



GO!
Join the Story!

GROUP ACTIVITY

This activity can be used in a small group at church or even with your kids at home!

Joy Robbers

Set up: Print the “Joy Cards” on 8½ x 11 cardstock and cut apart. Each sheet has 8 cards. For each small group, you’ll need one less card than you have kids. For example, if a group has 12 kids, you’ll need 11 cards.

Say: Today we learned from the story of Ezra that God’s Word fills us with joy. We’re going to play a game right now that will help us think about things that rob us of joy and a way that we can stop them.

Directions: Have everyone sit in a circle. Spread the “Joy” cards face up in the middle of the circle. There should be one less card than there are people. Tell everyone to put their hands behind their back. Choose a kid to go first and give them a pair of dice. Have the kid roll the dice repeatedly in the middle of the circle until they roll doubles. As soon as doubles are rolled, everyone must try to grab one “Joy” card. The person who fails to get a card must answer the question below. Continue playing until all (or most) have had a chance to answer the question.

Question: What is something that robs you of your joy?

Say: There are a lot of things that can try to take our joy away, but when you have God’s Word in your heart, you can stop those joy robbers. Let’s come up with a plan for how we’re going to get the Bible in our hearts this coming week.

Directions: Encourage everyone in your group to read the Bible one time every day for the next week. Ask them when and where they plan on reading the Bible. Ask them if they’ll read it alone or with someone else. Ask them what Book of the Bible they’re going to read. If they need a suggestion, tell them to start with the book of Matthew in the New Testament.