

July Week 4
Garden
Start the Party

July 28

CRAFT WEEK 4

Bring the Good News

SUPPLIES: Label sticker, Memory verse stickers, envelopes, crayons/markers

What You DO and SAY:

- ⇒ **Have children take a seat at the table. Pass out the envelopes and label stickers. Let children decorate their envelope.**
 - *“Friends, come sit with me at the table. We’re learning that Jesus loves us and gives us joy because He wants to be our friend forever. We can tell others and share the joy that Jesus wants to be everyone’s friend forever!”*
 - *“Today we’re going to decorate this envelope and put something special inside that will help us share the joy. First, stick this label on the front of your envelope. (Pause.) Now you can color your envelope to decorate it!”*
- ⇒ **Give each child 3 stickers to put in their envelope. Review the memory verse and give each child a sticker for saying the verse with you.**
 - *“Inside our envelopes, we’re going to put these stickers with the memory verse on them. Count out your stickers with me—1, 2, 3 stickers! Now take those stickers and put them inside your envelope. You can give these to people to let them know that Jesus wants to be their friend forever!”*
 - *“Let’s practice the memory verse together: ‘I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people,’ Luke 2:10. Great job! Here’s a sticker for you!” (Put a sticker on each child.)*
- ⇒ **Bring it Back to the Bottom Line.**
 - *“Jesus is in a place called heaven right now, getting it ready for all of His friends. It will be like a party that never ends! We will have joy all of the time because we will be with our friend Jesus, and Jesus gives us joy!”*
 - **Who gives you joy?**
Jesus gives me joy!”

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ACTIVITY #1

What Will Heaven Be Like?

SUPPLIES:

Bag filled with Heaven cards, CD player, Worship CD

What You DO and SAY:

⇒ **Have children sit in a circle in the middle of the room.**

- *"Friends, come sit in a circle with me! In our Bible story today, we learned that Jesus is in heaven getting it ready for all His friends! In heaven, there are no more boo-boos and no sickness. In heaven we will have everything that we need. We won't get hungry or tired or sad. It will be like a party that never ends!"*
- *"We're going to play a game to see what will be in heaven and what will not be in heaven!"*

⇒ **Pass the bag around the room while the music plays. When the music stops, have child pull out one heaven card.**

- *"Let's take turns picking a card from the bag. When the music stops, if you are holding the bag, reach in the bag, pull out a card, and show it to everyone."*
- *Let's play!*
- *Will [image] be in heaven? (Pause). That's right! [image] will/will not be in heaven!"*

⇒ **Let the children play until every child has had a turn.**

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

- *"Jesus is getting heaven ready for all of His friends, right now! Jesus wants to be our friend forever, and when Jesus is our friend forever, we can have joy with Him forever in heaven!"*
- **Who gives you joy?**
- **Jesus gives me joy!"**

****2s Modification:** Instead of playing hot potato, you can just pass the bag from one person to the next and have each child pull out a card. Ask if each picture will be in heaven or not!

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ACTIVITY #2

Hula Hoop Bottom Line

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.**
 - *“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.**
 - *“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...”*
 - *(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:*
 - ***Who gives you joy?***
 - ***Jesus gives me joy!”***

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READ, ASK, PRACTICE, & PRAY
JULY WEEK 4

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.