



BIG IDEA: YOU CAN HAVE JOY BECAUSE GOD HAS A PLAN FOR YOU.

BIBLE STORY:

GABRIEL APPEARS TO MARY
LUKE 1:26-56

MEMORY VERSE

GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD THAT HE
GAVE HIS ONE AND ONLY SON. ANYONE
WHO BELIEVES IN HIM WILL NOT DIE BUT
WILL HAVE ETERNAL LIFE.
JOHN 3:16, NIRV

BIG WORD:

CHRISTMAS—CELEBRATING JESUS, GOD’S
GREATEST GIFT.

ACTIVITIES:

GAME: SNOWMAN SLAM
ACTIVITY: JOY SEARCH
FAMILY DEVO
MEMORY VERSE

GAME: SNOWMAN SLAM

WHAT YOU NEED:

- White cups
- Markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give your child a stack of white cups and a thing of markers. Have them draw a snowman face on their cups.
- Stack the cups up into a pyramid.
- Make/Find a snowball (Roll up a pair of socks into a ball or use a small ball you have at home)
- Have your child try to knock down as many cups as possible.

ACTIVITY: JOY SEARCH

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Timer

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask your child, “Do you know what the word joy means? Joy is when you can find a way to be happy, even if things around you aren’t all that happy.”
- Set a timer for five minutes. Challenge your child to go around the house and find three things that bring them joy. Tell them you’re going to do the same thing.
- When the timer goes off, meet back in the spot where you are now and share the things you chose. Talk about why those things bring you joy.



NOV
29TH

1ST-
5TH

FAMILY DEVO

WHAT YOU NEED: BIBLE

READ:

- Adventure Bible-Luke 1:26-56 (you can use the Adventure Bible, or look up NIV version online)

RECAP:

In the story today, we learned that an angel appeared to Mary and told her she would be having a baby and that baby would be the Savior of the world. It must have been pretty shocking for Mary when she heard the news from the angel. She never could have imagined that SHE would be the one to give birth to the Savior of the world! But while she didn't fully understand how everything would work out, Mary trusted God. She believed that God had a good plan for her life. We can trust God, too. We can trust Him no matter what. That's how we find joy! Real joy comes from knowing that God has a plan for you. Even when things happen that you don't expect, you can find joy in knowing that God is with you and He's working toward that good plan He has for you. "God's plan to send Jesus to be Mary's Son was part of His good plan for YOUR life, too! God sent Jesus to rescue you because He loves you so much.

THE QUESTIONS FOR 1ST-3RD GRADERS:

1. In our story today, who appeared to Mary? (The angel Gabriel)
2. What did the angel tell her? (That she would give birth to the Savior of the world)
3. How do you think Mary felt about the news that she would give birth to God's

Son? (Joyful, scared, probably overwhelmed)

4. When we talk about joy in the Bible, we're often talking about people who were able to find joy even when their situations weren't so joyful. Mary probably felt joy about baby Jesus, but she was probably also scared and overwhelmed. How does it make you feel to know that God sent Jesus for you? (Parent: Share a personal story about a time you had a plan, but God's plan was different. Talk about how you handled it. Were you able to find joy in the midst of your circumstances)

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR 4TH-5TH GRADERS:

1. Do you like having set plans, loose plans, or no plans?
2. How was Jesus a part of God's plan all along?
3. How do you think Mary felt about the news that she would give birth to God's Son? (Joyful, scared, probably overwhelmed) (Parent: Share a personal story about a time you had a plan, but God's plan was different. Talk about how you handled it. Were you able to find joy in the midst of your circumstances? Were you able to feel God's presence with you?)

PRAYER:

Spend some time praying, thanking God for the joy you have. Thank Him for sending Jesus to be our Savior.

MEMORY VERSE:

"God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life." John 3:16, NIV