



WEEK  
**TWO**  
JUNE 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**PRE-K**  
STARTER

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

*NOTE: This version of the curriculum is designed especially for churches with fewer leaders and preschoolers. You may want to use it if you have just one or two leaders and if you combine all your preschoolers for both Large and Small Group time.*

### BIBLE STORY

I can have joy  
because God helps me.

**FEAST OF BOOTHS**  
**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

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.*  
Gather

### LARGE GROUP

**20**  
MIN

#### WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

#### STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Start the Party"  
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.*

Veggie Puppets  
Watch It Grow  
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

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



### GATHER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Toy food; basket; brown painter's tape; and plastic spatulas, serving spoons, or fly swatters; *Optional: large, colorful pom-poms in place of toy food*

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Create straight lines on the floor with tape, leaving about two feet in between. Place the toy food along the tape lines, leaving space in between each. Place the basket at the end of the rows.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to use the spatula, spoon, or fly swatter to scoop up one piece of toy food and deposit it in the basket. Repeat until all the toy food has been gathered. Replace the toy food and repeat as desired.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Introduce the Bible Story.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Hello, friends! It's great to see you all today! Come join me over here in my garden and let's play a game."

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "I need your help collecting all this food! Will you help me? *(Pause.)* Great! I have these tools for us to use. *(Pass out the spatulas/spoons/fly swatters.)* What you do is as you walk down the row, scoop up one piece of food like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Then carry it to the basket and place it inside. Ready to give it a try? Let's go! *(Pause.)* Wow! You're doing great! Sometimes it might be hard to scoop the food up, but keep trying! *(Pause.)* Look at all the food we gathered! Great job! Let's line it back up and do it again!" *(Repeat as desired.)*

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today in our Bible Story, we're going to hear about some people who worked in their gardens every day and grew lots and lots of food."

**TRANSITION:** Move to Worship and Story by pretending to scoop and carry the food.

### BIBLE STORY

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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



## VEGGIE PUPPETS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Veggie Puppets" and "Veggie Puppets Parent Note" Activity Pages, cardstock, washable markers, scissors, clear tape, resealable sandwich bags, and a permanent marker

### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Copy "Veggie Puppets" on cardstock and cut, one set per child and leader. Make a set of puppets for the leader. Copy "Veggie Puppets Parent Note" on cardstock and cut, one per child. Write each child's name on their paper. *Option: Fold and tape the puppets for each child.*

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to color their veggie puppets. Help fold and tape to create each puppet. Sing the following song to the tune of "Farmer in the Dell" using finger puppets.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible Story. Send the puppets home in a bag with the note.

### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends! Come over and join me at the table! Let's make some finger food!" (*Put the puppets on and wiggle your fingers.*)

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "Color each of your veggies, and then I'll help you turn them into puppets just like mine. (*Pause.*) Awesome! Put your puppets on and listen as we sing. Wave the puppet we sing about.

(*Sing to the tune of "Farmer in the Dell."*)

"God made the sun, (*wave the sun finger puppet*)  
God made the sun,  
Thank You, God, for everything,  
God made the sun!

"God made the rain, (*wave the rain finger puppet*)  
God made the rain.  
Thank You, God, for everything,  
God made the rain!

"God made the corn, (*wave the corn finger puppet*)  
God made the corn.  
Thank You, God, for everything,  
God made the corn!

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

"God made the peas, (*wave the peas finger puppet*)  
God made the peas.  
Thank You, God, for everything,  
God made the peas!

"God made the carrots, (*wave the carrots finger puppets*)  
God made the carrots.  
Thank You, God, for everything,  
God made the carrots!

"God made everything, (*wave all of the finger puppets*)  
God made everything.  
Thank You, God, for everything,  
God made everything!

"Great job, everyone!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Today, we heard a story about God's people, the Israelites, and how they worked in their gardens every day and grew a lot of food. (*Wiggle the food puppets.*) God wanted them to take time to celebrate and thank Him for the sun, (*wiggle the sun*) and the rain (*wiggle the rain*) that helped their gardens grow! Everyone got together and celebrated for seven days and seven nights! We can celebrate and thank God too! Let's hold up our puppets and say: 'Thank You, God!' (*Hold up your puppets.*) 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? I can have joy all the time.**"



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that channels a preschooler's innate curiosity into a discussion of the week's crucial concepts



### WATCH IT GROW

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Facial tissues, dot markers or washable markers, wooden chopstick or unsharpened pencil, pipettes, plastic or paper cups, water, paper towels, and plastic tablecloth

#### WHAT YOU DO:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** Place the tablecloth over the table. Pour a small amount of water into several cups and place the cups on the table.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Encourage children to color several tissues with dot markers or washable markers. Roll them up tightly with the chopstick or pencil, and pull the tissue off, scrunching it as you do. Create one loose heart shape on the table with all of the tissues, leaving space in between each tissue for expansion. Ask the children to get water in their pipette, and on the count of three, drop water on each of the tissues. Watch the heart grow as the tissues absorb the water. Add more water if needed. Remove wet tissues, dry the table, and repeat.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bottom Line.

#### WHAT YOU SAY:

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come over to the table with me! I have a super-fun experiment for us to do today!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "These tissues are the first part of our experiment! So before we begin, let's make them colorful! Use the markers to color them. *(Pause.)* For the next part, I need to roll them up really tightly, then pull them off like this. *(Demonstrate.)* While I'm working on this, color some more tissues so we can do the experiment again. *(Pause.)* Okay, I think we're ready for the next part! I'm going to arrange these in a shape—you tell me what shape it is. *(Pause.)* That's right! It's a heart! Now for the experiment. Do you think we can make this heart grow? *(Pause.)* Take a pipette and fill it with water. I'm going to count to three, then I want you to drop water on each of the tissues and watch what happens. One, two, three! *(Pause.)* Wow! Did you see the heart get bigger? Amazing! Add some more water and see what happens. *(Pause.)* Our heart grew bigger! Let's clean this up and do it again! *(Repeat as desired.)* Thank you for helping make a fun experiment today!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "In our story, we learned that God's people celebrated and thanked Him because He helped them. We can thank God because He helps us too. We can have joy all the time because God helps us. **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time.**"

### BIBLE STORY

I can have joy because God helps me.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO REFLECT**  
an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



### JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Memory Verse Card" Activity Page from Week One in Bible, a journal, and a fun-shaped pen

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place one card in your Bible at Proverbs 17:22. Keep this card in your Bible all month.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** March and clap as you say, 'Thank You, God,' while leading the children 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 your favorite foods.

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

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**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "It's small group time! Today we're going to march and clap while telling God, 'Thank You,' while we walk to our Small Group spot. March, clap, and say, 'Thank You, God!' with me, while you follow me to our small group spot! (March, clap, and say, 'Thank You, God!' as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.)

"Here we are! 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, the people had joy and celebrated because God helped them. The celebration was like a big THANK YOU to God! Do you remember how God helped the people? (Pause.) Yes, God made the sun shine. God made it rain. And God made the food grow!

"We can have joy because God helps us too. Every time we see the sun shine, we can have joy and say: 'Thank You, God!' Every time we see the rain fall, we can have joy and say: 'Thank You, God!' Every time we eat food, we can have joy and say: 'Thank You, God!' God is helping us all the time, so we can have joy all the time! **Who can have joy all the time? I can have joy all the time!** Yay, God! Thank You for helping us! (Clap.)

"Now it's time to talk about the new Bible verse we're learning. 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.)



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## (JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"Wow! Joy makes you feel better, just like medicine makes you feel better. That's why a joyful heart is good medicine! Stand up with me and let's say that 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.*)

"Way to go! (*Give fist bumps.*) 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 our favorite foods and then we can thank God for them when we pray. When I say your name, tell me one food 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:** "This list is making me hungry! Let's pray and thank God for helping us have such yummy foods to eat. 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 making the sun shine. Thank You for making the rain fall. Thank You for making food grow. And thank You for the yummy things we get to eat, like (*read the list the children made*). Please help us have joy each time we remember all the ways You help us every day. You're the best, God, and we love You. In Jesus' name. Amen."



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## 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 the following activity as your preschoolers arrive. Let one teacher lead the activity while another teacher greets parents and children at the door.*

#### GATHER

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

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Toy food
- Basket
- Brown painter's tape
- Plastic spatulas, serving spoons, or fly swatters
- Option: Use large, colorful pom-poms in place of toy food.

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Create straight lines on the floor with tape, leaving about two feet in between.
- Place the toy food along the tape lines, leaving space in between each.
- Place the basket at the end of the rows.

### GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Bottom Line that was 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.

*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.*

### VEGGIE PUPPETS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**Made to Create:** An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Veggie Puppets" Activity Page
- "Veggie Puppets Parent Note" Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Washable markers
- Scissors
- Clear tape
- Resealable sandwich bags
- Permanent marker

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Copy "Veggie Puppet" on cardstock and cut, one set per child and leader.
- Make a set of puppets for the leader.
- Copy "Veggie Puppet Parent Note" on cardstock and cut, one per child.
- Write each child's name on their paper.
- Option: Fold and tape the puppets for each child.

### WATCH IT GROW

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

##### WHAT YOU NEED:

- Facial tissues
- Dot markers or washable markers
- Wooden chopstick or unsharpened pencil
- Pipettes
- Plastic or paper cups
- Water
- Paper towels
- Plastic tablecloth

##### WHAT YOU DO:

- Place the tablecloth over the table.
- Pour a small amount of water into several cups and place the cups on the table.





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## GETTING READY

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

### 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 from Week One in Bible
- Journal (Check out the Ollie journal at [bit.ly/3B4Z71j](https://bit.ly/3B4Z71j).)
- Fun-shaped pen (Check out the Ollie Pen at [bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh](https://bit.ly/3Nwj0Wh).)

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- If you do not have the "Memory Verse Card" from Week One, copy "Memory Verse Card" on cardstock and cut, one per Small Group. Place it in the Bible at Proverbs 17:22. *Note: Keep the Memory Verse Card in your Bible all month.*

### 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](https://bit.ly/FL_StartTheParty_June)