



WEEK
THREE
JULY 2024

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
RUG

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

I can help my friends have joy.

BE JOYFUL WITH OTHERS
ROMANS 12:15

MEMORY VERSE

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."

LUKE 2:10, ESV

KEY QUESTION

Who gives you joy?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus gives me joy.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

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.

Leader Joy
Hands On
Sending a Special Message

LARGE GROUP

20
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Best Friend"
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 Memory Verse
Love Helps
Love Like Jesus
Joy Bowling
Friendship Bracelets
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, "Best Friend," included in your monthly files; *Optional: Dance Moves Video for "Best Friend," available in the Media Package if you subscribe or from OrangeKidsMusic.com*

LEADER: "Hey, boys and girls! My name is [your name], and I'm SO happy you're here! We're learning all summer long that we can celebrate the GOOD news because **Jesus gives me joy.**

"When I ask, '**Who gives you joy?**' I want you to say, '**Jesus gives me joy!** **Who gives you joy?**'"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus gives me joy."

LEADER: "You've got it! Jesus is my friend forever! Stand up on your feet and sing this out with me.

Lead children in singing "Best Friend," this month's worship song.

"That's right! **Jesus gives me joy!** And the Bible teaches us that an angel said: 'I bring you (move upward-facing palms to one side) good news (move flat hand from chin to palm) of great joy (brush flat hands upward twice) that will be for all the people,' (arms out wide) Luke 2:10. (Open hands like a book.) Let's say our Memory Verse together."

Lead children to say the Memory Verse with the motions.

"The good news was that Jesus was born. Yay, Jesus!

"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!"

STORY

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

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



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

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

"Today's true story from the Bible begins with a man named Paul.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 01)

"Paul taught people that Jesus loves us and can give us joy.

"One day, Paul wrote a letter to Jesus' friends, and he told them how they could love like Jesus and help their friends have joy.

"Would you like to hear some ways we can love like Jesus? If you said yes, make a heart with your hands like this.

Make a heart with your hands.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 02)

"Maybe our friend is sad because their toy broke. Can you make your heart hands again?

Make a heart with your hands.

"Yes, we can help our friends have joy and love like Jesus when we sit with them while they are sad. Great job! You can put your hands down now.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 03)

"Maybe our friend saw something funny or their toy made them laugh. Show me your heart hands!

Make a heart with your hands.

"Yes, we can help our friends have joy and love like Jesus when we laugh with our friends who are laughing.

(Option: Display Story Image W3 04)

"Maybe our friend opened a really cool present at their birthday party, and they're very excited. Show me your heart hands one more time.

Make a heart with your hands.

"Yes, we can help our friends have joy and love like Jesus by being excited with our friends when they are excited.

"No matter how our friends feel—sad or happy or any other way—we can help them have joy by loving them like Jesus.

"Jesus loves us all the time, and Jesus gives us joy! So when I ask you, **'Who gives you joy?'** I want you to say, **'Jesus**



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10 MINUTES

gives me joy! Let's try that!"

LEADER: "Who gives you joy?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus gives me joy!"

LEADER: "Say it with a big smile! Who gives you joy?"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus gives me joy!"

LEADER: "Yes, **Jesus gives me joy.** [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 giving us Jesus to be our friend forever. Jesus is the best friend! He always loves us and helps us have joy. Please help us be a good friend and love like Jesus so we can help others have joy too. We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."

[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 Luke 2:10

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS:

- This month's worship song, "Best Friend," included in your monthly files

OPTIONAL VIDEOS (AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE):

- Dance Moves Music Video for "Best Friend," 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_July