

CITY SG June 22-23, 2024

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

1. Joyful Introductions

What You Need: Nametags (one per kid), and markers

- Give each kid a nametag and a marker.
- Instruct each kid to write their name on the tag.
- Encourage the kids to add a small drawing or symbol that represents something unique or joyful about themselves.
 - For example: a smiley face, a heart, or a symbol that represents a favorite activity.
- Once everyone has their nametag on, instruct the kids to sit in a circle.
- Going around the circle, ask each kid to introduce themselves, share their name, and briefly explain the symbol or drawing on their nametag.
- After you've gone around the circle, choose one kid in the circle to name one of the symbols someone else in the circle has.
- Ask the kid who has that symbol one of the review questions below.
- Repeat until all questions have been answered.
 - What book of the Bible did we hear about today? (*Psalms*)
 - Who wrote about half of the book of Psalms? (*David*)
 - When David was a shepherd, what are some of the things he noticed around him from God's creation? (*heavens, moon, stars, sky, sun*)
 - What are the five senses we can use to find joy? (*sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell*)
 - Why did David find joy and wonder in the people around him? (*God made us each unique; we can care for what God made in different ways*)

2. Joy Journal Page

What You Need: "Joy Journal Week 4" activity page

- Give each kid a prepared "Joy Journal" Activity Page and a pen.
- Set out the markers.
- Read the Bottom Line, and invite the kids to recite it with you a few times.
 - **Find joy in what you see around you.**
- Set out the markers.
- Read the first prompt to the group ("I can find joy when I see _____."), discuss some possible ideas, pause to give kids time to write their response, then repeat with each prompt.
 - I can find joy when I see . . . (*Suggestions: the smiling faces of family and friends, the beauty of nature that God created, a sunrise painting the sky with warm colors, acts of kindness, etc.*)
 - I can find joy when I hear . . . (*Suggestions: words of encouragement from loved ones, birds singing outside my window, a favorite song, etc.*)
 - I can find joy when I touch . . . (*Suggestions: a handwritten note or card, a gift from someone special, something I make for a friend, etc.*)
 - I can find joy when I smell . . . (*Suggestions: fresh flowers, a delicious homemade meal, perfume or cologne of someone special, etc.*)
 - I can find joy when I taste . . . (*Suggestions: cookies made by someone I love, ice cream or cake during a birthday party of a friend, etc.*)
- Tell the kids to hang these somewhere at home to remind them of the joy they have because of Jesus!

3. Memory Verse Review

What You Need: Nothing

What You Do:

- Remind the kids of this month's memory verse and say it together a few times, "*A cheerful heart makes you healthy. But a broken spirit dries you up*". Proverbs 17:22
- Encourage kids to tell you action words like jogging, skipping, hopping, marching, etc.
- Make a note of a few of the words they said.
- Tell kids to stand up. You call out one of the prompts they said below, adding the "action" to the blank.
- Lead the kids to say the verse in that way.
- Prompts: Say the verse . . .
 - quickly while [action word].
 - as you shout while [action word].
 - in a whisper while [action word].
 - in an opera voice while [action word].
 - in slow motion as you [action word].

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- "Dear God, thank You for the wonderful gift of our senses. Help us to find joy in the unique and beautiful things we see around us every day. Open our eyes to the wonders of Your creation and the people You have made. Help us to see the good even in challenging situations. Teach us to use our senses to find joy in the simple moments of life. 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 their joy journal page!