# JR. DRIL

# **Session Eight: God Made Today!**

# **Today's Point:**

God made today, and we can choose to be thankful and joyful!

Bible Verse: Psalm 118:24

**CSB:** This is the day the Lord has made; let's rejoice and be glad in it.

**KJV:** This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

# **Today's Bible Skill:**

- Memorize Psalm 118:24
- Find Psalms in the center of the Bible
- Understand that Psalms is a book of praise and worship

# **Bible Truth Activity:**

Game: "Joy Toss"

Object of the game: Reinforce how we can choose joy every day through a fun and interactive game.

# **Materials:**

- A soft ball or beanbag
- Music (optional)

#### **Directions:**

- 1. Have children sit or stand in a circle.
- 2. Toss the ball around while music plays or count slowly to 10.
- 3. When the music stops or time is up, the child holding the ball must say one reason they can be glad today. (Examples: "The sun is shining," "I have a family," "Jesus loves me")
- 4. Keep playing until everyone has had a turn.

# Say:

There's always something to thank God for—because He made today! Even on hard days, we can choose joy. Psalm 118:24 says today is His gift to us, and we can rejoice in that!

# **Bible Discovery Discussion:**

Ask the kids:

- What does it mean to rejoice? (Be glad, celebrate, thank God, smile!)
- Do we only rejoice on good days? (No!)
- How can we be glad even on hard days?

#### Say:

Rejoicing doesn't mean everything is perfect. It means we trust that God is good and today is a gift. When we say "This is the day the Lord has made," we are reminding ourselves that God is in control, and He is always with us.

# Bible Verse Activity - Sign Language & Say-Along

Teach Psalm 118:24 using simple hand motions or basic American Sign Language (ASL) signs.

# **Motions (or simple gestures):**

- "This is the day" Point downward
- "The Lord" Point up
- "Has made" Use your hands to pretend to shape a ball or create something
- "Let us rejoice" Big smile and jazz hands or raised arms
- "And be glad in it" Pat heart and give a happy thumbs up
- "Psalm 118:24" Hold up fingers: 1-1-8-2-4

Practice the verse with motions several times. Let a few kids lead the motions as the group repeats the verse.

# Bible Skills Activity: "Praise Path"

# **Materials:**

- Paper "footsteps" with different Psalm references written on them (e.g., Psalm 23, 46, 100, 117, 118)
- Tape to create a path across the room

#### **Instructions:**

- 1. Tape the footsteps in a path across the room.
- 2. Kids follow the "Praise Path" and stop to read each verse (leaders help as needed).
- 3. When they reach Psalm 118:24, pause and say the verse out loud together.

# Say:

All through the book of Psalms, we find reasons to praise God. Psalm 118:24 is special because it reminds us to start every day with joy and thanks!