



JUNE 2024

Babies-Toddlers Lesson

JOY IN THE PSALMS

Bible Words: “A joyful heart is good medicine.” *Proverbs 17:22, ESV*

Bottom Line: You can have joy all the time.

Basic Truth: God loves me.

Monthly Bible Story: Joy in the Psalms • *Psalms 8 and 19*

BIBLE STORY FOR NURSERY

(“Story Images” Activity Pages)

LEADER: “Hello, friends! I’m so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today’s true story from the Bible (*hold up the Bible*) begins with a man named David. He was a king!” (*Hold up the picture of King David.*)

“King David loved God and liked to write songs for God!! One day David wrote a song thanking God for everything God made. David thanked God for the sun, moon, and stars . . . (*Hold up the picture of the sun, moon, and stars.*) He thanked God for the animals . . . (*Hold up the picture of the animals.*) He thanked God for all the people! (*Hold up the picture of the people.*) Everything King David saw gave him joy. You can thank God for all the things God made and have joy too. [*Bottom Line*] You can have joy all the time.”

HOW TO USE THE ACTIVITIES

As a nursery volunteer, your primary focus is on keeping babies-toddlers safe and happy. We understand that your classroom is busy, and your hands are literally full. However, we know that your influence on these children is more than childcare. The activities included in this lesson are suggestions of how to be more intentional in pointing little ones to Jesus. The theme will remain the same all month long. Choose one activity per week to focus on and don’t worry if you run out of time.

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(Monthly Parent Cue - 1 per family first weekend of the month)

Hand parents/influencers the Parent Cue handout (age specific for Babies vs Toddlers) and encourage them to review the activities with their child this week.

BABIES ACTIVITIES

BIBLE STORY SONG

What You Do:

- Sing the first chorus of the song with the children.

What You Say:

(Sing to the tune of "London Bridge.")

"Thank You, God, for everything, everything, everything.

Thank You, God, for everything!

I thank You."

"You can thank God for all the things God made and have joy. [Bottom Line] You can have joy all the time."

ONE, TWO, GOD LOVES YOU

(No Supplies)

What You Do:

- Clap your hands and help children to clap their hands to the rhythm of the words.

What You Say:

"Can you clap your hands? Let's clap while I say a fun rhyme. Ready? One, two, God loves you!

Let's do it again. One, two, God loves you! Yay!"

BALL TIME

(Playground Ball or Medium Sensory Ball)

What You Do:

- Roll the ball back and forth with children.
- Be sure to say each child's name multiple times.

What You Say:

"God loves each of you so much! God loves [child's name]. I'm going to roll the ball to [child's name]. Roll it back. Good job! God loves [child's name]. I'm going to roll the ball to [child's name]. Roll it back. You can have joy because God loves you! God loves [name all children]!"

TODDLER ACTIVITIES

CRAFT TIME

(“My Book of Joy” Activity Page – 1 per child, heart or smiley-face stickers – 3 stickers per child/self-inking stamps, baby wipes (optional), and marker)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “My Book of Joy” on cardstock, one per child. Write each child’s name on their book.

During the Activity: Encourage children to stamp a heart or smiley face on each page of their book. Clean hands as needed. Fold the book where indicated.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “You can thank God for the things God made. Look on your paper and put a stamp on the picture of the sun, moon, and stars. *(Pause.)* Thank You, God! *(Pause.)* Put a stamp on the picture of the animals. *(Pause.)* Thank You, God! Put a stamp on the picture of the people. *(Pause.)* Thank You, God! Just like King David, you can thank God for all the things He made and have joy. *[Bottom Line]* You can have joy all the time.”