



INTRODUCTION

In **Acts 6:8 7:60**, we find a somber moment in the life in the early church. Stephen, a church leader, was arrested and put on trial for teaching about Jesus. Even as he was being stoned to death, Stephen showed determination. He boldly shared how Jesus was the Savior God promised from the beginning. Stephen was willing to die for his faith because he believed that Jesus was truly the Son of God.

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5	God Time	Weekly Activities for Kids
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BIBLE STORY

Stephen — Acts 6:1 - 7:60

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 because God knows the end of the story.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

UNSTUCK

DON'T GIVE UP

Parent Cue • K3 • Week of May 24th

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

First, watch this video:

<https://bit.ly/KidsUnstuckWeek4>

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

Stephen

(Acts 6:1–7:60)

BOTTOM LINE

Keep going because God knows the end of the story.

ACTIVITY: The Stories of Old

WHAT YOU NEED:

Play-Doh® (Optional: paper and crayons or markers)

WHAT YOU DO:

Remind everyone how during today’s story, Stephen shared stories from Israel’s history and explained how they pointed to Jesus. Work together to write down as many stories from the Bible as you can remember. (For example: Noah, Joseph, Moses, crossing the Red Sea, David and Goliath, Daniel in the lions’ den, Jesus’ birth, Jesus with Mary and Martha, the good Samaritan, the story of the lost son, Jesus’ death and resurrection, etc.) Encourage each person to use the Play-Doh to shape a character or item—either from Stephen’s story or one of the other stories they remember. As you work, talk about what you’re making and what happened in that story. (Optional: if you don’t have Play-Doh, you can draw these characters or items instead.)

Talk about the Bible story:

- o **Who was Stephen?** (a leader in the church who got in trouble for talking about Jesus)
- o **What did Stephen do when he was in front of the religious leaders?** (He talked about how Jesus was the Savior God had promised.)
- o **How did the religious leaders respond to Stephen’s message?** (They became angry and decided to throw stones at him.)
- o **What did Stephen do right before he died?** (He asked God to forgive the leaders for what they were doing.)
- o **Stephen trusted that God knew the end of the story. How can we trust God when we face something hard?**
- o **What can we do to find the determination to keep going, even when we don’t know what will happen next?**

PRAYER

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

“Dear God, You are so awesome and amazing! You know *everything*—and that is SO cool! We know that **we can trust You no matter what**, because You know the end of the story. Please help us to remember that when we face difficult situations in life. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”



PARENT
CUE

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

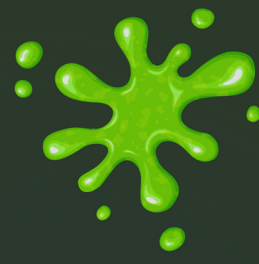
- Why do you think Stephen was determined to keep going even though people were getting very angry with him? What helped Stephen to keep going?
- How does knowing who God is and that He is always with us help us to keep going even when we are scared?
- When was a time you were scared but kept going?

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



Read 2 Chronicles 20:17

DAY 1

When you receive a new book, do you flip to the last page and read the ending first? Reading the ending would ruin the story! When it comes to following Jesus, knowing the end is a good thing. Why? Because God has already had a plan to make everything right. In the end, God wins!

That was true for God's people in 2 Chronicles. God told them not to worry, that the battle had already been won. The next morning, God's army took their battle positions but instead of charging toward the enemy, they begin to praise God. The opposing army became confused and turned on one another. God won the battle just as He said He would.

Sometimes we forget that we already know the end of the story. **We don't have to be afraid or lose hope.** God is with us and there isn't anything too big for Him. We can keep going, keep moving forward with determination because God knows the end of the story.

Ask God to help you remember that with Him on your side, you win! So you can keep going knowing He is with you.

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:13

DAY 2

What happens when you get tired? Are you cranky? Do you push through it or do you fall asleep the minute you sit down somewhere?

Everyone gets tired. Our bodies need rest. But the kind of tired this verse is talking about doesn't involve a pillow and a comfy blanket. This kind of tired happens when doing the right thing doesn't seem to be getting you anywhere. This tired happens when everyone else is doing the wrong thing or when it seems like no one is paying attention to your wise choices anyway.

Sometimes it just seems easier or even more fun to follow the crowd. That's when you have to tap into determination. Just like the end of a race is way more important than the beginning, we have to keep making choices that honor God and others. Because God sees every good deed, every kind word, every act of obedience. He knows when you're tired and when you ask for His help, He will give you the strength you need to keep making the wise choice.

Write out the words for today's verse on a card and place it near where you sleep. As you go to sleep tonight, ask God to help you keep doing the right thing with determination.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:57

DAY 3

When someone helps you, do you remember to say, **“Thank You!”**
Saying thank you is important.

One of the keys to determination—to sticking with something to the end—is thankfulness. Why? Because God has already done the most amazing thing ever by sending His only Son Jesus. Following God isn't just about doing the right thing so we can be seen as “good.” Following God and obeying Him is a big way we show Him that we love and trust Him. When we live the way God wants us to live, we are showing gratitude for all He's done for us by sending Jesus.

So let's practice! Think of one way you can thank God (besides just saying “Thank you”). You could write God a song or poem. You could thank God by choosing to do one thing tomorrow that He's asked you to do that's really hard for you. Let's thank God for the determination He gives us to keep going!

Read Ephesians 6:10

DAY 4

According to today's verse, who can make you strong?

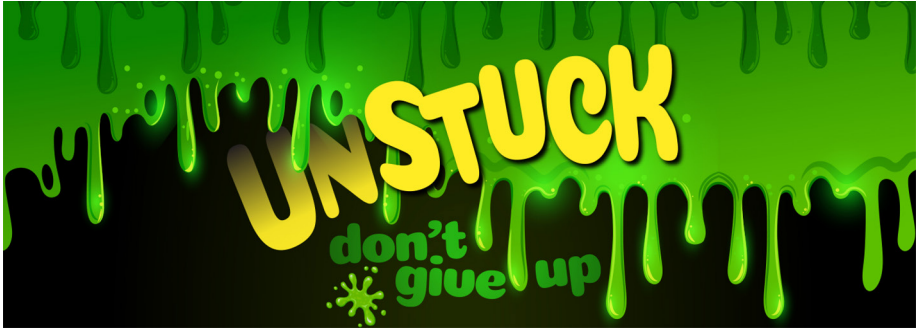
God is the one who can give you the strength you need to keep going. His power is unlimited. Remember, He's the one who created the entire world. He's the one who sent His only Son so that you could have a relationship with Him, forever.

You can depend on God—put all your trust and confidence in Him—because He loves you. There isn't anything you will face tomorrow or the next day or twenty years from now that is too big or too hard for God.

How many chairs are there around the table at your house? Grab that many index cards or scraps of paper. Write out the words of today's verse on each one, then tape them to the back of each chair. Every time you or a family member sits in one of those chairs this week, talk about how you can depend on God's mighty power just like you trust that chair to hold you up. Spend some time thanking God for His mighty power that helps you keep going with determination!



KEEP GOING
because God knows
the end of the story.



WEEK FOUR

STEPHEN • ACTS 6:1-7:60



SAY THIS:

KEEP GOING BECAUSE
GOD KNOWS THE END
OF THE STORY.



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:



Play a game by telling your kids to think of a scale from 1-10. One being the easiest and 10 the absolute hardest. Think of things that require determination and rate that on the scale. For example, learning a new instrument is a level 6 or not eating candy for a day is level 2. Afterwards, ask them what is something they are determined to finish by the end of the school year or summer.

DETERMINATION:

DECIDING IT'S WORTH IT TO FINISH WHAT YOU STARTED

DETERMINED PARENTS

By Carey Nieuwhof

One of the reasons it's so critical to help our kids live a determined life is that almost nothing happens on the first try. Fast forward twenty years and imagine your son or daughter grown up. Their character (including their determination) will directly impact what happens at work, at home, and in their families.

My friend Gary Reniecke shared some statistics from the world of sales that tell quite a story about determination. Studies have shown that:

- 48% of sales people never follow up with a prospect.
- 25% of sales people make a 2nd contact and stop.
- 12% of sales people make three contacts and stop.
- Only 10% of sales people make more than four contacts.*

Why does this matter? Well, consider this:

- 2% of sales are made on the 1st contact.
- 3% of sales are made on the 2nd contact.
- 5% of sales are made on the 3rd contact.
- 10% of sales are made on the 4th contact.
- 80% of sales are made on the 5th to 12th contact.

Whether our kids ever choose sales as a career is beside the point. The point is determination and persistence pays

off. And that shouldn't surprise us. Isn't it true that, even as adults, few of us learn the lessons we need to learn on the first go-round? Isn't it true most things don't happen without some level of determination? Mastering a skill, developing relationships, growing faith and character, achieving a dream . . .

Most great things take time. And without determination, we'll never see them realized. As a parent, you might need to become determined to teach values like determination. Rarely will a child pick up on what's important on first try, and even if they embrace it early, it's easy to get discouraged and follow a different course down the road. This isn't just true in instilling determination in your child—it's true of virtually everything that's important.

All of this to simply say this: Don't get discouraged if you didn't succeed this week, or this month. So next week, next month, and next year, chip away at determination and encourage your family to do the same. Down the road, the payoff stands to be significant.



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