



INTRODUCTION

We end the month in **Acts 8:26-40**, and discover a Jesus follower named Philip. An angel told Philip to travel toward the desert. On the way, Philip met an Ethiopian official who was reading the Jewish Scriptures. He had questions and asked Philip. Philip answered the man’s question and pointed him to Jesus. The official put his faith in Jesus and was baptized.

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BIBLE STORY

Philip and the Man from Ethiopia — Acts 8:26 - 40

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 you have questions.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

UNSTUCK

DON'T GIVE UP

Parent Cue • Preteen • Week of May 31st



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

First, watch this video:

<https://bit.ly/PreteenUnstuckWeek5>

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

Philip and the
Man from Ethiopia
(Acts 8:26-40)

KEY QUESTION

What questions do you have?

ACTIVITY: Questions, Questions, Questions!

WHAT YOU NEED:

20-30 index cards, markers or pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

Write each of the following questions on an index card, creating six Question Cards: Who? What? Where? When? How? Why? Shuffle the Question Cards and set them aside, face down. Then brainstorm together about all the different people in your family’s lives (examples: parents, grandparents, coach, teacher, siblings, friends, pastor, Small Group Leader, classmates). Write each person down on a different index card. Shuffle the People Cards and put them in a pile next to the Question Cards, face down. Take turns choosing a People Card and a Question Card.

For each combination of cards, the person who picked the cards gets to come up with a question (who, what, where, when how, or why) that they could ask the person listed on the People Card. Each time you finish using a Question Card, put it back at the bottom of the pile so you don’t run out. When you’ve gone through the entire stack of People Cards, use the remaining index cards to let everyone write down a question they have for God, or about God. As you have time, go through these cards and discuss them as a family.

Parent Note: The goal of this activity is not to answer the questions. Guide the conversation to discuss what happens when we don’t get answers; what can we do? This activity provides an opportunity to discuss the fact that sometimes our questions can be answered right away, but there are times we have to wait for an answer. In fact, sometimes our questions don’t get answered at all. But it’s important to remember to keep going. Whenever you have a question, ask it—and find someone who can help you find an answer.

Talk about the Bible story:

- o The Ethiopian official didn’t understand what he was reading, so what did he do? (he asked Philip what the Scripture meant)
- o What important question did the Ethiopian official ask? (He asked who Isaiah was talking about in Isaiah 53:7-8)
- o What was Philip’s response to the official’s question? (Philip talked about the good news of Jesus)
- o Give an example from the story of how the Ethiopian official showed determination. (By reading Scripture and asking questions, the Ethiopian showed determination to learn about God)
- o Give an example of how Philip showed determination. (Philip took the time to sit with the official and answer his questions; even though Philip didn’t know why he had to leave Jerusalem, he showed determination to listen to God)
- o Why is it important to ask questions?
- o What happens if we don’t understand and we don’t ask questions?
- o When is it hard to ask questions?

PRAYER

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

“God, You know everything . . . and it’s so cool that we can ask You ANYTHING! Help us show determination and keep going even when we have questions. God, You have given us lots of people who we can turn to when we have questions. If there’s something we don’t understand, help us have the courage to ask—just like the Ethiopian official did in the story. We love You, and we pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen.”



PARENT
CUE

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

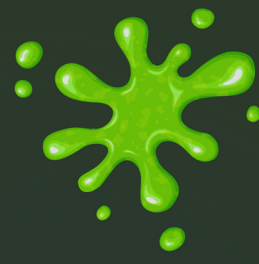
- Why is it important to ask questions?
- What happens if we don't understand and we don't ask questions?
- When is it hard to ask questions?
- Are there questions that have no answers? Encourage your kids to think of examples.

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



Day 5

Now that you've practiced spending the day asking questions, you're going to work on embracing question-asking with your life. Grab a journal or a few sheets of paper, and make these headings:

Questions about God

Questions about life

Questions about my future

Questions about schoolwork

Questions about my passions/interests

Any time that you're tempted to quit something because you don't understand, come back to your journal and write your question down. Then dig deeper and see if you can find the answer. If you can, come back and write down the answer. If you can't, keep going anyway, and come back and write down how your determination to keep going even when you didn't have all the answers paid off.

Make "asking questions but going ahead anyway without all the answers" a practice in your life, and one day you'll look up and see you finished what you started and learned a whole lot along the way!

**What questions
do you have?**



Day 1

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 Acts 8:26-40

As you read Acts 8:26-40, underline all of the questions the Ethiopian man has.

Notice even his last question:

What can stop me from being baptized?

This isn't really even a question—it's more of what we might call a rhetorical question, a question for effect rather than a question that really needs answering.

Asking questions is not a bad thing—in fact, it's a good thing! When we stop asking questions, we often stop learning. And learning about God and His Story is always a great thing!

Day 3

Did you know that God is okay with your questions? In fact, He welcomes them! Why? Because asking questions is a great way to get to know someone, and when we ask God questions about His character, His love, His plan for our lives, we are opening the door to get to know Him better! Fill in the blanks of the prayer below, and then use your answers in a prayer to God.

One thing I love about God: _____

One thing I don't understand about God: _____

One thing I wish I knew about God: _____

One thing I wish I knew about God's plan for me: _____

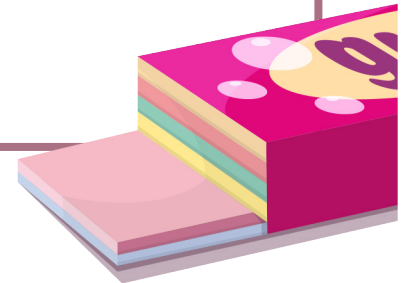
One thing I know about God that helps me know I can trust Him: _____

End your prayer by thanking God for welcoming your questions and wanting to have a deeper relationship with you!

Day 4

Today, you might annoy people around you a little. But that's okay. Because for one day, you're going to aim to ask as many questions as you can. Don't ask annoying ones (like the constant "why?"), or things that you already know the answer to, but anytime you come across anything you don't understand, ask. Intentionally look for things around you that don't make sense, or that you don't know how they work, and ask someone who knows.

At the end of the day, share all the information you learned with a parent. Talk about how you looked at things differently when you were truly trying to understand. Did you ever want to give up on something because you didn't understand it? **How did it feel to keep going anyway?**



UNSTUCK

DON'T GIVE UP

WEEK FIVE

PHILIP AND THE MAN FROM ETHIOPIA • ACTS 8:26-40



ASK THIS:

WHAT QUESTIONS
DO YOU HAVE?



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, NIrV



DO THIS:



Sometimes life can feel pretty confusing. The awesome thing is that God knows everything, and He wants to give you what you need to keep going, whether it's wisdom for a decision or an answer to a tough question. He will send the answers we need at the right time. Pray that God would give you peace and the power to keep going, even when you have a lot of questions.

DETERMINATION:

DECIDING IT'S WORTH IT TO FINISH WHAT YOU STARTED

CELEBRATE YOUR FAMILY WINS

By Holly Crawshaw

You and your family have made it to the end of another school year. Regardless of your school situation, it feels like an achievement for all of you, doesn't it?

It's a big deal! And it's definitely something worth celebrating. Before you fully dive into summer, get a date on the calendar to gather your family together to talk about all the awesome things that happened this school year.

Below are some suggestions for what this celebration could look like:

- Make the celebration a little more enticing by offering everyone's favorite snack. Cupcakes usually draw a crowd!
- Consider adding some decorations if you're celebrating at home—a few streamers, some noise makers, and if you're extra brave, some silly string.
- Prepare some fun awards beforehand. You can even print out certificates or buy objects that represent the award. For example, "The No Cavities Award" could get a new toothbrush. Or the "New Bike Rider Award" could get a bike horn.
- Start the celebration with your fun awards. Take time to share funny stories that go with the awards. End by taking a family selfie with your awards.
- Talk about your family wins by asking and answering the following questions.
 - What's one new thing you learned?
 - What's one new skill you gained?
 - What's an area you improved in?
 - What's one way you grew in character?
 - What's one way you grew in your faith?
 - What's one thing you're really proud of from this school year?
 - What's your favorite friend-related memory?
 - What's your favorite family-related memory?
 - What are some things we could do next school year to make it even better than this last one?

Record some of the family-related answers in a creative way. Maybe on a chalkboard, a whiteboard, poster, cardstock—whatever you have on-hand. Post this in a central location so you can celebrate the wins all summer long.

After you're finished with your questions, give each family member a sincere compliment, telling them some of the wins you've noticed. End your time together by spending a few minutes in prayer, thanking God for the past year, and praying for an awesome, safe, and connected summer.



For more blog posts and parenting resources, visit:

ParentCue.org

Keep track of the answers. You may want them later.

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