



START THE PARTY | WEEK 2 | JUNE 9, 2024

Preschool Lesson Feast of Booths

Bible Story: *Feast of Booths* • I can have joy because God helps me • *Deuteronomy 16:13-17*

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: I am made by God the reflect His image (act like Him).

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Everyone loves a party because parties mean we have something to celebrate. Birthdays, Christmas, a winning season—each party brings so much joy! This month, we are going to start a party that celebrates the Good News about God! And when God is at the center of our celebration, I can have joy all the time! It doesn't sound possible, at first, but then when we think about God . . . who God is . . . what God has done . . . how much God loves us . . . well, that is worth celebrating! God is worth celebrating! All day, every day! So let's Start the Party! It's time to celebrate the Good News about God.

Story Focus: I can have joy because God helps me.

God wants His people, the Israelites, to take time to thank Him for all He had done. They grew lots of food, but it was God who helped them by providing the sun and rain to help the food grow. So, the Israelites got everyone together and celebrated for seven days! We want our preschoolers to know that they can have joy all the time because God helps them.

Pre-Service Check List

- HUDDLE AS TEAM → You're in this together! Pray together and talk about the activities for the day.
- PLAY MUSIC
- PUT OUT TOYS → A welcoming environment is important! We want it to be obvious from the moment kids walk in that they belong HERE!
- PUT ASIDE DISTRACTIONS
- ENGAGE WITH KIDS

Morning Flow



KID CONNECT

WELCOME TIME

(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

OPENING ACTIVITY

(No Supplies)

Kid Connect time is spent building relationships with the kids. Gather your small group together for some intentional connecting time before Large Group. You can do small activities while you chat together (like coloring or building with blocks) or just sit and listen to each other. Ask your kids relationship-building questions like:

- How old are you?
- Do you have a favorite stuffed animal?
- Do you have a brother, sister, or pet? What are their names?
- What do you like to play at home?
- What's your favorite food/color/animal/ice cream flavor?

Transition to Large Group...

LARGE GROUP

COUNTDOWN

(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE, BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE, MEMORY VERSE VIDEO; BIBLE)

LGL: "Hello my friends! How are you today? Come and sit with me. I am so glad you are here! My name is [your name]. I'm excited to spend time with you today! We are getting ready to sing and dance and hear a true story from the Bible. Before we do let's go over our rules and truths.

"Here in KidCity we have three rules. How many rules do we have? (*Kids respond.*) That's right! Three rules. Let's go over our rules now. (*List rules while counting on fingers*)

1. **Be kind.** We can be kind by using our indoor speaking voices, by staying on our blankets (or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders.
2. **Be safe.** We can be safe by walking around the classroom and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. **Have fun!** We are going to have SO much fun, and that's because you are here!

“Can everybody follow those rules today? *(Kids respond.)* Great! KidCity is a place where we learn about God and Jesus! And there are three big truths that we want you to know. Let’s say them all together! Are you ready?”

1. I am made by God. What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*
2. I am loved by God no matter what. What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*
3. I am made for a purpose! What is it? *(Kids repeat.)*

“It’s time for our memory verse. Let’s watch our memory verse motions and do it along with them!”

Show memory verse motion video and then practice without it.

‘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.)

“Ok, Now let’s sing and worship God!”

WORSHIP

(VIDEO: START THE PARTY, JESUS NO MATTER WHAT)

Sing the worship songs together.

INTRO SKETCH

(Party Hat, Gift Box/Bag with Prop (W1 Toy Sheep, W2 Toy Carrot/Cabbage, W3 Building Block, W4 Empty, W5 “Gospel Cube” on Cardstock), Story Box)

*LGL brings the story box with the prop and Bible to the center of the room.
You should have a party hat and gift box/bag with current week prop.*

“I have my story box ready. I’m SO excited to see what we are learning about God today. Let’s see what I have in here…”

Pull out and put on the party hat.

What is this? *(Pause for responses)*. Yes, a party hat! Who has been to a party before? *(Pause for responses)*. Parties are fun because you get to celebrate something and someone special.

Pull out gift box/bag.

What else do I have? *(Pause for responses)*. Yes, a gift! Have you ever given a gift to someone or received a gift? Let’s see what’s inside. **It’s a carrot/cabbage!** I wonder if there is food in our story today. This month we are celebrating the Good News about God! God is worth celebrating!

Let’s watch our Bible story to see what we are celebrating this week.



WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

“Wow! That was a great story! “The people celebrated and had joy because God helped them grow food by providing the rain and the sun. We can celebrate and have joy because God helps us too!

“When I ask you, ‘Who can have joy all the time?’ I want you to say, [Bottom Line] ‘I can have joy all the time!’ Let’s try it! ‘Who can have joy all the time?’[Bottom Line] ‘I can have joy all the time!’ Now say it with a big smile! ‘Who can have joy all the time?’ [Bottom Line] ‘I can have joy all the time!’”

SAY THE BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE)

Let’s look at our Basic Truth for today. It says, ‘I am made by God to reflect His image that means to act like Him. We act like Him when we have joy knowing God helps us.

PRAY

“Let’s pray together. *(Have kids “put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.”)*

“Dear God, thank you for all of the ways you help us every day. We want to stop and celebrate you by saying thank you. You are amazing, God, and we love you! In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP

Bible Story: *Feast of Booths* • I can have joy because God helps me • *Deuteronomy 16:13-17*

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THANKFUL GAME

(“Thankful Game” Activity Page, Cut and Attached to a Cube Box - 1 per group)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Copy “Thankful Game” activity page and cut, one set per small group. Tape one cutout to each side of a cube box.

During the Activity: One at a time, ask children to roll the cube box die. Talk about each of the pictures using motions and thank God for the items in the picture. When the side with the Bottom Line is rolled, say the Bottom Line in a celebratory way. Encourage kids to repeat after you. Continue so each child has a turn to roll the “die.” Turn the “die” to any picture(s) that were not rolled and repeat.

After the Activity: Review the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come play a game with me! I have this really cool die for us to roll. It has different pictures on it, and it has some words on it too! We’ll take turns rolling the die and doing motions to go with the pictures.”

During the Activity: “[Child’s name], roll the die. (Pause.) Review the picture by saying the words below, doing the motions and thanking God.

Dirt: You landed on the picture of dirt. Plants need dirt to live and grow! Let’s use our hands and pretend to put our seed in the ground and cover it with dirt. God made the dirt! Let’s say: ‘Thank you, God, for the dirt.’ “Thank you, God, for the dirt!”

Heart: You landed on the heart. God loves us so much! Can you give yourself a BIG hug. God made you and God made me, and God loves us! Let’s say: ‘Thank you, God, for loving us.’ “Thank you, God, for loving us!”

Rain: You landed on the picture of rain. Plants need water to live and grow! Let’s wiggle our fingers above our head and move them down like rain coming from the sky. God made the water! Let’s say: ‘Thank you, God, for the water.’ “Thank you, God, for the water!”

Sun: You landed on the picture of the sun. Plants need sun to live and grow! Let’s use our arms

and make a big circle over our heads. God made the sun! Let's say: 'Thank you, God, for the sun.'
"Thank you, God, for the sun!"

Tree: You landed on the picture of plants. This is a tree. Some plants give us food to eat. This tree has apples on it. Let's squat down low to the ground, then slowly rise up like we are growing and stretch your arms high to the sky. God made the plants. Let's say: 'Thank you, God for plants.'
"Thank you, God, for the plants!"

Words: You landed on the words. These words say [Bottom Line] I can have joy all the time! Let's say that together while we cheer. [Bottom Line] I can have joy all the time! That was so much fun!"

After the Activity: "We can have joy all the time because God loves us and is always helping us. Who can have joy all the time? [Bottom Line] I can have joy all the time!"

COUNT AND SHAKE

(Crepe Paper Streamers in 12" Length - 1 per child)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Cut streamers in 12" lengths - 1 per child. Give each child one streamer.

During the Activity: Encourage children to lay down and pretend to sleep. Count to seven then encourage children to get up shake their streamers and say, "Thank you, God!"

After the Activity: Review the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "In today's story, we heard how God's people, the Israelites, worked in their gardens every day and grew a lot of food! God wanted them to take time to celebrate and thank Him for the sun and the rain that helped their gardens grow! Everyone got together and celebrated for seven days and seven nights! (Hold up seven fingers.) I have streamers for each of you (shake streamers). We are going to pretend to go to sleep by laying down, then we are going to count all the way to seven, pretend to wake up and celebrate God by shake our streamers and saying Thank you, God!"

During the Activity: Ready? Go to sleep (lay down). One, two, three, four, five, six, SEVEN! Wake up everyone, shake your streamers! (Pause.) Say, 'Thank you, God! Now, freeze your streamers and let's go to sleep again. Count again. (Repeat as desired.) Fantastic!"

After the Activity: Just like the Israelites celebrated God, we can celebrate God too! When I count to SEVEN, let's say 'Thank You, God!' one more time. Ready? One, two, three, four, five, six, SEVEN!! Thank You, God! The people had joy because God helped them. We can have joy all the time because God helps us too! Who can have joy all the time? [Bottom Line] I can have joy all the time.

MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

(Memory Verse Motions Poster - 1 per group)

Say the memory verse using motions from the Memory Verse Motions poster. Repeat several times and encourage children for their efforts.

“I (point up)
will always (draw circles with finger pointing up)
love you,’ (cross arms over chest)
Jeremiah 31:3.” (Open hands like a book).

PRAY

“Let’s pray together. *(Have kids “put both hands up in the air, clap them together once [keep hands clasped], and then lower them down to their lap.”)*

“Dear God, thank you for the warm sun. Thank you for good food. Thank you for our families and friends. Thank you for helping us all the time! You give us so much joy! We love you, God! In Jesus’ name. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP ACTIVITY - COLORING SHEET

(“I Can Have Joy Because God Helps Me” Activity Page - 1 per child, Crayons)

What You Do:

- Pass out one activity page to each child.
- As parents are picking up, encourage kids to color the coloring sheet together.
- Continue having intentional conversations with your small group
 - Color the sun, *we can thank God for the sun.*
 - Color the rain, *we can thank God for the rain.*
 - Color the plants, *we can thank God for the plants that give us food.*

CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS

(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)

Hand out placemats to parents as they arrive. Encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.