

ALLEY SG July 13-14, 2024

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

1. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: Small pieces of paper, pens, “All the Feels” cards, container

What You Do:

- Give each kid a small piece of paper and a pen.
- Instruct them to write their name on the paper, fold it in half, and then in half again.
- Tell the kids to drop their piece of paper into the container as you pass it around.
- Mix up the paper in the container then hand it to someone in the group.
- Ask that kid to choose two pieces of paper and read the names out loud.
 - The first kid whose name was chosen will be the narrator.
 - The second kid will be the actor.
- Give the “narrator” Card #1 from the “All the Feels” Activity Page to read in their best narrator voice.
- Tell the “actor” to expressively and dramatically act out the emotions that were felt in this portion of the story.
- When the first pair of kids have finished, instruct the kid holding the bucket to pass it to the kid beside them to draw two more names to identify the next “narrator” and “actor” to read and act out Card #2.
- Continue in this way until all the cards are used.
- *NOTE: If your group is smaller, add names back into the bucket for kids to go more than once.*
- Ask the following questions when finished with the cards:
 - Why do you think Jesus chose a wedding as the place to perform his very first miracle?
 - Should celebrating only happen at big, exciting events? Why or why not?
 - What are some examples of ordinary moments where you can have joy?
- Remind kids that Jesus saw great value in having an opportunity to celebrate, and we can follow His example by choosing to celebrate in our own ordinary lives!

2. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: “Feelings Wheel” and “Feelings Party” Cards

What You Do:

- Invite kids to sit in a circle and place the “Feelings Wheel” in the middle.
- Set out the Feeling Party Cards nearby.
- Explain that the group is going to take turns reading a scenario, choosing how they might feel at first in that scenario (using the “Feelings Wheel”), and then think of how they could change that initial response to show joy instead.
- Choose a kid to go first.
- Direct them to take a Feelings Party card from the stack and read it out loud.
 - Help them use the Feelings Wheel to select the best way to describe how they would initially react if it happened to them.
 - Then ask how they could change their initial response to show joy instead.
 - Invite others in the group to contribute to the discussion by allowing additional suggestions for ways they could show joy in each scenario.
- Continue around the circle so that everyone gets a turn, and/or you have gone through all the scenario cards.

3. Discussion Questions

- What are some ordinary things that give you joy?
- Who are the people who help you find joy?
- Is it easy to choose joy?
- What can sometimes prevent you from feeling joyful?

4. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: “Party Puzzle” Activity Page and “Party Puzzle Key” pens, Bibles, party hats

What You Do:

- Divide the group into two teams and instruct each team to sit together on one side of your group space.
- Give each team a Bible, a pen, and a “Party Puzzle” Activity Page.
- Explain that they should work together to look up the Bible verses and answer the questions.
- Explain that after answering each question, they’ll be able to use the numbered spaces on the Activity Page to decode a secret message to fill in at the bottom.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*”
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below...

God, thank You for giving us the opportunity to celebrate each and every day! You are always at work for our good—even when it’s hard to see. Help us find You in the little moments of our days. Help us to see Your goodness when we’re playing at the park, or doing chores, or even when we find ourselves bored. May we never forget the amazing and important invitation You have given us to this celebration! We love You and we pray these things in Jesus’ name.

- If there is still time, pass out the Parent Discussion Guide to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home to bring back next week for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, ask the kids to tell their parent an ordinary situation where they can have joy.