we're sheep while we walk to our Small Group spot. Follow me and say 'baa-baa-baa' all the way to our Small Group spot! (*Say 'baa-baa-baa' like a sheep as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) We made it, little sheep! Now let's sit down so we can talk about today's Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!"

DURING THE ACTIVITY: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) "In our Bible Story today, Jesus told a story about a shepherd and his sheep. What did the shepherd do when one of his sheep was lost? (*Pause.*) That's right! The shepherd looked for his lost sheep because he loved all of his sheep. And what did the shepherd do when he found his lost sheep? (*Pause.*) Right, again! The shepherd celebrated! Jesus told this story so we can know how much God loves us. God loves us even MORE than the shepherd loved his sheep! And knowing how much God loves us can give us joy all the time! That's why when I ask you, **'Who can have joy all the time,'** I want you to say, **'I can have joy all the time!'** Let me hear you! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!** Yay! (*Clap.*)

"We're going to learn a new Bible verse about joy. It says, '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.*)

BIBLE STORY

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STORY OF THE LOST SHEEP
LUKE 15:1-7

MEMORY VERSE

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-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"Raise your hand if you have ever taken medicine. *(Pause.)* Me too! Medicine makes you feel better. And guess what! JOY makes you feel better too! JOY is good medicine! Stand up with me and let's say our new Bible verse together. Just say what I say and do what I do. '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.)* You sound awesome! *(Clap.)* I love learning Bible verses with you! Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. *(Open journal.)*

"Today, we're going to make a list of people we love. When I say your name, tell me one person you love and I will write it in our journal." *(Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Look at all of the people we love. *(Hold up journal.)* Let's use it when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? *(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)* Dear God, thank You for loving us like the shepherd loved his sheep. We love *(read the list the children made)*. It gives us so much joy to know that You love us even more! You love [child's name]. You love [child's name]. You love . . . *(name each child)*. Help us remember how much You love us so we can have joy all the time! You are amazing, God! And we love You. In Jesus' name. Amen."



WEEK
ONE
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SMALL GROUP
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

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. HERDING SHEEP

Made to Move: An activity that uses a preschooler's natural desire to move to help them learn

WHAT YOU NEED:

- White beach balls, one for every three children
- Fly swatters, one per child

WHAT YOU DO:

- Inflate the beach balls and place them in a large, open area of the room.
- Give each child a fly swatter.

2. SPRINKLE JOY*

Made to Play: An activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Allergy Alert Poster"
- Cardstock
- Sprinkles or confetti-dyed rice
- Plastic or foam trays
- Paintbrushes
- Butcher paper
- Marker
- *Optional: raw white rice, gallon resealable bags, neon food coloring, vinegar, measuring cups and spoons, wax paper, and an air-tight storage container in place of sprinkles or dyed rice*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list sprinkles (or rice), and post at the door.
- Cover the table with a piece of butcher paper.

- Fill the bottom layer of each tray with sprinkles, at least four trays per Small Group.
- Place trays around the table with the paintbrushes.
- Write the word "Joy" in large block letters on the butcher paper above each tray.
- *Option: Make confetti-dyed rice if you do not already have dyed rice from previous activities. Divide rice into several bags, add a teaspoon of vinegar for each cup of rice and as many drops of food coloring as desired. Seal the bag and shake to distribute the color. Spread the rice out on wax paper to dry, one hour to overnight. Once dried, pour the rice into a container. Save for future use.*

3. FLUFFY SHEEP*

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Allergy Alert Poster"
- "Fluffy Sheep" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Con-Tact® paper
- Shaving cream
- Craft sticks, one per child
- Small, plastic bowls
- Paper towels

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Allergy Alert Poster" on cardstock, list shaving cream, and post at the door.
- Copy "Fluffy Sheep" Activity Page on cardstock, four per Small Group.
- Place "Fluffy Sheep" copies on the table and cover them with contact paper, being sure to cover the cardstock fully so it sticks to the table.

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.



WEEK
ONE
JUNE 2024

SMALL GROUP
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

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 children to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.

1. MEMORY VERSE W/ MOTIONS

[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:

- No supplies needed.

2. FIND THE SHEEP

[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:

- "Find the Sheep" Activity Page
- Colored cardstock in four colors
- Confetti

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Find the Sheep" on colored cardstock, two of each color per Small Group.
- Place the eight sheep around the room.

3. COLOR BY NUMBER SHEEP

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Color by Number Sheep" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Blue, green, and brown washable markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Color by Number Sheep" onto cardstock, one per child.

4. FOUND SHEEP

[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:

- Parachute
- Cotton balls

5. SMOOSH PAINT SHEEP

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Smooch Paint Sheep" Activity Page
- Light blue cardstock
- White washable paint
- Googly eye stickers
- Baby wipes
- Permanent marker

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Smooch Paint Sheep" on light blue cardstock, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Fold each piece of paper in half, then open.

6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: An activity that encourages personal application and prayer

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Bible
- Journal (Check out the Ollie journal at bit.ly/3B4Z71j.)
- Fun-shaped pen (Check out the Ollie Pen at bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh.)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group.
- Place one card in your Bible at Proverbs 17:22.



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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