

TRINITY GRACE CHURCH VOYAGERS 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.

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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 NIrV

LIFE APP

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

BOTTOM LINE

BASIC TRUTH

Keep going even when it seems I can trust God no matter what. impossible.

Parent Cue • Preteen • 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/PreteenUnstuckWeek1 Then follow up with the activity below!

ACTIVITY: Candy Elevator

WHAT YOU NEED:

2 pencils of equal length, tape, string/yarn, Skittles or M&M's

WHAT YOU DO:

Challenge your kid to make a working "candy elevator." First, tape the two pencils together side by side, making sure the erasers are at opposite ends. Cut two pieces of string/yarn, 3-5 feet long. Use one string to tie the pencils together at one end. Then use the other string to tie the pencils together at the other end. Ideally the top of the knot should land in the middle between the pencils, so that when you lift the pencils with the string, they stay horizontally balanced. Then set the pencils on the floor, place a piece of candy on the pencils, stand up and bend over toward the pencils, and loop the end of the strings around each of your ears. Pull gently on each string at the same time and the pencils should raise up like a platform. The challenge is to be able to bring the candy to your mouth and eat it! Let your kid keep practicing until they get the hang of it. Encourage them to keep going until they succeed! *Note: For a visual reference, go to: http://bit.ly/37wyNwB* or do an internet search for "candy elevator."

Talk about the Bible story:

- o Read today's Bible story passages: Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11
- What did Jesus ask the disciples to do? ((Tell others about Him.) Why would this seem impossible? (This is an opportunity to emphasize there were no TVs, no phones, no social media. Encourage kids to imagine what it was like for the disciples.) Note: technically it's "make disciples of all nations," but this is an easier way to explain it.
- What promises did Jesus give to the disciples? (He would always be with them; He would give them the Holy Spirit to help them)
- Can you think of a time when you thought, "I could never do that! That's impossible!"
- What's one way you can push through thoughts like that in order to keep going?

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."

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, NIrV

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)

KEY QUESTION

What seems impossible to you?



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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?

<u>Contact us</u> 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

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Day 5

Did you follow through and share with someone yesterday about God's love? It's okay if you didn't—it's not always the easiest thing to do. But even if it seems impossible, it's not!

Think about these things that at one time people thought was impossible:

- 1) Walking on the moon
- 2) Air travel
- 3) The automobile
- 4) Computers (and now we carry them in our pockets!)

What is something that seems impossible to you right now? Maybe it's long division, doing a cartwheel, or making the swim team. Write it down here: ______.

Now, write down one thing you can do today to make that impossible thing seem a little more possible: _____

As you work toward doing the seemingly impossible, remember Jesus is with you. And one day, when you achieve what once seemed impossible, be sure and share with others how Jesus' power and presence carried you through!





Go to Studio252.tv and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show. (Click on Fun2Watch! then The So & So Show.)

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

Day 2

Read Matthew 28:16-20

As you read Matthew 28:16-20, underline the direct commands Jesus has for His disciples. If you were a disciple that day, do you think those commands would feel possible or impossible? _____

Now, read back through and circle the places where Jesus makes the seeming impossible, possible. (*Hint: It has to do with His power and His promise.*)

The task Jesus gave His disciples may have seemed impossible, but having Someone with all authority by their side no matter what meant they could keep going!

Day 3

What is something that you believe Jesus is calling you to do that seems impossible right now? Maybe it's like the disciples: to tell others about Jesus. Or maybe it's being nice to your little brother or sister, and some days it just doesn't seem possible. Fill in the blanks below and ask God to help you.

"Dear God,

I believe You want me to _____

but it feels very overwhelming and even impossible at times. I believe that Jesus has the power to help me do this, and He is with me always. Help me to take one step today by

_, remembering that Jesus is

always with me. In His Name, I pray.

Amen."

Day 4

The command that Jesus gave His disciples wasn't just for the 11 men who met Him at the mountain that day. Jesus told them to keep sharing until all nations know Who He is, and until then, we are also tasked with that mission: to share God's love and the fact that He sent Jesus to be our Savior with everyone. You can just tell a friend about how God's love makes you feel, or share a story about a time you felt Jesus with you, or do something kind for someone and explain that you love because God first loved you. There are so many ways to talk about Jesus. Think about who you will see and talk to today, and what you might be able to share with them about Jesus and His love, then follow through (and remember that Jesus is there with you)! MAY 2020

PRETEEN

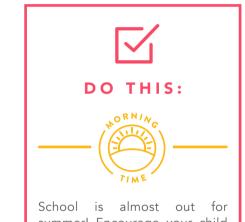


WEEK ONE

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



"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, NIrV



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!"

DETERMINATION: DECIDING IT'S WORTH IT TO FINISH WHAT YOU STARTED

5 QUICK WAYS TO HELP YOUR KIDS FINISH THE SCHOOL YEAR

By Jon Acuff

I bet I know what matters to you and your kid right now—getting to the finish line of the school year. May and June are the busiest/slowest months ever. You have more to do than ever before but with less motivation to do it. It's a terrible combination So how can you help your kid finish the school year? Here are five quick ways:

1. Paint a clear picture of the end.

Runners never stop running when they can see the finish line. The problem is that sometimes the summer feels far away when you're in the midst of final projects and tests. Do your best to help your kid see what they are working toward. Celebrate the summer you're headed to as a way to amplify some motivation.

2. Share a time you persevered.

Kids sometimes feel like they're the only ones who have to push through difficult things like the last month of school. Let them know they're not alone. Share a story from your own childhood or even a tale about a work project you had to knock out despite not being very motivated.

3. Make it fun.

Don't wait until the summer to add some fun to their goals. A big, final finish line is awesome, but so are some small finish lines along the way. Head out for ice cream when the science project is finished. Catch the latest movie after a final school recital. Build in small wins in the weeks leading up to the last day of school.

4. Break the work into smaller pieces.

Small wins are great and so are small goals. A final paper might be overwhelming, especially if the deadline is looming. Do your best to help your kid break that big project into something manageable. Rome wasn't built in a day, and neither was a perfectly scaled coat hanger model of the solar system.

5. Remind them of a time they won in the past.

When kids are stressed about the end of school, they often forget every other time they've worked hard to complete a goal. Sometimes, just reminding them of a time they've won before can provide a bit of boost. Remind them of last year's final projects that turned out great. Chances are, this isn't the first bit of adversity they've faced. Get them to take a quick look at the past to generate a bit of hope for the present.

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