

HOPE

LIVING WITH CONFIDENT EXPECTATION

WEEK 2:

KNOWING HOPE

MAIN POINT:

I can use the tools I have to find hope.



BIBLE STORY: NEHEMIAH 2:9-15

Nehemiah went to Jerusalem to figure out how he could help. He was not a builder, he was only a cupbearer to the king. He knew that God was with him, but he had to come up with a plan. He went to inspect the city. He went out at night and went all around the walls and gates coming up with a plan to rebuild.



MEMORY VERSE: ROMANS 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace.



ACTIVITY: EARLY CHILDHOOD

1. I SPY IN THE BIBLE

Use a children's picture Bible if you have one. Say, "I spy with my little eye a rainbow in the Bible." Have your child search through their Bible to find the object and then talk about the picture and read the story. Continue to spy other things: an animal, water, flowers, someone who is happy, someone who is sad, a boat, a cross, a baby.

2. BIBLE ACTIONS

As a family look up the passage in the Bible and make up actions to one of these Bible Words.

- "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace" Romans 15:13
- "Love each other as I have loved you" John 15:12
- "God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9



ACTIVITY: ELEMENTARY ACTIVITIES:

1. RANDOM STORY TIME

SUPPLIES: Timer, 7-12 Random Objects

- ACTIVITY: Give the children 30 seconds to run around the room to grab 3 random objects. When they all return, tell them they need to come up with a story that includes all the objects. Their story must have a character, problem and resolution.
- TALKING POINTS: You are so creative! What a funny story. When we started this challenge, you did not know what you were going to have to do with those items. Sometimes God gives us tools or gifts and we don't always know how to use them. Discuss what gifts you may have that you could use to give someone hope! Could you read someone a story? If you love art, could you make something

for someone? If you love cooking, could you bake for your family?
(Main Point) **You can use the tools I have to find or give hope!**

2. MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

SUPPLIES: Memory Verse Cups from Week 1, 10 extra cups

*At-Home modification – if you do not have enough cups, use what you have (suggestions: Lego Duplos, bowls, shoe boxes, hats, books, playing cards).

- SET UP: Come up with 10 extra words to add to the additional 10 cups. Tape or write the words on the cups and mix them up in the stack with the memory verse cups from week 1. (For younger children add silly words like giraffe, chocolate, jellybean, purple, etc.)
 - Memory Verse Elementary – Romans 15:13, NIV *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."*
 - Memory Verse Early Childhood - Romans 15:13 *"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace."*
- ACTIVITY: Have the children work together or take turns putting the cups in order to spell out the memory verse. Let them know there are 10 extra cups mixed in that do not fit in the verse. They will need to "inspect" the cups to determine which ones go in the Memory Verse and which ones do not. You may help them or give hints if they are struggling. Let them play as many times as they would like.
- TALKING POINTS: Great Job! You had to inspect the cups just like Nehemiah inspected the wall in our Bible Story. You were able to see which ones did not fit because you have been studying our Memory Verse. When you take the time to learn and study new things, it is easier to see when something is out of place. Studying helps us to gain knowledge and understanding!