



## WEEK FOUR – JULY 2024 – PRESCHOOL

**Bible Story:** *Heaven | Revelation 21, 22:1-5; John 14:3*

**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**

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

**What You Need:** Fidget Spinners; Spinning Tops

**What You Do:**

- Place fidget spinners and tops on a table.
- Encourage children to explore and spin the toys and observe what happens.
- Introduce the Bible Story.

**What You Say:**

- *“Friends, come over to the table and check out these cool toys. Do you know what these do? All these toys spin! Let’s play with them and watch them go! (Pause.) Wow! Those are spinning so fast—they are going forever and ever! Oh, the tops stopped! Let’s spin them some more! That was really fun playing with all these toys. The tops didn’t keep going forever, but today we’ll hear about something that does go on forever and ever and ever and never stops. I can’t wait to hear all about it.”*

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

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**Story Focus: I can have joy forever because Jesus wants to be my friend**

**forever.** Jesus is God’s Son and Jesus wants to be our friend forever. And when Jesus is our friend forever, we can have JOY forever. Heaven will be a party that never ends, and Jesus is getting heaven ready for all of His friends. No more boo-boos, no more sickness, no more sadness. We will have joy all of the time because we will be with our friend Jesus, and Jesus gives us joy!

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

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**What Will Heaven Be Like?**

**[Talk About God | Bible Story Review]**

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

**What You Need:** “What Will Heaven Be Like?” Activity Page, cardstock, and crayons or markers

**What You Do:**

- Give each child a copy of “What Will Heaven Be Like?” and a crayon or marker.
- One at a time, name each picture and ask children to put their finger on that picture. S
- ay whether it will be in heaven or not in heaven.
  - Ask children to circle the picture if it will be in heaven, and put an “X” on it if it will not be in heaven.
- Review the Bottom Line.

**What You Say:**

- *BEFORE THE ACTIVITY*
  - “Come sit with me! We’re going to talk about some really good news!”
- *DURING THE ACTIVITY*
  - “Let’s look at these pictures together. (*Give each child a copy of “What Will Heaven Be Like?”*) These are pictures of things that will be in heaven and things that will not be in heaven. Look for the picture of [Jesus] and put your finger on it. [Jesus] will be in heaven, so let’s draw a circle around [Jesus]. Now look for the picture of a [bandage] and put your finger on it. [Bandages] will not be in heaven, because there will be no more [boo-boos] in heaven! Draw an “X”

over the [bandage].” (*Continue drawing circles around all the things that will be in heaven, and an “X” over the things that will not be in heaven.*)

- **AFTER THE ACTIVITY**
  - “Jesus is getting heaven ready for all of His friends, right now! Jesus wants to be our friend forever, and when Jesus is our friend forever, we can have joy with Him forever in heaven! Wow! [**Bottom Line**] **Jesus gives me joy! 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!"**