



## WEEK THREE – JUNE 2024 – PRESCHOOL

**Bible Story:** *Ezra + Rebuilding of the Temple | Ezra 3:10-13*

**Key Question:** *Who can have joy all the time?*

**Bottom Line:** *I can have joy all the time*

**Memory Verse:** *“I will always love you.” Jeremiah 31:3 CEV*

**Basic Truth:** *God loves me*

**Series Overview:** 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.

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**9:05 - 9:20 | 11:05 – 11:20 | EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITY**

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**Opening Small Group Activity**

*Play: An activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts*

**What You Need:** Plastic bin; photo of Flatirons; paper shreds

**What You Do:**

- Place the pieces in the bin and cover with the paper shreds.
- Encourage children to reach into the bin and pull out a puzzle piece.
- Once all the pieces have been found, work the puzzle and try to identify the building.
  - Repeat as desired.

**What You Say:**

*“Hello, friends! Come to the table, and let’s play a game.”*

*“In this bin, there are [number] puzzle pieces. We’ll take turns pulling out one piece at a time. Then we’ll work together to put the puzzle together. Ready? [Child’s name], reach in the bin, and pull out one puzzle piece. (Pause.) Great job! (Continue until all pieces are pulled out.) Let’s put the pieces together. (Pause.) Can you tell me what the picture is? It’s our church building! Great job!” (Repeat as desired.)”*

*“In today’s Bible story, we’re going to hear about a special building called a temple. The temple was where God’s people would meet to learn about God and praise God, like our church building. I can’t wait to hear our story!”*

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**9:20 - 9:50 | 11:15 – 11:45 – LARGE GROUP**

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**Story Focus: I can have joy when I do hard things.** The temple was where God’s people met to learn about God and praise God, but it had been destroyed. So God’s people decide to rebuild the temple. Temples are really big, and it was going to take a lot of hard work to rebuild it. But some people start celebrating after the foundation was built! We can be like the people who chose to celebrate. We can look at the good things God is doing and have joy all the time.

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**9:50 – 10:10 | 11:50 – 12:10 – SMALL GROUP**

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**Sing the Verse**

**[Hear From God | Memory Verse Review]**

*Move: an activity that uses a preschooler’s natural desire to move to help them learn*

**What You Need:** N/A

**What You Do:**

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
  - Gather with the children and review the Memory Verse with the motions.
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
  - Sing the Memory Verse to the tune of “Wheels on the Bus.”
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
  - Review the Bottom Line

**What You Say:**

- **BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**
  - “Friends, come stand with me! Let’s say our Memory Verse with the motions. ‘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**
  - “A joyful heart IS good medicine. Let’s put the words to our Memory Verse in a song. Listen as I sing it first, then we can all sing together.
    - “A joyful heart is good medicine, Good medicine, good medicine. A joyful heart is good medicine. Proverbs 17:22.
  - Now let’s all sing together! (*Repeat as desired.*) That was so fun! ‘A joyful heart is good medicine,’ Proverbs 17:22.”
- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**
  - “Let’s do the motions as we say our verse one more time. ‘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.*) We can have joy all the time because God loves us. **Who can have joy all the time? [Bottom Line] I can have joy all the time!”**

## Amazing Dominoes!

### [Live for God | Application Activity]

*Think: An advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers*

#### **What You Need:** Dominoes

#### **What You Do:**

- **BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**
  - Set up ten dominoes in a circle on a flat surface, one behind the other, counting each one as you put it in the shape of a circle.
- **DURING THE ACTIVITY**
  - Ask children to predict what will happen if you tap one domino. Once they have made their guesses, tap a domino to make the other

dominos fall over. Repeat, adding dominoes to make the circle bigger each time.

- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
  - Review the Bible Story + Bottom Line.

**What You Say:**

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
  - “Friends, these are dominoes. Let’s stand up ten dominoes in a circle. There needs to be a little bit of space between each one.” (*Pause.*)
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
  - “What do you think will happen if I tap this domino here? (*Pause.*) Do you want to see something amazing? Watch this! (*Tap the domino.*) Wow! That was amazing! Let’s add more dominoes and rebuild the circle. (*Repeat as desired, adding more dominoes and counting them each time.*)
- *AFTER THE ACTIVITY*
  - “God’s people had a hard job of rebuilding the temple, but they had joy and celebrated because the work had begun. They sang songs to God about how good God is and how thankful they were. We can have joy when we do hard things too because God loves us. **Who can have joy all the time? [Bottom Line] I can have joy all the time!**”