



TRINITY  
GRACE  
CHURCH

# EXPLORERS ACTIVITY GUIDE

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020

## INTRODUCTION

We start off the month in **Matthew 28:16-20, Luke 24:50-53, and Acts 1:1-11** as we help kids discover more about the final moments of Jesus’ life on earth. Before He went back to His Father, Jesus gave His disciples a huge mission: tell the world about Him. The message of Jesus was for everyone, and it was their job to get the word out.

PAGE	RESOURCE	NOTES
2	<b>Activity Page &amp; Discussion Questions</b>	Family Play & Conversations Starters
4	<b>Memory Verse Poster</b>	Hang it up to learn the verse
5	<b>God Time</b>	Weekly Activities for Kids
7	<b>The Parent Cue</b>	Inspiration for Parents

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus’ Final Orders to His Disciples / Ascension — Matthew 28:16-20, Luke 24:50-53, Acts 1:1-11

## MEMORY VERSE

“Let us not become tired of doing what good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don’t give up.” — Galatians 6:9 NIV

## LIFE APP

Determination — Deciding it’s worth it to finish what you started.

## BOTTOM LINE

Keep going even when it seems impossible.

## BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

# UNSTUCK

## DON'T GIVE UP

Parent Cue • K-3 • Week of May 3rd

Use this guide to help your family learn how God can help us live with determination.

First, watch this video:

<https://bit.ly/KidsUnstuckWeek1>

Then follow up with the activity below!

## MEMORY VERSE

“Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don’t give up.”

Galatians 6:9, NIV

## LIFE APP

DETERMINATION:

Deciding  
it’s worth it to finish  
what you started

## BIBLE STORY

Jesus’ Final Orders to  
His Disciples / Ascension  
(Matthew 28:16-20;  
Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11)

## BOTTOM LINE

Keep going even when  
it seems impossible.

## ACTIVITY: That’s Impossible!

### WHAT YOU NEED:

Bible, bandana or rope with a knot in it, deck of cards, simple/preschool puzzle (12-24 pieces), timer

### WHAT YOU DO:

Read today’s Bible story passages: Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11

Challenge your kids to some tasks that seem impossible:

- Untie a knot in a bandana or rope in 20 seconds.
- Pick up a scattered deck of cards and put it back in the box within 30 seconds.
- Stand on one foot for 15 seconds.
- Put together an easy puzzle in 45 seconds.
- Run down the street (or down the hall or across the yard) and back in 25 seconds.

Give kids a chance to practice a couple of the tasks and try to get faster. Encourage them to use determination to keep going and keep practicing until the challenge is doable.

*Note: Adjust the time limit of these challenges based on the supplies you have. If you have a very simple, preschool block puzzle, the time limit might need to be 5 seconds instead of 45 seconds. Or if you’re in an apartment building with a really long hallway, adjust the time limit on running so the task is challenging but not completely impossible.*

### Talk about the Bible story:

- o Jesus gave His followers the task of telling the whole world about Him! That must have seemed WAY too hard at the time. But if they hadn’t had determination, we wouldn’t know Jesus’ story today! They kept going, telling one person after another, telling as many people as they could.
- o What’s one thing you thought you would never be able to do, but you worked at it and you eventually got it? (Encourage your kid by starting the conversation off with a couple of examples of things they can do now but they couldn’t do a year or two ago. Maybe learning to ride a bike was hard for your kid, or reading a book that’s longer than a typical children’s book. Emphasize that they kept going even when it seemed like they would never get it.)
- o What are some things you think are impossible for you to do now?

## PRAYER

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

“Dear God, right now a lot of things seem impossible. But we know that we can trust You no matter what, and You promise that You’re ALWAYS with us. Help us remember that You’re there for us, especially when we can’t feel Your presence and when everything feels really difficult. Help us to keep going, putting one foot in front of the other, with determination and strength. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.”



PARENT  
CUE

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

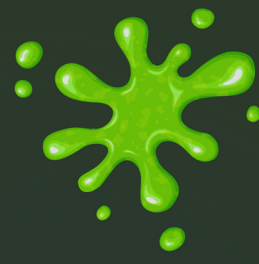
- Jesus gave the disciples a big job, to tell others about Him. The disciples were probably intimidated by the enormous calling ahead of them. Can you think of a time you thought, “I can never do that!,” and then ended up doing it?
- What can we do when we are faced with something we think is impossible and we don’t even know where to start?
- We know about Jesus because the disciples showed determination. What are ways we can show determination, like the disciples, and let others know about Jesus? Can you think of times you have told others about Jesus?
- Are there times when talking to others about Jesus seems impossible? Encourage your kids to give examples.

## QUESTIONS?

Contact us with any questions you have about this activity guide. Please note, we can best support you during the week (Monday thru Friday). No question is too big or too small. We’re here to help! With love, Elisa Booker and Danielle Swink

Let us not become  
**TIRED** of doing good.  
At the right time we  
will gather a crop if  
we don't give up.

Galatians 6:9, NlrU



# DETERMINATION

deciding it's  
worth it to  
finish what  
you started

WEEK  
**One**  
2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

## Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

## DAY 1

This month is all about determination, deciding it's worth it to finish what you've started. Have you ever run a race? To get a medal you have to keep going, even when it seems like you can't go one more step.

This is true in life too. Sometimes we're tempted to quit when things get hard. But for those who follow Jesus, we receive a crown that lasts forever! Because Jesus can do anything, He can give us the power we need even when all we want to do is quit. We can keep going even when it seems impossible.

This week, we'll highlight four real life stories of determination. Read the determination story below and then unscramble the letters to reveal the name of the person who kept going. Rejected by 29 medical schools before being accepted by mistake to Hobart College, she became the first woman to receive a medical degree in the United States in 1849. She opened a medical practice, served poor families, and established the first medical college for women. Who was she?

L I B E T E Z A H      B A L W L L C K E

Ask God to help you run the race or finish what you start, even when it seems impossible.

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## Read 1 Corinthians 16:13

## DAY 2

One of the awesome things about following God is that He promises to be with us, no matter what. When you have a big job to do, when the job seems way too hard, God can help you stand strong, be brave and finish with determination. That's what Paul is talking about in today's verse. Even when the task seems impossible, God is with you.

Let's take a look at another story of determination. Can you name this famous inventor? Considered unteachable at a young age, this inventor continued to try and try again. While many would say he had failed, he would say that he simply found over 1,000 ways not to create a light bulb. Who was he?

H T M O S A      N E I S D O

Ask God to give you the strength you need to remain strong, and keep going to finish what you've started.

ANSWER: THOMAS EDISON

## Read Isaiah 41:10

DAY 3

Do you ever feel like quitting? Maybe you've tried and failed and you're afraid you'll NEVER get it right. That's when you have to remember that God is with you. He can make you strong, help you and hold you safe. His way is always right. God will give you the strength you need to keep going, even when it seems impossible.

Check out this story of determination. Can you unscramble the name to discover the answer?

This famous "colonel" didn't start on his idea until the age of 60. He worked from age 60-73 to create and grow his business, sometimes even living in his car. Today, you can find a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant in 118 different countries. Who was he? (Hint: The first name starts with an "H")

L D R A A H N

D D A V I

N D S A E R S

Thank God for the reminder that you don't have to be afraid even if you need to try again.

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## Read John 15:5

DAY 4

Ever popped a juicy grape into your mouth? Did you pluck it from the stem first? That stem is connected to the vine which supplies all the water and nutrients that grape needs to grow and become your snack.

Jesus described Himself as the vine. You are the branch. When you stay connected to Jesus, He can help you keep going, to keep doing the right thing, and to keep loving others the way He loves.

Our last story of determination is about a man who kept going even when he faced 50 many setbacks. Can you figure out who it is?

He lost his beloved mother, his business failed, he ran for state legislature and lost, he got fired from his job, he couldn't get into law school, he borrowed money from friends to start another business but that failed too. Despite many unsuccessful runs into politics, he was elected president in 1860. Who was he?

H A A A B M R

I O L N L N C

Ask Jesus to help you stay connected to Him so you live the way He wants you to live.

**KEEP GOING**  
even when it seems impossible.

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WEEK ONE

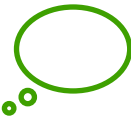
JESUS' FINAL ORDERS TO HIS DISCIPLES / ASCENSION  
MATTHEW 28:16-20, LUKE 24:50-53, ACTS 1:1-11

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**SAY THIS:**

KEEP GOING EVEN WHEN  
IT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE.



**REMEMBER  
THIS:**

"Let us not become tired  
of doing good. At the right  
time we will gather a crop  
if we don't give up."  
GALATIANS 6:9, NIV



**DO THIS:**



School is almost out for summer!  
Encourage your child to finish  
the year strong with a note of  
encouragement by their breakfast,  
lunchbox, or door. Write, "God  
gives you what you need to keep  
going. Don't give up and finish  
the year strong!"

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**DETERMINATION:**

DECIDING IT'S WORTH IT TO FINISH WHAT YOU STARTED

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## SHORT TERM WINS

By Carey Nieuwhof

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This month we're talking about determination. Now, if you're really going to help your kids value determination, you're going to be swimming against the cultural tide. When it's easy to quit, easy to change, and there are a thousand other options at our fingertips, sticking it out to the very end is difficult no matter how old you are. That's why it's so important to redefine the win for your kids. If you want to encourage them to stay determined for the long term, create some short-term wins.

When I joined a gym a while back, I knew I was in for a lifestyle overhaul. How do you keep someone motivated when the change is permanent? I was determined, but not that determined. Fortunately, my trainer was smart. He always set short-term goals. He helped me track my diet daily. He checked my progress weekly, and did thorough assessments monthly. And he kept showing me that the small steps were adding up.

A turning point for me happened this way: Like the rest of the free world, I first joined the gym in January. One September afternoon, I asked him what percentage of people who began in January endured all the way

to September. He said in his best estimate, only about 5% were still left. That stopped me in my tracks. I hadn't made all of my long-term goals (still working on them), but somehow knowing that I was in the top 5% of people who endured made me realize I could keep up this kind of change for life. He helped me see I had made some short-term steps toward long-term progress.

To really help your kids endure, try to find ways to encourage them in what they're doing today. Maybe the entire project isn't done, but you can celebrate the two steps they've completed. Their room might not be fully cleaned, but if tonight they got the closet cleared out, cheer them on.

Helping your kids see they've won in some small way today might help them stay determined to win in a very significant way tomorrow. We can all use some encouragement. Who better than a parent to give it?



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and parenting resources, visit:

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