

City LG - October 6-7, 2018

Bible Story: That's All Right (Paul in Prison) • *Philippians 4:11b-13*

Bottom Line: God can help you be okay no matter what.

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: "At the Top of My Lungs" and "Hands Toward Heaven"

(Worship Leader Prays)

CG: Baptism Class Promo JPEG

Promo: "If you have ever wanted to be baptized, wondered what it means, or how to take that next step in your friendship with Jesus, Baptism Class is for you! Our next class is October 14th, right here at (your campus)! Talk to your parent/guardian about signing up today."

"Hi, everyone! Welcome to The City, and our Game Show called "More or Less"! In this Game Show, we will learn all about a new topic: Contentment."

CG: Contentment Slide

"Here's what we are saying that contentment is, **contentment is deciding to be okay with what you have.**

"There was a man named Paul in the Bible (*hold up Bible*) who wrote some really great things about learning to be content. He wrote these things down in a letter, and that letter became part of the New Testament in our Bible. Here's Philippians chapter 4, verses 11-13.

Open the Bible to Philippians 4:11b-13 (NIRV) and read.

"I have learned to be content no matter what happens to me. I know what it's like not to have what I need. I also know what it's like to have more than I need. I have learned the secret of being content no matter what happens. I am content whether I am well fed or hungry. I am content whether I have more than enough or not enough. I can do everything by the power of Christ. He gives me strength.

"Paul is saying that I can do ANYTHING because Jesus gives me strength! Paul was talking about learning how to be content. Let me ask you a question: What do you think Paul was doing when he wrote that verse?" (*allow response*)

"Okay, let's take a look at what was REALLY happening when Paul wrote those words..."

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime:

“Wow! No matter what, and no matter where, Paul was content! That’s what Paul was talking about when he wrote these verses. (*Hold up Bible.*) In every kind of situation, he could still find a way to be content because Jesus gave him the strength to be okay.

“Let me read those verses for us one more time...”

Open the Bible to Philippians 4:11b-13 (NirV) and read (with enthusiasm!).

“I have learned to be content no matter what happens to me. I know what it’s like not to have what I need. I also know what it’s like to have more than I need. I have learned the secret of being content no matter what happens. I am content whether I am well fed or hungry. I am content whether I have more than enough or not enough. I can do everything by the power of Christ. He gives me strength” (NirV).

“If God could help Paul learn to be content when he was stuck in a house like a prisoner, then God can definitely help us to be content when things don’t go our way. Here’s our Bottom Line for today...”

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “God can help you be okay no matter what.

“When things are good or when things aren’t so good—even if you get a bad grade on your spelling test or you find out your friend is moving away—**[Bottom Line] God can help you be okay no matter what.**

“Will you say that with me?”

KIDS: [Bottom Line] “God can help you be okay no matter what.”

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

“You know, when things go wrong, being content probably isn’t the first thing we think of. When you lose your favorite action figure or stuffed animal, you probably don’t think to yourself, ‘It’s okay. I’ve got another one.’ Your first thought is probably that you’re really sad about the one you lost.

“That’s why you have to make the choice to be content. You have to decide to be okay with what you have. Remember what Paul said? *I have LEARNED to be content no matter what happens to me (Philippians 4:11b NirV; emphasis added).* It wasn’t like he was thinking, ‘Yay! I’m stuck as a prisoner in this house even though I didn’t do anything wrong!’ Of course he wanted to be free. But even though he was in a not-so-great situation, he chose to focus on what he knew was true. He found a way to be okay. Paul was able to do it because of the strength that comes from knowing Jesus. The Holy Spirit was living inside him, helping him to choose to be okay.”

“God is always there. **[Basic Truth] You can trust Him no matter what.** He can help you to be okay no matter what you might face in life. Before we take up offering, and head to Small Groups, let’s pray and thank Him for always being there for us.”

PRAY: “God, thank You for loving us. Thank You for this great reminder that You can help us to be okay in any situation. Sometimes it’s hard for us to be content when things don’t go our way. Help us to remember to pray and talk to You. Help us to trust You and remember that You’re always with us—

when things are good and when things are tough, too. Please give us Your strength so we can learn to be okay no matter what. We love You, and we pray in Jesus' name, amen.”

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

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here in our brand new offering container! *(show offering container).*”

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

Dismiss kids to their small groups.