

In God's Big Story

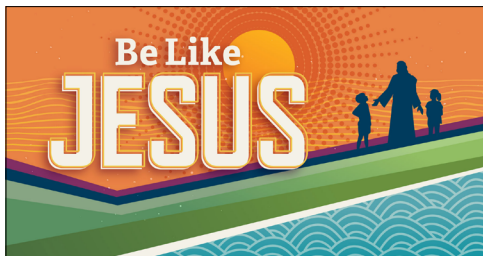
While he is in prison, Paul encourages the church in Philippi to rejoice. He teaches that when we are thankful, God's Spirit will give us joy and contentment no matter the circumstance.

Elementary Wonder Truth: God Gives Us Joy and Contentment

Early Childhood Wonder Truth: God Gives Us Joy

Scripture: Philippians 2–4

▶ WATCH GOD'S BIG STORY



JOY AND CONTENTMENT

[ELEMENTARY VIDEO](#)

[EARLY CHILDHOOD VIDEO](#)

WORD OF WONDER

Work together this week on memorizing this verse! Use our [motions video](#) or this [video](#) to help you!

ELEMENTARY:

But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. — Galatians 5:22–23a (NIV)

EARLY CHILDHOOD:

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. —Galatians 5:22–23a (ISV)

WONDER ABOUT IT!

- What's one thing you're learning about God and the wonder of His big story?
- How do you see God's story as part of your own story?

WORSHIP@HOME

[Listen](#) and [watch](#) from our worship playlists any time!

**EXPERIENCE MORE
WONDER@HOME
ONLINE!**



FAMILY CONVERSATIONS

Families, use this to prompt conversations at the table, in the car, and anywhere else your family experiences life together.

- To be *content* is to be at peace and satisfied. When are you most content?
- When is it hard for you to be content? Why do you think that is?
- When have you had a good attitude even though nothing was going your way?
- In the Bible, Paul was content and joyful even when he was in a Roman prison! How do you think he was able to have such a good attitude?
- What's an area in your life where you need God's help to be joyful and content?



WALK IT ACT IT MOVE IT

Joyful Actions

Great
for
Younger Kids!

Paul wrote a letter to the Jesus-followers in Philippi encouraging them to be joyful always. Paul knew about joy in hard times because he wrote these words from prison! Act out Paul's story and his message using the prompts below. You can have one person read while everyone does their own actions. Or have family members take turns doing the actions as the statements are read aloud.

Paul was put into prison for preaching about Jesus.

Prisons were dirty and stinky.

Paul was probably hungry and thirsty much of the time.

Paul could have been angry about his situation.

But he chose to be thankful and joyful instead.

Why? Because he knew a secret.

The secret Paul knew was that God was with him.

He knew that God loved him.

Paul also knew that God would give him strength when he needed it.

God makes us joyful.

After acting out Paul's story, discuss together: **How do you think you would have felt if you were in prison like Paul? When can you choose to be joyful instead of angry? How can you remember God will give you strength to be joyful and content no matter what?**



CREATE IT!

Chain of Thankfulness

Great
for
Older Kids!

For this activity, you'll need construction paper, scissors, tape or a stapler, and something to write with.

Gather your family and say: **In God's big story, Paul encourages Jesus-followers to pray to God with thankfulness. What are you thankful for?**

Invite family members to work together to create a Chain of Thankfulness by cutting strips of paper, writing or drawing one thing they're thankful for on each strip, looping the strips together, and attaching them using tape or a stapler. Leave the supplies out and challenge each family member to add a link to the chain every day this week. See how long you can make the chain! And every day, share what you're thankful for. Showing thankfulness is one way God gives us joy and contentment!

Wonder Ink

BE LIKE JESUS LESSON 3