



# FAMILY CHURCH

FOR KIDS



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**“ENGAGING KIDS  
THROUGH OUR  
ADULT SERVICES  
PROVIDES AN  
OPPORTUNITY  
TO STRENGTHEN  
OUR FAMILIES  
WHICH WILL LEAD  
TO A STRONGER  
FOUNDATION FOR  
OUR CHURCHES  
AS A WHOLE.**

# WELCOME INTRODUCTION

Pastor,

We realized that our churches could use a **Quick** and **Easy** way to effectively minister to the families with children in their churches.

This is why we have created the free 4-week, **"Family Service for Kids"** series, created especially to be used during this time when families are required to sit together during services.

Our Family Ministry Specialists have prepared 4 complete, plug-n-play service outlines on the Fruit of the Spirit. These services combine video elements with teaching segments that provide everything you need for a powerful service guaranteed to minister to everyone in attendance.

With the assistance of one or two of your kids ministry leaders, Sunday School teachers, or parents, you will share a message that your families will LOVE and REMEMBER!



**KELLY PRESSON**  
AGKIDMIN DIRECTOR OF  
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

# SAMPLE SERVICE ORDER

Each week you will have an order of service that will reflect what you see below. You can remove or add pieces as it fits your church's service. These are only guidelines.

<b>1</b>   3 MINS	<b>PRAISE</b> Here we will list songs we believe will fit the lesson and make it easy for you to engage kids in praise.
<b>2</b>   2 MINS	<b>OFFERING</b> (VIDEO) Each week will be an opportunity to give to BGMC. See the resources folder for each week's video sources.
<b>3</b>   4 MINS	<b>LESSON INTRO</b> (VIDEO) A video will be provided each week as a fun way to intro the lesson points. See the resources folder for each week's video sources.
<b>4</b>   3 MINS	<b>MEMORY VERSE</b> (SLIDES) Each week we suggest a Bible verse for kids to learn. You can use the provided activity each week to teach this to your kids.
<b>5</b>   7 MINS	<b>BIBLE LESSON</b> (TEACHING) Use the lesson provided to teach kids a Bible story each week.
<b>6</b>   4 MINS	<b>OBJECT LESSON</b> (TEACHING) Use the provided script to teach kids, in a memorable way, the main point of that week's lesson.
<b>7</b>   3 MINS	<b>WORSHIP</b> Here we will list songs we believe will fit the lesson and make it easy for you to engage kids in worship.
<b>8</b>   4 MINS	<b>ALTAR/BLESSING</b> (TEACHING) Listening to God's voice and <b>responding</b> to teaching is important. Each week this section will include some creative ways to lead kids and families in prayer. You will end with a special blessing for all your congregation.

- Each piece of the sample service order is intended to be an individual short segment.
- If you have one or two leaders who can each take one segment, that is preferable. Think VBS.
- We recommend the lead pastor teach the Bible lesson or lead the altar response.
- Empower parents by letting them know this service will be a fun interactive kids-oriented service that will minister to parents and give them insight to disciple their kids throughout the week.

**LET'S  
GET  
STARTED!**

# FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

## WEEK 02 **JOY**

Joy that is part of the Fruit of the Spirit comes from knowing and experiencing Jesus' love for us. Have you ever sung, "I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart"? This song tells us joy is much more than a smile on our faces. Joy is often most obvious when our circumstances don't make us happy. (See James 1:2.) When we can say, "That's okay" and really mean it, people will see the Fruit of the Spirit in us.



# SERVICE ORDER

# JOY

<b>1</b>   3 MINS	<b>PRAISE</b>
<b>2</b>   2 MINS	<b>OFFERING</b> (VIDEO) 1. "BGMCMC-1min-Promo.mp4" 2. "Emma Hoffman - Interview with a Kid.mp4"
<b>3</b>   4 MINS	<b>LESSON INTRO</b> (VIDEO) "Lesson Intro JOY Web Version"
<b>4</b>   3 MINS	<b>MEMORY VERSE</b> (SLIDES) "Leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven." - Luke 6:23
<b>5</b>   7 MINS	<b>BIBLE LESSON</b> (TEACHING) The Prodigal Son Luke 15:11-32
<b>6</b>   4 MINS	<b>OBJECT LESSON</b> (TEACHING) JOY vs HAPPINESS
<b>7</b>   3 MINS	<b>WORSHIP</b>
<b>8</b>   4 MINS	<b>ALTAR/BLESSING</b> (TEACHING) God fills me with JOY!

**PRAISE**

Here are song titles we recommend. Consider purchasing these songs and using them for praise.

**JumpStart3 "GALATIONS 5:22-23"**

**Planetshakers "JOY"**

Praise songs can be fun for the whole family, especially when the focus is on how kids praise. Encourage your congregation to participate and have fun praising Jesus alongside their children.

**OFFERING**

Your church may want to have their normal "tithe & offering" time, however, we encourage pastors to create a special moment to involve kids. In the resource folder you will find videos that highlight Boys and Girls Missionary Challenge (BGMC).

1. **"Emma Hoffman - Interview with a Kid.mp4"**

**LESSON  
INTRO**

See the resources folder for video component:

**"Lesson Intro JOY Web Version"**

## MEMORY VERSE

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

**SAY:** The part of the Fruit of the Spirit that we're discovering today is joy. How do we show joy?

*(We smile, laugh, clap, jump for joy, etc.)*

Lead the kids in acting out joy by smiling, laughing, clapping, jumping, etc.

**SAY:** Our Memory Verse talks about a way to express joy—leaping. That's another word for jumping. Let's read the verse together.

Read or ask a volunteer to read Luke 6:23 to the group.

**"Leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven."**

**SAY:** Let's learn our memory verse by playing a game.

#### YOU WILL NEED

- Joy Memory Verse Activity document
- Square brown box
- Tape

#### GETTING READY

Print the fill in the blank sheets and have them at each seat before service starts.

#### Directions:

Print off provided 8.5 x 11 memory verse sheets (6 total)

Find a square cardboard box (important)

Tape memory verse sheets on each side of the box

Provide blank memory verse sheet to each attendee

Roll the box and read out loud the portion of the verse that landed up. The attendees then will fill in the blank on their handout. Repeat this step until the verse is completely filled out.

**BIBLE  
LESSON****THE PRODIGAL SON**

Luke 15:11-32

**Say:** Today we'll hear a story that Jesus told. We'll learn what gives joy. *(Raise both hands as if celebrating.)* And we'll learn what takes away our joy. *(Cross your arms and frown.)*

*Invite three volunteers to come to the front of the room. Provide simple headdress and/or robe costumes if you wish.*

**Say:** Jesus told the story of a father who had two sons. This is the father. Take a bow, father. *Point to the first volunteer and pause while he bows.*

**Say:** This is the older son. Take a bow, older son.

*Point to the second volunteer and pause while he bows.*

**Say:** And this is the younger son. Take a bow, younger son.

*Point to the second volunteer and pause while he bows.*

**Say:** The father and his two sons lived together. Do you think they had "Joy" or "No joy"?

*Act out the right answer by leading the kids in holding up their hands for "Joy."*

**Say:** But one day, the younger son became impatient. He wanted something he didn't have. Did he need to know our Big Idea? *(Group response)* Let's say it together.

*Lead the kids in saying the Faith Fact. **I will be okay with what I have.***

**Say:** When we don't have what we want, we can choose to keep or to give away our joy.

**Say:** The younger son gave away his joy for something he wanted. What he wanted was the money that he would get when his father died someday. He asked his father for the money.

*Have the younger son pretend to ask the father for money.*

**Say:** Do you think that the father had "Joy" or "No joy"?

*Act out the right answer.*

**YOU WILL NEED**

- Pennies
- Nickels
- Dimes
- Cat/Dog food

**OPTIONAL**

You can have three simple headdresses for the kids playing the characters.

*Let the kids cross their arms and frown for “No joy.”*

**Say:** The father must have been sad. His son thought money was more important than spending time with his father. But the younger son was happy. He took his father’s money and traveled far away to another country.

*Give the pennies, nickels, and dimes to the father and let him give the money to the younger son.  
Let the younger son walk away from the father.*

**Say:** What do you think the father did after the son left? (*Allow responses.*) He waited and watched for his son’s return.

*Have the father sit down to wait patiently.*

**Say:** But the son had freedom and money to spend. Do you think he had “Joy” or “No joy”?

*Act out the right answer. Lead the kids in holding up their hands for “Joy.”*

**Say:** Younger son, you’re feeling a lot of joy because you have so much money to spend. Pretend that you’re really, really happy!

*Have the younger son pretend to be having a lot of fun.*

**Say:** But it didn’t take long for the son to run out of money. All his friends left because he had no money.

*Have the younger son place the money on the floor, then look sad and lonely.*

**Say:** Do you think he had “Joy” or “No joy”?

*Act out the right answer. Let the kids cross their arms and frown for “No joy.”*

**Say:** The son didn’t have joy—and he didn’t have food either. So, he got a job feeding pigs. He was so hungry he wanted to eat the pigs’ food. Yuck!

*Hold up the cat or dog food.*

**Say:** Would you eat this? (*Group response.*) Well, I’m sure pigs’ food was even more gross than this pet food. The younger son must have been really, really hungry to think about eating pigs’ food. Younger son, look as sad and hungry as you possibly can.

*Pause for the volunteer to act out hunger and sadness.*

**Say:** One day, the son realized that what he was doing was crazy. He was hungry while his father’s servants had plenty to eat. He decided to go back home and see if he could work for his father as a servant. So, the son went home.

*Pause for the younger son to walk toward the father.*

**Say:** Was the father happy to see him? (Group response) The father ran to him and hugged and kissed his son!

*Pause for the father and younger son volunteers to act this out. (The volunteers may "air-kiss.")*

**Say:** Do you think the father had "Joy" or "No joy"?

*Lead the kids in holding up their hands for "Joy."*

**Say:** Do you think the son had "Joy" or "No joy"?

*Lead the kids in holding up their hands for "Joy."*

**Say:** The father showed his joy. He dressed his son in the finest clothes. He put a ring on his son's finger.

*Let the father pantomime giving a robe and a ring to his son.*

**Say:** The father said, "My son was dead, but now he is alive again! He was lost, but now he is found!" He gave a big party because his son had returned.

**Say:** Did the father and the younger son have "Joy" or "No joy"?

*Lead the kids in holding up their hands for "Joy."*

**Say:** Then the older son came in from working in the fields. Older son, look tired. Then look surprised because you can hear a party.

*Pause for the older son to act this out.*

**Say:** Someone told the older son that his brother had come home. The party was a celebration because the younger son had come home.

**Say:** The older brother was jealous. He was the good brother. But the bad brother was getting the party. The older brother was upset!

*Pause for the older son to act upset.*

**Say:** Did the older brother have "Joy" or "No joy"?

*Let the kids cross their arms and frown for "No joy."*

**Say:** Did the older brother obey our Faith Fact? (*no*)

*Lead the kids in saying the Big Idea. **I will be okay with what I have.***

**Say:** The father loved both of his sons. His younger son had joy because he had come home. The father wanted his older son to have joy too. So the father went to talk to the older son.

*Pause for the father to move to talk to the older son.*

**Say:** The father said, "Everything I have is yours. But be glad with me that your brother has come home."

**Say:** Do you think the older brother chose "Joy" or "No joy"?

*Let the kids either hold up their hands for "Joy" or cross their arms and frown for "No joy."*

**Say:** We don't know what the older son chose. He may have chosen joy and gone to the party. Or he may have chosen no joy and stayed outside and pouted.

*Allow all the volunteers to be seated.*

*Lead the kids in clapping for the volunteers.*

**Say:** Joy is always a choice. Just as the older son could have chosen joy, we can choose joy too. It doesn't mean that we'll always get what we want. Sometimes things in life are very difficult. We may cry and get upset.

But even when things are bad, we can choose joy by choosing to focus on God's love for us. He will never leave us. We are never alone. And He always loves us. That's why, when Jesus lives in our lives, we can always choose joy!

OBJECT  
LESSON

## JOY VS HAPPINESS

**SAY:** A few years ago, there was a young baseball player who loved to play the game. As his birthday approached, he dreamed of getting a brand-new bat as a gift!

*Pull out the bat and tell the story with it in your hands.*

**SAY:** When the day finally arrived, the boy woke up expecting to celebrate his birthday FIRST thing. He was so happy thinking about playing his next game with such a great baseball bat.

*Be sure to swing the bat and show it off as you tell the story.*

**SAY:** However, he quickly realized that his dad had not remembered his birthday and the boy's happiness quickly turned to sadness.

*Drop the bat on the ground as a way to show the boy's sadness.*

**SAY:** The boy knew his dad loved him. He knew his dad wanted to do things for him, but the boy was so sad that his birthday had seemingly been forgotten.

**SAY:** You see, boys and girls, happiness has a lot to do with what is "happening" to us. We get ice-cream after dinner...happy. We get to go fishing with grandpa...happy. However, it quickly fades when that something good turns bad. We drop our ice-cream...sad. That caught fish gets away...sad.

**SAY:** For your life too, happiness will come and go. But JOY is something different. Most often, joy is a choice we make. In our story, the boy remembers that his dad loves him even when things didn't go the way he was hoping.

*Pick the bat back up.*

**SAY:** He remembers that he had a really good bat, and it may not be the one he wanted, but he can still hit the ball really far with the bat he already has. He didn't let his sadness stop him from getting ready for his game that day.

**SAY:** Boys and girls, we have to make this choice too. We all want to be happy, and that's a good thing, but we are not always going to be happy. Can we still have joy and "be okay with what we have" even when things don't go our way?

**SAY:** Our story? Well, it had a "happy" ending. That boy's father had not forgotten his birthday and waited until just before the game to give him his brand-new baseball bat. It turned out to be a great birthday after all.

## YOU WILL NEED

- Baseball Bat

## GETTING READY

Go online and view the video "Viral birthday Bat Kid." Seeing this video will help you teach today's lesson.

## WORSHIP

### Bethel Music Kids “Amazing Love”

C.S. Lewis said: “It is in the process of being worshipped that God communicates His presence to men.”

One of the 8 Goals of Kids Ministry is to raise up children who are “Responsive in Worship.” When we lay the groundwork that the Holy Spirit can walk on, He will draw the hearts of the children to Jesus. We encourage you to schedule a dedicated worship time for your kids to connect with the Spirit of God.

## ALTAR & BLESSING

### GOD FILLS ME WITH JOY...

#### Variations:

1. Lay out Scrabble pieces on a table instead of using magnets
2. Use poster board to write the words instead of using Scrabble pieces

#### Action Steps:

1. Find the letters to spell a word representing something that fills you with joy.
2. Build off of another word to add yours.
3. Thank God for the things that He has blessed you with. Ask Him to continue to fill you with joy.

#### Contactless Option:

1. Provide paper and pens at each seat before service begins.
2. Each person will create their own crossword on paper with words that represent joy.
3. Thank God for the things that He has blessed you with. Ask Him to continue to fill you with joy.

#### YOU WILL NEED

- Prayer Station Response sign on the wall or easel
- Tin sheet, large cookie sheet, or metal door
- Scrabble letters with magnets on back

#### GETTING READY

1. Set up prayer station sign/foam board on easel
2. Set up large sheet of pre-cut tin on an easel (protect edges)
3. Place Scrabble pieces with magnets on back in a bucket
4. Start a crossword with joyful words so others can add on

### BLESSING

What is a blessing?

*Blessings speak words of life and reinforce the promises God has made in scripture. At the end of the service, read this blessing over your people.*

**“May you experience joy because of the gift that God has given you—the gift of eternal life with Him.”**

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This lesson is adapted from the “Fruit of the Spirit” Faith Case curriculum. Want to continue this series? If you wish to explore more, visit [myhealthychurch.com](http://myhealthychurch.com).



This video-based children’s church curriculum, developed by children’s pastors, consists of ten fast-paced, easy-to-lead sessions. The kit comes complete with unforgettable videos, games, object lessons, Bible stories, songs, and kid-friendly statements that make each fruit easy to remember.



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