

## CITY SG – April 11<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**Bible Story:** On the Road to Emmaus • *Luke 24:13-35*

**Bottom Line:** You can have joy because there's a bigger story.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!* • Philippians 4:4 NIV

### PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

**What You Need:** "Emmaus Maze" Activity Page, Coloring supplies

#### **What You Do:**

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high-five, smile, or wave as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Give each kid an "Emmaus Maze" Activity Page and a coloring supply.
- On the "Emmaus Maze" Activity Page, show kids the start of the maze (Jerusalem) and the end of the maze (Emmaus).
- Explain that two friends are walking on a long road, and they need help finding the way.
- Let the kids trace the path through the maze using the coloring supplies.

**Say:** "In our true story from the Bible today, these two friends were walking on a long road and feeling very sad. But then Someone joined them and told them something that changed everything! Let's go find out who this Person was and what He said."

### SMALL GROUP TIME

#### **1. Two Kids and a Ball**

*Bible Story Review*

**What You Need:** Ball pit balls (5 per bin), Carpet tape

#### **What You Do:**

- Divide the kids into pairs.
- Give each pair of kids a stuffed animal.
- Explain that they are to walk from the start line to the finish line and back, holding the stuffed animal between their backs the whole time.
- Encourage them to work together to keep it from falling!
- If it falls, allow them to pick it up again and keep going.
- After the race, gather the kids and ask:
  - "Is it easier to walk alone or with a friend?"
  - "In our story, who was walking with the two friends?" (*Jesus!*)
  - "Did they know it was Jesus at first?" (*No.*)
  - "How did they feel when they realized it was Him?" (*Joyful! Happy!*)

**Say:** “Great teamwork! Walking with friends makes the journey better. Cleopas and his friend went on a seven-mile trek from Jerusalem to a town called Emmaus. They were sad at the beginning of their walk talking about how Jesus had died, then someone joined them. It was Jesus! But they didn’t know it was Him. Jesus asked them, *“What are you talking about as you walk along?”* (Luke 24:17 NIV). As they all walked together, Jesus explained the bigger story. He explained that He had to die and rise again to rescue everyone. When the friends understood the bigger story, they had so much joy! And just like them, **you can have joy because there’s a bigger story.**”

## 2. Footprints

*Application Activity*

**What You Need:** “Footprint” Activity Page (one per kid), Markers, Painter’s tape

### What You Do:

- Ask the kids to draw or write a short prayer on the footprint about something they want to thank God for this week.
- Have kids share their prayers.
- When they’re done, help them tape their footprint to the wall or floor to create a “path” of footprints.
- Point out that we are all walking with Jesus together.
- **Say:** “These footprints remind us that we never walk alone. Jesus made a way so we could be close to Him forever! Jesus is always with us, just like He was with the friends on the road to Emmaus.”

## 3. Memory Verse Motions

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

### What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
  - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
  - Read the memory verse to the group.
  - *Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!* • Philippians 4:4.
- Divide kids into teams of 3-4 kids or keep the whole group together.
- Have kids come up with motions to the words of the verse.
- Assign smaller groups sections of the verse or come up with motions as a whole group,
- Practice the motions to the verse to help memorize it.

## **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*)"
- "Dear God, thank You that You're always with us. Thank You that even when we're sad or confused, You have a bigger story. Help us to trust You and to find joy in Your bigger story. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."
- Remind the kids that when they leave, their parents should get a text message on their phones telling them what we learned this week. AND they will get a link to an activity they can do at home and bring back for a PRIZE!

**PARENT PICK UP POINT:** As adults arrive, ask the kids to tell them how Jesus brings him/her joy.