

# TRINITY GRACE CHURCH EXPLORERS ACTIVITY GUIDE SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2020

#### INTRODUCTION

In week two, head to **Acts 2:1-41** and find out how the disciples would have the strength to keep going and tell the world about Jesus. As the disciples were gathered together, the Holy Spirit came upon them and empowered them to preach with boldness. Peter preached the message of his life, and over 3,000 people put their faith in Jesus.

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#### **BIBLE STORY**

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost — Acts 2: 1-41

#### **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
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God gives you what you need to I can trust God no matter what. keep going.



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

First, watch this video:

https://bit.ly/KidsUnstuckWeek2
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, NIrV

# LIFE APP

**DETERMINATION:** 

Deciding it's worth it to finish what you started

## BIBLE STORY

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41)

# **BOTTOM LINE**

God gives you what you need to keep going.

# PARENT CUE

## **ACTIVITY: Determination Is Delicious**

#### WHAT YOU NEED:

Cheerios, Froot Loops, or other circular cereal, or beads; as well as a pipe cleaner, string, plastic lacing cord, etc.

#### WHAT YOU DO:

Challenge your kid to thread the cereal (or beads) onto the pipe cleaner or string. The catch is, they can only use one hand! Encourage them to get creative with how they hold the pipe cleaner or string in place while adding the cereal (or beads). This will be a challenge, for sure, but let your kid know that you believe they're up to the task! When they finish, help them tie the string or pipe cleaner onto their wrist and wear it like a bracelet. If you used cereal, let your kid eat the fruits of their labor!

Engage them in a conversation about what it felt like to get frustrated with something, but then to be able to push through that frustration. Ask about some frustrating situations your family has recently experienced—and talk about how you can keep going instead of giving up.

#### Talk about the Bible story:

- o What was the task that Jesus gave to the disciples right before He was taken up to heaven? (Hint: See Matthew 28:16-20.) (To tell everyone about Him; to spread the word all over the world)
- o Why would the disciples need determination to spread the word about Jesus? (Because there are a lot of people in the world; they didn't speak the same language as everyone in other countries)
- o How did the Holy Spirit help Jesus' followers tell others about Him? (The Spirit made it so they could speak and everyone could understand, even if they didn't speak the same language already)
- o How does the Holy Spirit help us today? (When we believe in Jesus and what He did for us, God gives us the help of His Spirit; the Spirit helps us find the strength to keep going)

## **PRAYER**

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

"Dear God, when something is really hard and we want to give up, please give us what we need to keep going. We know that there's a lot we can't do on our own, but You want to help us have determination. When we get discouraged, please encourage us with Your Spirit. And when the people we love get discouraged, help us to know how to encourage them to keep going, too. Thank You that You've never and WILL never give up on us! In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

#### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Encourage your kids to share about a time they wanted to give up but they didn't. What helped them keep going?
- But the Father will send the Friend in my name to help you. The Friend is the Holy Spirit. He will teach you all things. He will remind you of everything I have said to you. (John 14:26, NIrV)
  - We often talk about how God is with us, but this verse really hammers it home. God is with us via His Holy Spirit; He sent something specific to help us.
  - How does it feel to know that God is with you in a specific and intentional way?
  - What can you do to remember this verse and let it encourage you when you get worn out?
- What current situation are you in right now that you need to access some determination for?

#### **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







## **Read Philippians 4:13**

DAY 1

When Paul wrote the words "I can do all things" was he thinking maybe he could . . . walk through walls or make a gazillion dollars?

**Not so fast, friends.** When it comes to following God, we have to remember that God has a plan and a purpose for each one of us. So when Paul said, "I can do ALL things," he meant all the things that line up with God's will for him. In other words, God won't ask something of you that He won't help you actually do.

Instead of thinking of this verse in superhero, super-human terms, think about the things God asks of you that are hard to do—like being kind, sharing what you have, or telling the truth. God will give you what you need, when you need it to follow His will for you. Because God gives you what you need to keep going.

Thank God for the promise that He will help you do **ALL the things** He's asked of you.

### Read 2 Corinthians 4:8-9

DAY 2

When Paul wrote these words, he had faced so many hard things just for telling others about Jesus. You can find just a few examples in 1 Corinthians 4:11-13. But Paul reminds us that while others might make us suffer, God never abandons us.

Have you ever seen one of those weighted wobble toys? They're inflated (like a big punching bag) with a weight on the bottom so that when you knock them down, they rise right back up. This is a picture of what Paul is talking about in today's verse. When it comes to following God, you might be knocked down, but you aren't knocked out. God will give you what you need to keep going because He promises He will never leave you.

If you have one of those wobble toys, say the words of the verse as you kick it around and watch it rise again. If you don't have one, ask an adult to help you blow up a balloon. Practice tapping it to keep it in the air as you repeat the words of the verse.

Thank God for the reminder that you can keep going with determination because He will never desert you.

## Read Psalm 118:6-8

DAY 3

Has someone ever let you down? Maybe the friend you thought was your "best friend" decided she didn't want to be friends anymore. Maybe someone said something about you that wasn't true or blamed you for something you didn't do to avoid getting trouble.

People let us down all the time because people aren't perfect. Everyone, including you, messes up. And sometimes people hurt us on accident or on purpose.

But God isn't like us. He is perfect, righteous, holy and completely good. We can put all our trust in Him. We can keep doing the right thing when we remember that God is with us and that He will give us what we need to keep going.

Set a timer for two minutes.

Jog in place as you repeat today's verse.

Can you repeat the verse as you jog without giving up?

Ask God to help you keep doing the right thing, no matter what others are doing because He is with you.

## Read Exodus 14:14

DAY 4

Ever tried the cookie challenge? With an adult's permission, grab a cookie or cracker from the kitchen. Look up at the ceiling, place the cookie on your forehead and then, using only the muscles in your face, move the cookie from your forehead to your mouth. Were you tempted to reach up and grab the cookie to put it in your mouth?

Being still is hard and it was really hard for the Israelites, God's chosen people. They were trapped between the raging Red Sea in front of them and Pharaoh's mighty army coming up fast behind. When Moses spoke these words, he had no idea what God was going to do. And then in one miraculous act, God parted the sea and the Israelites walked forward to freedom.

Being still was probably the last thing the Israelites wanted to do, but they chose to trust God. Sometimes determination requires us to be still, to listen to God and then move when He tells us to move. We need to stop and listen, instead of moving ahead in our own strength.

For a few moments, bow your head and just be quiet. Read today's verse and ask God to help you understand what it means to be still and let Him fight for you.

God gives you what you need to

#### **ELEMENTARY**



#### **WEEK TWO**

THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES AT PENTECOST • ACTS 2:1-41



#### SAY THIS:

GOD GIVES YOU WHAT YOU NEED TO KEEP GOING.



#### 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, NITV



#### DO THIS:



Q & A for kids: What is something you're doing now that you're having a hard time finishing?

Q&A for parents: What is something that you started and finished that changed your life? How would your life be different if you hadn't seen it through?

#### **DETERMINATION:**

**DECIDING IT'S WORTH IT TO FINISH WHAT YOU STARTED** 

#### **EVERY MOTHER IS A WOMAN OF VALOR**

By Sarah Anderson

"Thank you for making this dinner! But I think I like Dad's spaghetti better." It was so close to being a compliment, but I'll take it. My five-year-old was right. I put forth a good effort, but his dad is the better cook. Mothering can feel like this at times. Like you are just close enough to getting it, only you just didn't make the cut. You want to be the best. But these days you'll just settle for someone noticing your effort. "Thanks for trying, but . . . "

Mother's Day can feel like the day to celebrate the golden standard of mothering, leaving you to hope others don't get close enough to see how insecure parenting really makes you feel. I get it. But I'm starting to think on days like Mother's Day, or any day we feel inadequate, the last thing we should be doing is worrying over everything we're not.

Proverbs 31 is famous for the picture it paints of the ideal woman. It's today's domestic superhero. The wife of noble character it describes is nothing short of intimidating—getting up before dawn, making her family's clothes, and conducting lucrative business with her handiwork. It's a beautiful picture, but sounds so daunting.

The Hebrew words used to describe this elusive woman are eschet chayil, directly translating to "woman of valor." But interestingly, this doesn't imply something women should aim for. It asserts we've already accomplished it.

These words are celebratory, meant to be a blessing, spoken over the valorous women in our lives. It isn't, "Next week, work a little harder on making your own bread." It's, "You love our family well—you are a woman of valor! Eshet chayil!"

Sure, we may miss the mark sometimes. But there are a million things we have done and are doing that make us, that make you, worthy of the title, "woman of valor." For the clean dishes, homework help, warm hugs, listening ears—for the courage to get up each day, every day, and do it all again, Eshet chayil! You are a woman of valor.

This Mother's Day, instead of feeling inadequate or guilty for what you think you ought to be, but can't muster the strength to actually be, be encouraged. You are doing a great job. You are worth celebrating. And if no one else notices, your Heavenly Father does. He looks at you and says, "Eshet chayil!" Nice work, mamas.

For more blog posts and parenting resources, visit:

ParentCue.org

