



WEEK  
**ONE**  
JULY 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**3-5** YEAR  
-OLDS

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      WORSHIP      STORY      **GROUPS**      HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



### 3. FIND THE JOY

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Find the Joy" Activity Page, cardstock, and star stickers

**WHAT YOU DO:** Copy "Find the Joy" on cardstock, one per child. Set the Activity Pages and star stickers on the table.

### BIBLE STORY

Jesus came to give the world joy.

**SHEPHERDS AND ANGELS**  
**LUKE 2:8-20**

### MEMORY VERSE

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."

**LUKE 2:10, ESV**

### KEY QUESTION

Who gives you joy?

### BOTTOM LINE

Jesus gives me joy.

### BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** Ask children to point out all the angels they see on the page. Encourage children to point to the word "Joy" on the page. Help them read it with you. Ask children to cover every word they find on the page with a star sticker.

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** Review the Bible Story and Bottom Line.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

**BEFORE THE ACTIVITY:** "Friends, come find a spot at the table!"

**DURING THE ACTIVITY:** "What do you see on your paper? (*Pause.*) Angels! That's right. Were there angels in our Bible Story today? (*Pause.*) Yes! The angels appeared to the shepherds. They brought good news of great joy about Jesus! I see words on your paper too! Put your finger on one of the words. (*Pause.*) It says, 'Joy.' Put a star sticker on top of the word. (*Pause.*) Now look all over your page for the word 'joy' and cover each one you find with a star. (*Pause.*) Great! There are lots of angels and lots of joy!"

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "The angel told the shepherds: 'I bring you good news that will give great joy to ALL people. Jesus, God's Son, has been born!' Then the whole sky was filled with angels. They were praising God saying, 'Glory to God in the highest!' (*Luke 2:14 ESV*) The shepherds ran to see Baby Jesus! They were so excited that Jesus had come to be their friend forever that they told everyone. Because Jesus came to bring everyone joy. Tell me: **Who gives you joy? Jesus gives me joy!**"



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## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer

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## 6. JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bible, journal, and a fun-shaped pen

### WHAT YOU DO:

Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Today, we're going to make a list of people we can tell the good news about Jesus. When I say your name, tell me one person you can tell about Jesus and I will write their name in our journal." (*Remember to print as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.*)

**AFTER THE ACTIVITY:** "Look at all the people we can tell the good news about Jesus! (*Hold up journal.*) Let's use our list when we pray. Would anyone like to pray before I pray? (*Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.*) Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to give every person in the world joy. That is such good news! Help us tell (*read the list the children made*) that Jesus loves them, and He wants to be their friend forever. We love You, God. In Jesus' name. Amen."

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