Today's Suggested Schedule— November 22, 2026

Bible Story: Feast of Booths • Nehemiah 8:13-18 (supporting: Leviticus 23:33-34)
Bottom Line: Make time to celebrate God.
Monthly Memory Verse: *Every good and perfect gift is from God. This kind of gift comes down from the Father who created the heavenly lights. These lights create shadows that move. But the Father does not change like these shadows.* • James 1:17 NIrV

Check out our Pinterest page here https://bit.ly/447HSZi for a visual on some of the activities.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING SMALL GROUP (20 minutes)
SOCIAL: Providing Time for Fun Interaction
Early Arriver /
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP (30-35 minutes)
WORSHIP: Inviting People to Respond to God
STORY: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways
- Introduce Monthly Theme Poster
- Review Monthly Memory Verse Poster
- Review Weekly Bottom Line Poster
- Teaching (Video)
- Review Weekly Bottom Line Poster

SMALL GROUP (25-30 minutes)
GROUPS: Creating a Safe Place to Connect
Reinforcement Activity
Prayer Journal

TAKE HOME
Devotional Page

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Opening / Early Arriver Activity

What You Need:

- [ ] "Hand Hopscotch" Activity Page
- [ ] Cardstock
- [ ] Table

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print "Hand Hopscotch" Activity Page on cardstock, eight sets per Small Group.
- Arrange four sets of pictures by twos in a column on one end of the table.
- Set up the other sets in the same order on the other end of the table.

During the Activity:

- Welcome kids by name with a high-five, fist bump, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Divide kids into two groups and line them up at each set up.
- Say: "We are going to compete in Hand Hopscotch. Your challenge is to see who can hopscotch correctly the fastest."
- Encourage kids to race through the hopscotch game.
- If neither kid does it correctly, they can get back in line and race again once everyone has a turn.

What You Say:

"Today, we're going to hear a Bible Story about celebrating God. God gave His people special feasts every year so they could stop and remember what He had done. One of those celebrations was called the Feast of Booths.

"You would think a celebration would be easy to remember, right? But God's people forgot. Today, we'll hear how they remembered again and made time to celebrate God. We will learn all about it and discover how we can ***[Bottom Line]:*** **Make time to celebrate God.** Let's go hear more!"

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- *Kids can hold up their hands in the same pattern as the hopscotch; give them plenty of time to work through the pattern.*
- *Kids can complete the pattern while seated by tapping the table or holding up their hands instead of moving quickly.*

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LARGE GROUP

What You Need: TV, Pre-Loaded Video Content

What You Do:

1. Introduce/Remind kids about the
a. Monthly Theme
b. Monthly Memory Verse
c. Today's Bottom Line
2. Play Worship Songs
3. Allow kids to grab a snack
4. Play Teaching Video
5. Review Today's Bottom Line

Lead your group to the Small Group activity.

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1. Feast of Booths

What You Need:

- Bible
- Construction paper
- Coloring supplies
- Stickers
- Kid scissors

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Create an example.

During the Activity:

- Say: "In today's true Bible Story from Nehemiah 8:13-18, God's people learned about a celebration called the Feast of Booths. During this feast, they built little shelters called booths. The booths helped them remember how God rescued them from Egypt and took care of them in the wilderness. We are going to make a paper booth to help us remember to stop, remember what God has done, and celebrate Him."
- Give each kid a piece of construction paper and a pair of scissors. Place the coloring supplies nearby.
- Explain how to make the booth.
    - Have the kids fold the construction paper in half like a greeting card.
    - Unfold your paper and on one side, cut halfway up from the bottom towards the fold.
    - Fold each side of the cuts backward to create tent flaps.
    - Encourage kids to cover it in stickers and drawings of things to remind them to celebrate God in all things.
    - Show kids how to make the tent stand.

What You Say:

"In today's Bible Story, God wanted His people to remember how He had rescued them from slavery in Egypt and how He had taken care of them in the wilderness. During the Feast of Booths, they lived in booths, or temporary shelters, for seven days. Every time they saw the booths, they could remember, 'God took care of us. God is good.' But over time, God's people forgot His laws. They forgot to celebrate what God had done. Many years later, Ezra read God's laws to the people. When they heard God's Word, they realized how much they had forgotten, and they were sad.

"But Nehemiah told them: '*This day is holy to our Lord. So don't be sad. The joy of the Lord makes you strong*' (Nehemiah 8:10b NIrV).

"So the people listened to God's Word. They gathered branches, built booths, and celebrated the Feast of Booths with great joy. Their booths helped them stop, remember, and celebrate God.

"Our paper booths can remind us to do the same thing. We can stop, remember what God has done, and **[Bottom Line] make time to celebrate God.**"

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2. Celebration Station Race

Live for God | Application Activity
Made to Move

What You Need:

- Construction paper
- Permanent marker
- Crepe paper streamers
- Wall tape
- Phone alarm

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Set up five stations around the room.
- On construction paper, create five signs with the following actions on each one: five jumping jacks, three spins, four toe touches, 10 claps, one big shout out.
- Set up a "finish line" with streamers.
- Set a twenty-second timer on your phone.

During the Activity:

- Divide the kids into groups of two-three kids.
- Invite the kids to move around the stations and celebrate God.
- Have kids stay at each station for about twenty seconds until the alarm sounds.

What You Say:

"It is so important to celebrate God! Start small, like we did in our Celebration Station Race! You can celebrate God by pausing at any time in your day to thank God for what He's done for you. Ask the Holy Spirit to remind you of these moments throughout the day. When you get home, involve your family. Maybe your family already has some celebrations, like taking time at dinner or bedtime to thank God. Or taking a break from devices on Sunday afternoon. Ask your grown-ups if you can start taking a short time together each week to celebrate what God has done. These things will help us to remember to ***[Bottom Line]*** **make time to celebrate God."**

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- *Modify the stations as needed. Kids who have difficulty jumping or spinning can do the motions with their hands, clap, tap the table, or say the celebration sentence out loud with the group.*

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3. What do YOU see?

Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity
Made to Imagine

What You Need:

- Bibles
- Paper
- Coloring supplies

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Give every kid a Bible, and direct them to look up James 1:17.
- Demonstrate how to look up the Memory Verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

  Finding verses for 2nd-3rd 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 Memory Verse out loud together several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Invite the kids to set their Bibles aside.
- Say: "I'm going to say our verse again. As you hear the words, think about what images you see."
- Ask the kids to draw what they saw or imagined.
- If time allows, they can share their drawings.

What You Say:

"God gave us imaginations, and that is a good gift! Our Memory Verse reminds us that every good and perfect gift comes from God. That means when we notice something good, we can remember the One who gave it. Maybe you drew lights, stars, gifts, people, or something else that reminded you of God's goodness. Every good gift points us back to God. This week, when you notice something good, stop and thank God for it. That is one way we can ***[Bottom Line]*** **make time to celebrate God."**

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- *Allow kids to draw, color, point to pictures, or describe their ideas verbally.*
- *A leader or buddy can write captions for kids who dictate their thoughts.*

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4. Pray and Dismiss
Pray to God | Prayer Activity
Made to Reflect

What You Need:
- Gift box or bag
- Paper
- Permanent marker
- Scissors

What You Do:
Before the Activity:
- Cut paper into quarters.
- Write four copies of the following questions:
  - Why should we celebrate God?
  - What is one good thing God has done for you?
  - What is one good gift you can thank God for?
  - What is one time this week you can stop and thank God?
- Put each of the questions in the box.

During the Activity:
- Invite the kids to pull a question out of the box and read it aloud and answer the question.

What You Say:
"Let's pray and ask God to help us remember to celebrate Him in the little things and in the big things!"

Prayer:
"Dear God, thank You for Jesus. He is the best reason to celebrate. Thank You for loving us and giving us good gifts. Help us remember to celebrate You in the little things and the big things. Help us stop, remember what You have done, and thank You this week. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, remind the kids to ***[Bottom Line]*** **make time to celebrate God** this week and give each kid a weekly devotion page!

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