

Center 1

The Great Verse Race

As a group, go over the memory verse two times. Then split the small group in half to form two small teams. Set the bucket of Ping-Pong balls between the two teams. Then place one small bin about three/four feet away from each team. When you say “go” have them work together to say their memory verse by saying the verse one word at a time, alternating with their teammates. When the first person says “Always” he/she throws a Ping-Pong ball into the bin (have them keep trying until they make it) and then the next teammate will throw another Ping-Pong ball into the bin and say the next word of the verse (“be”). Continue until the entire verse has been said three times. (Note: The children can line up like in a relay race behind each other and it doesn’t matter if the teams are uneven.)

Supplies: 2 small bins, Ping-Pong balls
Joy L4

Center 2

Joy to Others

Have each child choose one toy or book from the room and put it into the bin. Have the children then sit in a circle around the bin. One at a time, hold up each object. The child who put that object in the bin raises his or her hand. Then the leader makes a positive comment about each child and how they have seen he/she play with that toy. (Example: I’ve seen Tommy build with the Lego blocks. He does a great job sharing with his friends and cleans up after he is done.) Let the kids do it a second time but help them compliment and bring joy to each other instead.

Supplies: empty supply bin, toys/books
Joy L4

Center 3

Meals Full of Joy

Make pretend meals for each other like you would for a friend or neighbor and joyfully share it with them. When each receives their food, have them practice speaking in a way that would be joy giving rather than joy swiping.

Supplies: play food
Joy L4

Center 4

Joy Cards

Give each child a card. Read the kids the inside of the card: "I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit." Hebrews 15:13. Have the children place one heart sticker in the middle of the front of the card. Then help them make a "J" out of glue just to the left of the heart sticker. Then have the children place a piece of ribbon or yarn over the glue "J". Then do the same thing on the right side of the heart but make a "Y" with the glue and have them place the ribbon or yarn over the "Y". Then they will have spelled J-O-Y with the heart being the "O." Have them decorate their cards and decide who they want to give their "JOY" cards to. Take time to pray with the kids for the people they plan to give them to.

Supplies: heart stickers, ribbon or yarn, pre-printed card, glue
Joy L4