

TRINITY GRACE CHURCH EXPLORERS ACTIVITY GUIDE SUNDAY, MAY 17, 2020

INTRODUCTION

In **Acts 3:1-4:21** we see that Jesus' mission isn't going to be that easy. Peter healed someone in the name of Jesus and caused quite a stir. Peter and John used this moment to share the message of Jesus. Soon though, the religious leaders arrested them and had them stand trial. Peter and John showed determination. They made it clear that no matter what happened to them, they would continue sharing Jesus with others.

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2	Activity Page & Discussion Questions	Family Play & Conversations Starters
4	Memory Verse Poster	Hang it up to learn the verse
5	God Time	Weekly Activities for Kids
7	The Parent Cue	Inspiration for Parents

BIBLE STORY

Peter and John are Taken to the Sanhedrin — Acts 3:1 - 4:21

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 gets tough.	l can trust God no matter what.



Use this guide to help your family learn how God can help us live with determination. First, watch this video: https://bit.ly/KidsUnstuckWeek3 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

Peter and John Are Taken to the Sanhedrin (Acts 3:1–4:21)

BOTTOM LINE

Keep going even when it gets tough.



Download the free Parent Cue App AVAILABLE FOR IOS AND ANDROID DEVICES

ACTIVITY: Signs of Encouragement

WHAT YOU NEED:

poster board, construction paper, or plain copy paper; craft supplies, such as markers, crayons, stickers, glue, glitter, etc.

WHAT YOU DO:

Talk with your kid about Peter and John from today's story. Remind your kid that Peter and John didn't give up on their mission, even though the religious leaders tried to stop them. Then lead your kid to make encouragement posters for Peter and John, similar to the kinds of signs spectators hold up at races and other sporting events. Prompt them to think about what might have helped Peter and John keep going. What words of encouragement do they think Peter and John would have wanted to hear or see as they went on trial for telling others about Jesus?

For some extra fun, get 2 cups of dry cornstarch and 1 cup of water. Pour both ingredients into a mixing bowl and let your kid mix it with their hands! As they play with the goo, talk about how we can sometimes feel "stuck" when something gets hard and we want to give up. But God wants us to keep going even when it gets tough!

Talk about the Bible story:

o What mission did Peter and John need determination to carry out? (Spreading the word about Jesus)

o What did they do on their way into the temple? (Through the power of the Holy Spirit, they healed a man who couldn't walk)

o How did the religious leaders respond to the man's healing? (They were angry; they arrested Peter and John)

o Did Peter and John stop preaching about Jesus after they were told not to? (No; they kept going and spreading the message of Jesus)

o What is something that is hard for you?

o What can you do to find the determination to keep going even when that thing gets really hard?

PRAYER

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

"God, we know that You can help us keep going when things get tough—just like You helped Peter and John. There are times when it's tough for us to finish what we've started. There are times when we get tired or frustrated, or we're confused about what to do next. Help us to remember that You are always with us! Help us to decide that it's worth it to finish what we've started—and give us the strength to keep going. Amen!"

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

— When was the last time you didn't finish something you started? What kept you from finishing?

 Sometimes we don't finish what we start because we simply get distracted. When do you get distracted or find yourself doing something else instead of the thing you're supposed to be doing?

- What can we do to help us when we want to give up?
- Who encourages you to show determination and finish what you start?

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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Read Psalm 23:3-4

Think about the last time you played a game of tag. At the beginning of the game, how did you feel? And what about at the end?

When it comes to following God, there is some good news. When we're tired of doing the right thing, God will guide us with new strength. And when things are really hard and it seems like everything is working against us, God promises to guide and comfort us.

Grab some sticky notes. Break today's verse up into 3- or 4-word phrases, writing each phrase on a sticky note. Stick them on the floor to create a path. Step on the notes as you read the verse aloud. Spend some time thanking God for leading you and giving you the determination you need to keep going even when it gets tough.

Read James 1:12

Wouldn't it be so awesome if every time you completed a big job or task, someone handed you a beautiful jewel covered crown?

That's not the kind of crown today's verse is talking about. The crown here is life, eternal life, forever with God. When you trust in Jesus as Savior, you can keep going with determination even when things get tough. Even when we're the only doing the right thing. God promises that one day we will be with Him forever in a perfect place. And that's way better than a crown that could be stolen or lost.

Grab a large piece of paper, draw the outline of a crown and cut it out. Write out the words of today's verse on one side and decorate the other. Bring the ends together and staple to secure.

Ask Jesus to help you follow Him so that you can keep going even when it gets tough!

DAY 2

DAY 1

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MAY 2020 ELEMENTARY



WEEK THREE

PETER AND JOHN ARE TAKEN TO THE SANHEDRIN • ACTS 3:1-4:21



DETERMINATION:

DECIDING IT'S WORTH IT TO FINISH WHAT YOU STARTED

HIGH HOPES

By Esther Gray

What do you want your family to look like or feel like 10-15 years from now?

As a parent, you get the extraordinary privilege, and incredible pressure, of creating your own family culture for your kids. When my husband and I started our parenting journey, we decided to make some informal goals for our family (these are not written anywhere, but they could be). We like to revisit them every time an important decision comes up in our lives.

We ask ourselves these three things:

What kind of parent do we want our kids to have? What kind of relationship do we want between our kids?

How do we want our family to react in times of stress?

These three things we knew we can work on! Three things, that even in the midst of the imperfection of everyday life, we can still learn and teach our kids. I wanted to create and maintain a culture for our family.

- We want to be the kind of parents who will listen, not judge, and not freak out at every little thing.
- We want to be the kind of parents who teach our boys how to deal with fear in a healthy way.

- We want to be parents who will love no matter WHAT.
- We want to be parents who do not "fight" in front of the kids.
- We want to be parents who express our love to each other at home.
- We want our kids to have the best relationships. Although we do not have complete control over this, we want to make sure we always encourage, love, and respect each other.
- And lastly, we try to help our kids to trust God no matter how hopeless a situation may seem.

These things we continue to work on for our family. We have realized that when we make decisions based on these things, we work towards a family that 10-15 years from now will love each other, will trust each other, and will trust God no matter what.

What are your goals for your family?

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For more blog posts and parenting resources, visit: **ParentCue.org**



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Read Galatians 6:9

Do you remember our definition for determination? Determination is deciding it's worth it to finish what you've started. That's easier said than done right? Because sometimes we get tired. Sometimes the task ahead seems impossibly big.

What if you took a cue from Anna in Frozen 2 and simply chose the next right thing? In the song, Anna sings about not looking too far ahead and making the next right choice.

Anna sang this song because she felt completely alone.

But when it comes to following God, we are never alone.

Maybe instead of thinking about the great big thing in front of you, you should start smaller instead. Just do the next right thing—the thing right in front of you. Ask God to remind you that He is with you every step of the way so that you can keep going, even when it's tough.

Read Philippians 3:13-14

Following Jesus is a bit like running a tough race. The twists and turns on the course a runner faces are like the hard things that happen to us. Just like a runner gets tired and has to push on, we have to keep going even when we'd rather give up.

With an adult's permission, challenge yourself to run around the block. If that feels fairly easy, challenge yourself to run around the block again.

Ask God to help you push forward with determination.

He will help you even when it gets tough.

DAY 3

DAY 4

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