

# Joy is choosing to celebrate what God is doing.

Read: Psalm 150:6



DAY

1

## Each Step of the Way

With permission, go for a walk in your neighborhood or within your house with someone in your family. While walking, celebrate every couple of steps something you see that God has made or given you! Each time say, "Thank You, God for .....!"

**LOOK for things around you that can help you celebrate God.**

DAY

3

## Praise the Lord

Psalm 150:6 talks about praising the Lord with every breath. Read this week's verse in your Bible and praise God in your favorite way. It can be praying, singing, or dancing to your favorite worship song... or whatever you do to show praise!

**ASK God to help you remember to show praise.**

DAY

2

## Celebrate!

Create a few party decorations like streamers, paper balloons, or party signs. Have a party, celebrating Jesus and what He has done for your family. Go around asking others what they want to celebrate Jesus for.

**KNOW that we can celebrate Jesus every day!**

DAY

4

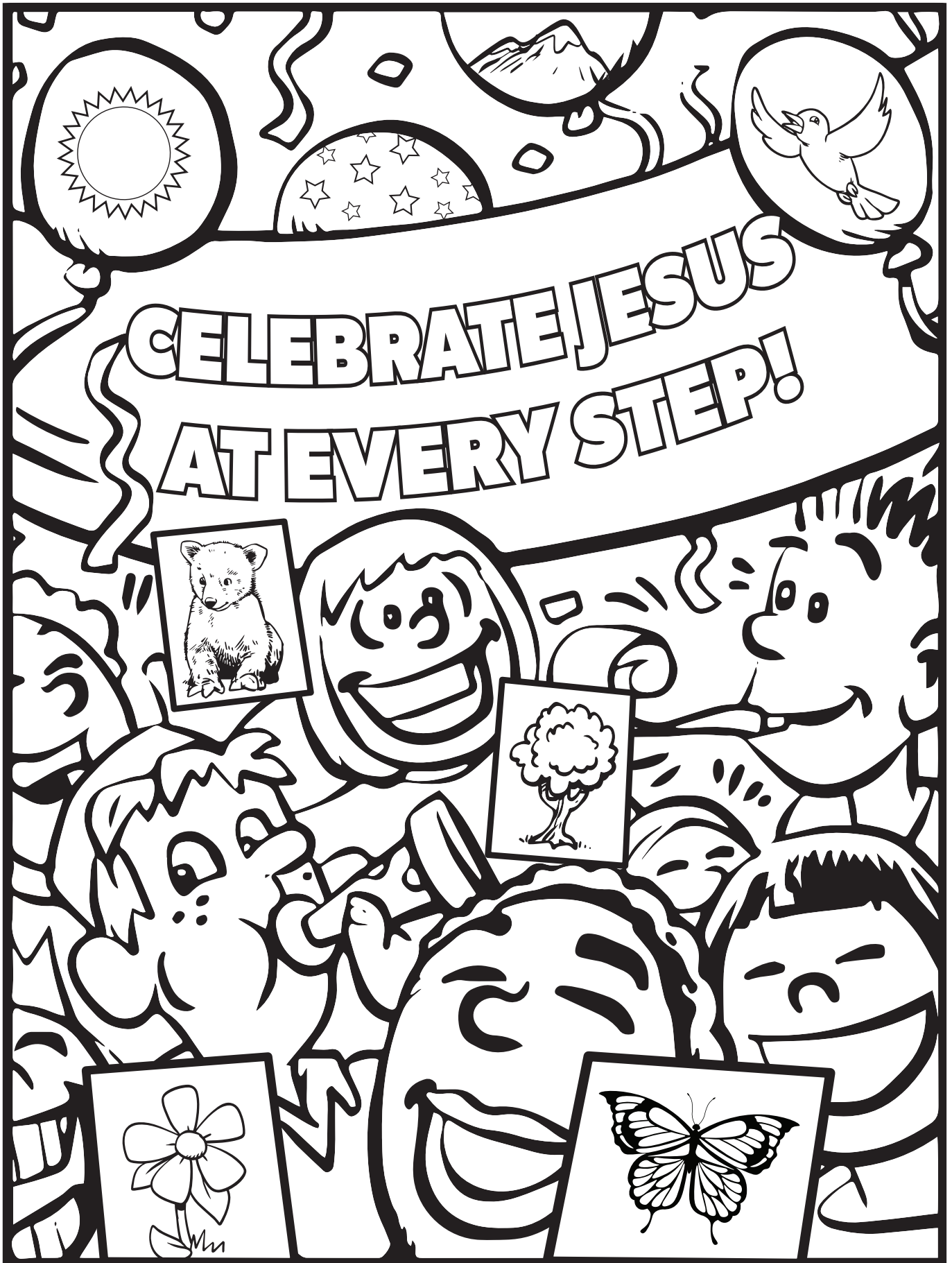
## All Around Us

Think about something you need help with (ex: baking, homework, practice for a sport or instrument, reading, writing, etc.) Are there steps you need to take in order to get them done? How can you celebrate each time you finish a step? Pray and thank God for people in your life who can help you. Thank God for being able to celebrate at any point, whether you finished yet or not.

**THANK God for moments to celebrate.**



## Celebrate each step of the way.



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## DAY 1

### Read Proverbs 17:22

Head to the kitchen, grab a glass, and fill it halfway up with water.

Is the glass half full or is it half empty?

How you answer this question says a lot about how you view the things that happen to you. You can either say, “Oh no, half of my water is gone!” Or you can say, “Look, I still have a half a glass of water!”

Looking at things with a half-full view helps you have a cheerful heart—like you can read about in Proverbs 17:22. But constantly treating every hard thing that happens as if it’s “the worst thing ever” can have the opposite effect. It’s like seeing every situation as half-empty. When you trust Jesus as your Savior, you can find the bright side with a cheerful heart.

Ask God to help you have a “half-full” view of things this week so you can celebrate what God is doing each step of the way.

## DAY 2

### Read Psalm 70:4

What is the very last word of today’s verse? Would you describe this week as “great”? Why or why not?

The word “great” in Psalm 70:4 isn’t describing your week—it’s describing our awesome, amazing God! God is great! And one way you can find joy, even if this week isn’t so great, is to remember Who is really in charge of it all.

Write the words “God, You are great!” with a dry erase marker on your bathroom mirror. Each time you wash your hands, read that phrase out loud in a different voice. You’ll find some suggestions in the box below. Thank God for being the GREATEST and for helping you find joy because of God’s love for you!

Voices: baby, screaming, whispering, opera, super low, super high, grouchy, surprised, scared, excited, out of breath, like your mouth is full of marbles.

DAY 3

### Read Psalm 32:11

Have you ever had to tackle a BIG project? Maybe it was studying for a hard test. Maybe it was training to run a 5K to benefit your school library. Maybe it was trying to make it one whole day without complaining.

The Israelites faced a BIG job of rebuilding an entire city when they returned to Jerusalem. But they started with the most important thing—rebuilding the temple. And while this was a VERY big job that would take YEARS to complete, they took the time to stop and celebrate, thanking God for being there and helping them.

#### Summertime Prayers

What is something BIG you want to accomplish this summer? Grab a notecard and write it down. Place that card next to your bed. Each night, stop and thank God for loving and caring for you. Take time to celebrate what you've accomplished that day toward your goal and ask God to help you tackle next steps tomorrow.

DAY 4

### Read Psalm 136:1

Which animal can hold its breath underwater the longest? Circle your answer. Then draw a line matching the animal with its answer.

Sea otters	30 minutes
Turtles	5 minutes
Whales	4-7 hours
Penguins	222 minutes

Turtles can hold their breath anywhere from four to seven hours while resting! The longest recorded dive made by a Cuvier's beaked whale lasted 222 minutes. Penguins can make it thirty minutes, and sea otters, up to five.

No animal can hold their breath forever. But there is something that lasts forever: God's love for you! When you're in the middle of something hard and it feels like it's taking forever, it's good to be reminded that God's love lasts LONGER than that! You can have joy and celebrate every step of the way when you remember that God's love for you will never end.

#### Forever Verse

How many times can you repeat today's verse in one breath? Write your answer below.

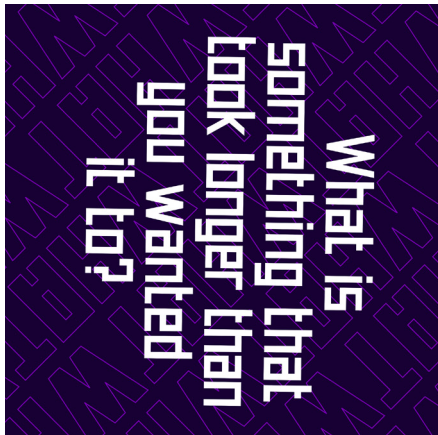
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Pray and thank God for always loving you!



Celebrate each step of the way.

Spend some time thinking about the question below and journal your thoughts or share them with a parent.



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**Day 1**

After watching, write one thing that:

- 1. You liked: .....
- 2. You learned: .....
- 3. You'd like to know: .....

Visit the Parent Cue app (available for iOS and Android) to watch this week's Bible story.  
Download it for free at [parentcue.org/app](http://parentcue.org/app).

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

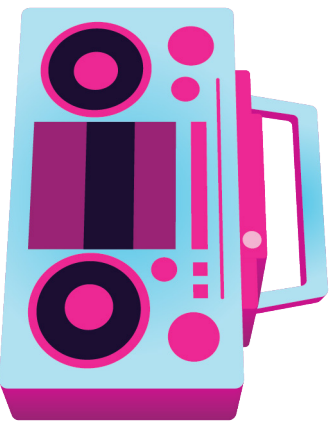


## Day 2

### Read Ezra 3:10-13

Today, you're not just going to read your Bible, you're also going to bring it to life with your own sound effects. Read Ezra 3:10-13 out loud, and every time you read something that makes a sound, do your best impression of that sound. Pro-tip: You should end up with at least six different sound effects.

It may have felt a bit silly to make all those sounds, but sometimes you have to "let your hair down," or cut loose to celebrate! And the Israelites had plenty of reason to celebrate—not only had God saved them out of slavery, but now—after following God's commands—the temple's foundation had been restored. Before long, they would have a beautiful complete temple, but that didn't mean they shouldn't celebrate now. They knew God was at work, and that meant they should **celebrate each step of the way**.



## Day 3

Think about something you've been praying for recently—maybe even a long time—that you feel you still haven't received an answer for.

If you can't think of anything that actually happened to you, you can use an example from someone else's life. Using a sheet of paper, copy the timeline below and write a problem on one side and the answer you were praying for on the other. Then use the other lines in between to come up with a few different times you can celebrate. (Example: You don't have to be fully healed from a broken leg to celebrate—there are many steps to healing where you can see what God is doing!)

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1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_

1 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Prayer request)

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
(What you can celebrate)

3 \_\_\_\_\_  
(What you can celebrate)

4 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Answered prayer)

After you've filled in the blanks, think about HOW you might celebrate those steps along the way. One way you can do that is by thanking God for each step forward. Circle where you are on the timeline and celebrate what God is doing by giving thanks!

## Day 4

Grab a sheet of paper, something to press with, and something to press down on.

Then go around the house, interviewing everyone. If you are seeing other people today, take the paper with you and ask them the questions too. The more responses you get, the better!

- What is something that took longer than you wanted it to?
- Did you celebrate when it was over or when you met your goal?
- Did you ever stop to celebrate the steps that brought you closer to the end? If so, how? If not, would you do it differently now?

At the end of the day, take a look at the information you gathered.

What can you learn from the people you talked to? What is your biggest takeaway from your interviews?

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## Day 5

What is something you're looking forward to, but it will take a bit of work to get there?

Maybe it's:

- Going to middle school
- Earning/saving enough money to buy a game system
- Learning a new trick in your sport
- Performing in a piano recital for the first time
- Or something totally different!

Grab a sheet of paper and draw a line down the middle. On the left side of the paper, write out the steps you are taking to get to that goal.

Next, on the right side, write down a way you can **celebrate each step of the way**.

One of the benefits of celebrating each step of the way, is that it makes the journey to your goal much more fun! So go and celebrate!