

City LG - October 27-28, 2018

Bible Story: Don't Look Back (Israelites long for Egypt) • *Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7*

Bottom Line: Don't miss out on what you have now.

Memory Verse: "Then he said to them, 'Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has.'" *Luke 12:15 (NirV)*

CG: 2-minute Countdown Video

CG: Welcome Video

While Welcome Video is playing, Large Group Leader/Worship Leader enthusiastically greets children and invites them to stand for Worship.

WORSHIP: "We Are Royals" and "Every Beat"

(Worship Leader Prays)

"Hi, everyone! It's our last week of our "More or Less" Game Show here in The City, so I thought we should finish strong with another really fun game to start our time together. Who wants to play a game?!?!"

GAME: Protect Your Pins!

Supplies Needed: Bowling Pins (at least 12 per campus) and Soft Playground Balls (10 per Campus)

How to Play:

- Divide your room into 2 even teams. Each team will defend one side of the room.
- Hand out even amount of Bowling Pins to Small Group Leaders to place **randomly** within their half of the room.
 - *NOTE: Pins cannot be propped up against the wall, and must be within the reasonable playing area.*
- Place playground balls at the center of the room.
- On your "Go!", kids will work together, as a team, to try and knock down the opposite side's pins.
 - Once a pin is knocked over, it is out. No matter how it happened.
 - Kids can protect their pins, but they cannot simply stand or sit down in front of them.
- The team with the most pins standing at the end of the countdown (90-Second Countdown Video), wins.
- Play a few rounds as time allows.

CG: 90-Second Countdown Video

"That was so much fun! Well done everyone! Just like you had to work as a team to protect your pins, our story today is about protecting what we have now, and not looking back. You had a

choice of whether to protect your pins, or try to go after the other team's pins. Sometimes in life, we can try to gain more and more stuff, without taking care of what we have now. Our story starts at a time when God's people had been living as slaves in Egypt. They had been slaves for HUNDREDS of years! And it was definitely NOT a fun way to live. They had to work SO hard. Their bodies were always exhausted. They had no freedom; they couldn't do what they wanted. For years, they cried out to God, asking Him to rescue them. Finally, God answered. He sent Moses and Aaron to help lead them out of slavery. God had heard their prayers and answered them! Let's take a look!"

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 5:18)

"God's people were thrilled to be free from slavery. They didn't have to work hard all day, every day for the Egyptians and, at first, they were excited. But God didn't take them straight to paradise. He led them into the desert first. All along the way, God gave His people what they needed. He rescued them and protected them from their enemies. He gave them delicious food to eat, and He gave them fresh, clean water to drink. He gave them each of those things exactly when they needed them.

"But the people couldn't see that. They were so focused on wanting what they used to have that they missed out on all of the good things God was giving them along the way. All they had to do was trust God and believe that He would take care of them. But they forgot to trust. They forgot to be content. They missed out on the amazing things God was doing right before their eyes!

"Remember this.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] "Don't miss out on what you have now.

"It's really easy for us to focus on what we used to have or maybe what we WANT to have someday. But God is doing something amazing in our lives right now, and we don't want to miss it! Contentment isn't always easy, is it? We look at the Israelites and think, 'Why did they whine and complain so much? Why in the world would they want to go back to Egypt? Why were they so mean to Moses? Couldn't they see what God was doing for them along the way?'

"But if we're not careful, we can do the same thing. We can start to focus on how things USED to be or how we WISH they could be. But when we do that, we miss out on the joy of what we have right now.

"That's why you've got to choose to be content. You've got to pay attention.

"So when you find yourself missing the friends who were in your class last year or you just can't wait for all the fun you're planning for Christmas break, pray and ask God to help you to see what's great about right now! Focus on what you DO have. Remember that no matter what, God is always with you. He loves you! He's doing something good in your life right now. The question is: Will you take the time to see it? Let's pray, take up our offering and get ready for Small Group!"

Pray: "God, You are so good to us! Thank you for the way You've always taken care of us. Thank You for all that You're doing in our lives right now. Please help us to trust You. Please help us to pay attention to what You're doing now instead of getting distracted by things in our

past or in our future. We love You and we pray in Jesus' name, amen."

"You'll get to talk some more about our topic today in your small groups. Before we head there, let's worship God with our offering!"

Offering Time:

"Offering time is a chance for us to bring our money to God, so he can use it to make somebody else's life better. For us, here in the City, we give our offering to an organization called 'Missions of Hope' to help kids in Kenya have food, clothes, and learn about God's love for them."

Here at (your Campus name), we bring our offering to help support:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

"(Your Campus Child) lives in Nairobi, Kenya. Here's some fun facts about Nairobi!"

CG: Nairobi Facts JPEG

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here in our offering container while our Offering Video plays! (*show offering container*)."

CG: Offering Video (Runtime: 1:30)

"Thank you for your kindness and generosity City! Have fun in Small Groups!"

Dismiss kids to their small groups.