

ALLEY SG June 8-9, 2024

Due to summer scheduling, these activities can be done in small groups or in one large group.

1. Bible Story Review

What You Need: Bible, butcher paper (large piece of paper for every small group), markers

What You Do:

- If doing this as a large group activity, divide the kids into smaller groups.
- Set the butcher paper and markers out and have the kids sit around it.
- Ask them to think about an important fact or point from the story today that they remember.
- Have the kids draw something from the story that they remember.
- Read to Deuteronomy 16:13-17 if needed.
- They will each show the group what they drew and describe how it relates to the story when finished.
- Ask Review Questions as kids are drawing.
 - What was the main purpose of the Feast of Booths? (*God wanted the people to take time to look back and remember what God had done for them, to form the habit of being joyful*)
 - How long did the feast last? (*Usually seven days but in some cases two weeks*)
 - What were some of the events God didn't want the people to forget about? (*Delivering them from slavery in Egypt, providing food and water in the wilderness, protection from their enemies, etc.*)
 - God provided all that the people needed as they lived in the wilderness—food, water, protection. In what ways has Jesus provided for us in even greater ways? (*God provided what we need to be forgiven by sending Jesus. Jesus offers "living water"—a way to live with God forever.*)
 - If we were celebrating the Feast of Booths this week, what is something God has done that you'd want to remember? (*Repeat this question as often as you'd like. Answers will vary.*)
 - When is it hard to remember to be joyful? What can you do during those times to still find a reason to celebrate? (*Repeat this question as often as you'd like. Answers will vary.*)

2. Memory Verse Roll

What You Need: a soft ball

- Guide kids to sit in a large circle.
- Invite a volunteer to recite the monthly memory verse, then say it a few times together. “*A cheerful heart makes you healthy. But a broken spirit dries you up.*” Proverbs 17:22
- Give one kid the ball.
- Lead kids to say the verse word by word (with help as needed) as they pass the ball to the person next to them. Play a few times, getting faster each time.
- Try it again, but instead of passing the ball, roll the ball to someone across the circle saying one word of the verse at a time.
- Play as time allows, encouraging kids to say the verse faster each round.

3. Discussion Questions

- What are some things you know about God’s character that you can celebrate right now?
- What can you do to help you remember what God has done in your life?
- When things don’t turn out as you had hoped, why can you still celebrate?
- Describe a celebration you could have to show thanks to God.

EXTRA TIME SHEETS

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- “Dear God, thank You for the big story You’re telling—where we can see times of celebrations. Help us choose joy every day. When things are hard, help us to remember You are with us and find joy in that. Thank You for teaching us that celebrating is not just for special times, but something we can do every day. It’s medicine to our bodies! That is why we want to **make a habit of choosing joy**. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share something they can do to help them remember to show joy.