

## Today's Suggested Schedule—April 2026, Week 4

**Bible Story:** Pentecost/Fruit of the Spirit • *Acts 2:1-41; Galatians 5:22-23*

**Bottom Line:** The Holy Spirit gives you joy.

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

### Supplies NOT Included in the Activity Bags

Bible Story Review: Headband Story

- Bible
- Stapler
- gluesticks
- Coloring supplies

Memory Verse Activity: To the Beat

- Bibles

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

### Bible Story Summary

Pentecost/Fruit of the Spirit

We wrap up the month as God's promised Holy Spirit shows up in tongues of fire, imparting to the believers an ability to speak so that people of all nations could understand them. Peter stood up amid the crowds gathered for the Feast of Weeks and preached such a powerful sermon that 3,000 people were filled with joy and became followers of Jesus, too! [BOTTOM LINE] God's Spirit gives you joy.

## 1. Bible Story Review- Headband Story



### What You Need:

- Bible
- Sentence strips
- paper flames
- Stapler
- gluesticks
- Coloring supplies

### What You Do:

- Read Acts 2:1-4 out loud to the group. Explain that this is part of the story of Pentecost when God sent the Holy Spirit.
- Give each kid a sentence strip. Measure it to fit their head and set it down.
- Retell the story of Pentecost. Remind the kids that the Holy Spirit came like a strong wind and looked like little flames of fire on the disciples' heads!
- Give each kid a flame cutout to color and then to glue or tape onto their headband.
- Set out the coloring supplies to decorate their headband.
- Staple the headbands closed so they can wear them.
- Place tape over the exposed edges of the staple.

### What You Say:

“As the believers waited and prayed, a rushing sound, like wind, suddenly filled the whole house! Then tongues of fire appeared in the room, separated, and moved to rest over each believer. The wind and fire were signs that each believer had been filled with the Holy Spirit.

“God gave another sign too: these men and women began speaking in languages that they hadn’t known before! A crowd gathered because they heard their own languages being spoken. They were hearing about God’s Big Story in a way they could understand!

“God had sent His very Spirit, the Holy Spirit, to be with each believer. And the Holy Spirit is with all Jesus-followers now too! These headbands with flames remind us that **[Bottom Line] the Holy Spirit gives you joy** and helps you. The Holy Spirit is God’s special gift to us!”

### **EveryChild Pro-Tips:**

- For kids who struggle with gluing or taping, allow them to point or place items while an adult or buddy secures them.*
- Some kids may dislike the feeling of a headband on their head. Allow them to hold it, clip it to a backpack, or turn it into a bracelet instead.*

## 2. Memory Verse Activity- To the Beat

### What You Need:

- Bibles

### What You Do:

- Give every kid a Bible and direct them to look up Philippians 4:4.
- Demonstrate how to look up the verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

***Finding verses for 2-3<sup>rd</sup> graders:** Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.*

- Repeat the verse aloud several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Guide the kids to put their Bibles aside.
- Teach kids a simple rhythm: *Pat (knees), Pat (knees), Clap (hands), Clap (hands)*.
- Practice the rhythm until they have it down.
- Now, say the Memory Verse to the beat of the rhythm.
  - *Always (pat, pat)*
  - *be joyful (clap, clap)*
  - *because you (pat, pat)*
  - *belong to (clap, clap)*
  - *the Lord. (pat, pat)*
  - *I (clap, clap)*
  - *will say it again. (pat, pat)*
  - *Be joyful! (clap, clap)*
  - *Philippians 4:4! (pat, pat)*
- Try doing it faster! Or try a different rhythm (stomp, stomp, clap).

### What You Say:

“You guys have great rhythm! Saying the verse to a beat makes it fun and easy to remember. God wants us to be joyful because we belong to Him. And He gives us the Holy Spirit to help us have that joy deep down inside. God is the strongest. He lives inside of us, and there is nothing we face alone. God is going with you through everything! So you can have joy, no matter what you face, knowing that the God of everything goes with you. **[Bottom Line] The Holy Spirit gives you joy.**”

### 3. Pray and Dismiss



#### What You Need:

- Large, prepared paper with “JOY” written on it in bubble letters
- Ink pads (washable, various colors)
- Baby wipes for cleanup

#### What To Do:

- Invite the kids to press their finger onto an ink pad and then stamp it inside the letters J-O-Y.
- Let them fill the letters with colorful fingerprints.
- As they stamp, ask, “How can the Holy Spirit help you have joy this week?”
- Let them share ideas (helping me be nice, helping me not be scared).
- Clean hands with baby wipes.

#### What You Say:

“This JOY sign is beautiful because it has a piece of all of you in it. Just like the Holy Spirit fills us up with joy, we filled these letters up with color. Let’s pray.

“God, thank You for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Thank You that He lives in us and helps us. Teach us how to be His close friend. Please grow good fruit in our lives—like love, peace, and patience. And especially this week, we ask that the Holy Spirit gives us joy. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”