



LOWER ELEMENTARY- JULY

MONTHLY OVERVIEW

GOD VIEW:

THE CONNECTION BETWEEN JOY AND GOD'S CHARACTER, AS SHOWN THROUGH GOD'S BIG STORY

Choose joy! This may be a commonly used phrase you've heard, but what does it *actually* mean? Joy is more than being excited about the good things that happen to us. Joy is an attitude—a decision to trust God no matter what is going on in our lives. From the very beginning, God had a plan for the world. As we dive into the Bible, we'll discover God's plan for us and how God has been at work through it all. When we see and celebrate what God is doing, we can find true joy!

WEEK ONE

BIBLE STORY
The Story of the Lost Sheep
Luke 15:1-7

BOTTOM LINE
We can have joy because of Jesus.

WEEK TWO

BIBLE STORY
Feast of Booths
Deuteronomy 16:13-17

BOTTOM LINE
Make a habit of choosing joy.

WEEK THREE

BIBLE STORY
Ezra and the Rebuilding of the Temple
Ezra 3:10-13

BOTTOM LINE
Celebrate each step of the way.

WEEK FOUR

BIBLE STORY
Joy in the Psalms
Psalms 8, 16, and 19

BOTTOM LINE
Find joy in what you see around you.

WEEK FIVE

BIBLE STORY
God Will Give Us Joy
Habakkuk 3:17-18

BOTTOM LINE
There's always a reason to celebrate.

MEMORY VERSE

"A CHEERFUL HEART MAKES YOU HEALTHY. BUT A BROKEN SPIRIT DRIES YOU UP." PROVERBS 17:22, NIRV



WEEK
TWO
JULY 2024

LOWER ELEMENTARY
LARGE GROUP

Start the Party—Celebrate the Good News Lower Elementary

Week 2

God View

We see Jesus' first recorded miracle found in John 2:1-11. Everyone was laughing, talking, and having a good time until...the wine ran out! Jesus knew the importance of celebrating and how it would impact that family to run out of wine when the celebrations weren't done yet. So Jesus did something about it, which allowed the party to keep going. Not only did Jesus heal and teach crowds of people, but he also knew how to celebrate! We hope that kids will remember that when it comes to joy, they can look to Jesus for the best example.

Memory Verse

Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!"
Philippians 4:4, NIV

Bible Truth

Wedding at Cana John 2:1-11

Bottom Line

Jesus showed us how to have joy.

Small Group

Feeling Strips

NOTES:

- All **yellow highlighted text** are cues for visual and audio slides.
- The text in **red** indicates stage directions.

Start the Party-Week 2 Teaching Outline:

Start at 15 after (if service is expected to be about an hour)

1. Intro: Welcome kids, get them excited.
2. Worship
3. Room Expectations
4. Game Time – Dance: Church Clap
5. FATW: Local Partner
6. Intro: Start the Party- Celebrate the Good News
7. Bible Lesson Video : **Wedding at Cana**
8. Application
 - Weekly Bottom Line: **Jesus showed us how to have joy.**
 - Memory Verse: **“Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!” Philippians 4:4 NIRV**
 - Prayer
 - Announcements

Lesson Total: 30 minutes

9. Small Groups: 15 minutes

End on the hour

Hi everyone! Welcome to Flatiron Kids! "It's great to be here with you to sing and worship God! Get on your feet and get ready to sing with us. (Welcome kids).

WORSHIP 6-7 minutes

(Encourage kids to worship God through song and dance. Play worship songs).

Show Worship Song: Start the Party

Show Worship Song: Lions

Announcements

Share campus-specific announcements -see your Kids Director for details

ROOM EXPECTATIONS

Show Graphic: Elementary Room Expectations

We want to have all the fun here at Flatiron Kids Ministry! We have a few things that we like to commit to make sure everybody has a good time.

Flatiron Kids Are:

Respectful: We respect everyone and take care of the room and toys we have.

Kind: We treat each other kindly, just like we want to be treated; we go out of our way to be kind to others in the room.

Focused: We listen and follow the leaders in the room and teacher in each activity.

Accountable: None of us are perfect; we will all make mistakes, but we will try our best and choose to change our actions when needed.

Show Graphic: Friends Around the World - Local Partner

We have friends here in the room, in our schools, and in our neighborhoods, but did you know that we have friends all over the world? Here at Flatirons, we do this really cool thing called Friends Around the World. Every month, we learn more about our friends in different places so we can pray for them and give our money to help them with the things they need. Those are both ways to show we love them!

(see printout for local partner info)

If you brought money this week, bring it up now and put it in our Friends Around the World container. (Collect offering.)

Show Song: Friends Around the World - Local Partner

Game Time

Today's Bible story is all about one of my favorite kinds of parties: a wedding. If you've ever been to a wedding, you know they're usually some of the most joyful celebrations of all. There are certain songs that are associated with weddings—fun, upbeat songs that get everyone out on the dance floor.

So today we are going to dance! If you came to Kids Camp this summer, then you'll already know how to move to this song. If not, that's ok, you can learn today, Okay, everyone stand up and get ready to move!

Show Song: Church Clap

Nice job, everybody!

INTRO 1 minute

Show Series Graphic: Start the Party- Celebrate the Good News

Today I get to tell you about the very first miracle Jesus performed. We can read about it in the Bible, in the book of John. (*Hold up Bible.*). This miracle took place at a really joyful event where lots of people had gathered. Any guesses as to what it might have been? I'll give you a hint. A man...a woman...love...forever.... What kind of occasion do you think people were celebrating? (*Pause for responses.*) Right—a wedding! Let's check out what Jesus did at this wedding.

BIBLE TRUTH 10 minutes

Show Video: Video_WK2_StoryLab

APPLICATION 3 minutes

Show Graphic: WK2_Bottom Line

There are lots of ways that **Jesus showed us how to have joy**. Jesus showed us the best way to live—by loving God and loving others. Jesus also showed joy in the way He treated other people

We can think about how God loved us enough to send Jesus to be our Savior. Jesus died on the cross for our sins and made a way for us to have a relationship with God that will last forever. No matter what's happening around us, we can always remember what Jesus has done . . . and find joy!

Memory Verse:

Show Verse:

I know there are times in life when it can be hard to find joy. But we can always find joy when we remember that **we can trust God no matter what**. Our Memory Verse for this month reminds us to be joyful, Philippians 4:4.

Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful! Philippians 4:4

PRAYER

Let's pray together!

God, it's amazing to read in the Bible about the miracles Jesus performed. Jesus turned water into wine at the wedding . . . and the wedding guests were able to continue to celebrate and be joyful. Thank You for the way **Jesus showed us how to have joy**. We can find joy when we remember how much You love us, and when we think about what Jesus has done for us. We are so thankful! We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

It's fun to think that celebration is such an important part of following Jesus. Let's dance our way to Small Group where we can talk some more about that! **(Dismiss kids to their small groups)**.

SMALL GROUPS

(Have kids sit down in a circle, in small groups, with volunteer leaders).

Show Timer: Small Group Countdown