



## WEEK THREE – JULY 2024 – PRESCHOOL

**Bible Story:** *Be Joyful With Others | Romans 12:15*

**Key Question:** *Who gives you joy?*

**Bottom Line:** *Jesus gives me joy.*

**Memory Verse:** *“I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.” – Luke 2:10 ESV*

**Basic Truth:** *Jesus wants to be my friend forever.*

**Series Overview:** No one likes for a party to end, so let’s keep this party going! That means you can keep all of those streamers, hats, and party horns right where they are because we have MORE to celebrate! This month, we’re celebrating Jesus because Jesus gives me joy! We’re not talking about the happiness you get from a carnival ride or a triple scoop of ice cream kind of joy. We’re talking about the joy only Jesus can give! It’s the kind of joy that we can have no matter what. It is a joy that lasts forever! So grab a handful—or two—of confetti. It’s time to start the party . . . AGAIN!

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

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**Opening Small Group Activity**

*Imagine: An activity that lets preschoolers pretend, imagine, and role-play to enhance their learning*

**What You Need:** Envelopes, stickers, scrap paper, crayons, and a toy mailbox

**What You Do:**

- Place all the supplies on the table, and position the mailbox in an easily accessible area for the children.
- Encourage children to write a special message, seal it in an envelope, and post it in the mailbox.
  - Repeat as desired.
- Introduce the Bible Story.

**What You Say:**

- *“Hello, my friends! Please come and sit with me at the table, and let's create something special together. “I have all these fun papers and stickers you can use to make a special message. Let’s get started! (Pause.) You’re doing a great job! Keep working on your message. (Pause.) Put your message in an envelope and decorate the envelope. (Pause.) Fantastic! When you have your message finished, put it in the mailbox! (Pause.) Have you ever gotten a fun message in the mail? (Pause.) Fun mail is the best! Today in our Bible Story, we’re going to hear how we can show love like Jesus and help our friends have joy.”*

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

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**Story Focus: I can help my friends have joy.** Paul wrote a letter to Jesus’ friends, and He told them how they could love like Jesus and help their friends have joy. We can love like Jesus and help our friends have joy when we sit with our friends while they are sad or when we are excited with our friends when they are excited. We can love like Jesus because Jesus loves us and Jesus gives us joy.

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

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**Love Like Jesus**

**[Live for God | Application Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** Foam Hearts

**What You Do:**

- Give each child five foam hearts to hold.
- Read a scenario from the “What You Say” text below.
- After each one, encourage the kids to toss a foam heart into the middle of the table, and then tell how they can love like Jesus in that scenario.
  - Repeat with each scenario.
- Review the Bottom Line.

**What You Say:**

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
  - “Friends, come gather here!”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
  - “I’m going to talk about some different situations where we can love like Jesus. After I read each one, I want you to toss your heart into the

center of the circle. Then raise your hands and when I call on you, I want you to share one way you could love like Jesus loves us in that situation.

- “When a friend is playing and they fall down and get hurt, how can you love like Jesus?”
  - “When a friend is SO happy because it’s their birthday, how can you love like Jesus?”
  - “When a friend drops his ice cream and it’s ruined and now he’s sad, how can you love like Jesus?”
  - “When you see someone playing all alone at the playground, how can you love like Jesus?”
  - “When your little sister is trying to reach a toy that you can reach, how can you love like Jesus?”
- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**
    - “We can help someone who is hurt. We can be happy and laugh when our friends are laughing and happy. We can sit with our friends when they’re sad. And we can play with them when they’re all alone and we can help! There are SO many ways we can love like Jesus. I’m SO glad to know that Jesus gives us joy. **Who gives you joy? [Bottom Line] Jesus gives me joy!** That’s right. One more time: **Who gives you joy? [Bottom Line] Jesus gives me joy.**”

### **Sing the Memory 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:**

- Review the Memory Verse and motions.
- Encourage children to stand in a circle and select one child to stand in the center.

- Hold hands around the circle as you sing the Memory Verse to the tune of “London Bridge Is Falling Down,” calling out the child’s name in the center of the circle at the end.
  - Continue with each child.
- Review the Bottom Line.

### What You Say:

- **BEFORE THE ACTIVITY**
  - “Friends, let’s say our Memory Verse with the motions. ‘I bring you *(move upward-facing palms to one side)* good news *(move flat hand from chin to palm)* of great joy *(brush flat hands upward twice)* that will be for all the people,’ *(arms out wide)* Luke 2:10. *(Open hands like a book.)* Great job!”
- **DURING THE ACTIVITY**
  - “Now, come stand in a circle with me. [Child’s name], will you come stand in the center of the circle? *(Pause.)* We’re going to hold hands and sing the Memory Verse together. I’ll sing it through one time, then we can sing together. *Sing to the tune of “London Bridge is Falling Down.”*)
    - “I bring you good news of great joy.
    - Of great joy,
    - Of great joy.
    - I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people!
    - “People like [Child’s name].
  - “Yay! [Child’s name], go find a spot in the circle and we’ll have [child’s name] come to the center.” *(Continue with each child.)*
- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**
  - “Our Memory Verse tells us that the good news of great joy is that Jesus is for everyone! That includes *(point to each child as you say their name)*. **[Bottom Line] Jesus gives me joy. Who gives you joy? [Bottom Line] Jesus gives me joy!**”