July Week 3
Garden
Start the Party

**July 21** 

#### **CRAFT WEEK 3**

#### Joy Meadband

**SUPPLIES:** Headband slips, joy sticker, heart stamps, stickers, crayons,

scotch tape

#### What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ Have children take a seat at the table. Pass out headband slip and joy sticker.
  - o "Friends, come over and sit at the table with me. I have a fun headband for you to make a wear today!"
  - "This sticker says JOY and we've been learning about how Jesus gives us joy. Put the joy sticker right on the center of your slip."
- ⇒ Invite children to decorate their headbands with heart stamps, stickers, and crayons.
  - o "Jesus gives us joy because Jesus loves us. Everyone put some heart stamps on your headband to remind you that Jesus loves you!
  - "Now, to make them even more fun, let's add stickers to our headbands!"
- ⇒ Measure the strips around children's heads and tape closed.
  - "Great job friends! Now let me measure and make it into a headband for you to wear."
- $\Rightarrow$  Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.
  - "Today in our Bible Story, we heard how Paul taught people that Jesus loves us and that can give us joy. He also told us that we can love like Jesus and help our friends have joy. Wear your headband to remember that you can help your friends have joy because Jesus gives us joy.
  - Who gives you joy? Jesus gives me joy!"

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**Start the Party** 

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## ACTIVITY #1 Love Like Jesus

**SUPPLIES:** Heart stress balls

#### What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ Have children gather in a circle and give each child a heart.
  - o "Friends, come make a circle with me on the floor. We are going to play a game to help us remember that we can love like Jesus! I'm going to give each of you a heart that we will use for our game."
- ⇒ Read scenarios and have children toss their heart in the center of the circle for each scenario. After children share ideas, invite them to retrieve their heart and sit back down.
  - "I am going to talk about some different situations where we can love like Jesus. After I read each one, I want you to toss your heart into the center of the circle. Then raise your hands and when I call on you, I want you to share one way you could love like Jesus loves us in that situation.
    - "When a friend is playing and they fall down and get hurt, how can you love like Jesus?
    - "When a friend is SO happy because it's their birthday, how can you love like Jesus?
    - "When a friend drops his ice cream and it's ruined and now he's sad, how can you love like Jesus?
    - "When you see someone playing all alone at the playground, how can you love like Jesus?
    - "When your little sister is trying to reach a toy that you can reach, how can you love like Jesus?"

#### ⇒ Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.

- "We can help someone who is hurt. We can be happy and laugh when our friends are laughing and happy. We can sit with our friends when they're sad. And we can play with them when they're all alone and we can help! There are SO many ways we can love like Jesus. I'm SO glad to know that Jesus gives us joy.
- o Who gives you joy?
- Jesus gives me joy!"

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# ACTIVITY #2 Hula Hoop Bottom Ling

**SUPPLIES:** 4 Hula Hoops

#### What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ Lay the 4 Hula hoops out in a row so that kids can easily jump from one to the next. Have kids join you near the hula hoops.
  - o "Friends, we are going to use these hula hoops to answer our big question for this month. Do you remember what it was?
  - Who gives you joy?
  - Jesus gives me joy!
  - Nice job!
- ⇒ Demonstrate hopping from hula hoop to hula hoop.
  - o "Here is what you are going to do. I will ask you 'Who gives you joy?' and then you are going to hop and answer...
  - o (Hop) Jesus (Hop) gives (Hop) me (Hop) joy!
- ⇒ Let each child take a turn hopping from hoop to hoop and answering the question.
- ⇒ Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.
  - "Nice job, friends! All month long we are learning about joy that lasts forever, no matter what. And that joy only comes from one place: Jesus! Now tell me:
  - o Who gives you joy?
  - Jesus gives me joy!"

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### READ, ASK, PRACTICE, & PRAY JULY WEEK 3

Here are some ideas to try in a group or one-on-one.

2-year-olds are all at different stages of development! Some are ready to answer big questions and say the memory verse, while others aren't ready to talk yet. Even if they aren't ready to answer, they are listening!

#### **READ A STORY**

Beginner's Bible "Shepherds Visit" p 277

#### **ASK A QUESTION**

Who gives me joy?

Jesus gives me joy!

#### PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Luke 2:10

#### **SAY A PRAYER**

Dear God,

Thank you for making me.

Thank you for loving me.

Thank you for sending Jesus to be my friend forever.

Amen.