

City SG - 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)*

1. Just For Fun with Review Questions

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Encourage your few to sit in a circle so they can play a special version of "Rock, Paper, Scissors."
- Explain that each time one of them gets chosen they must answer a review question.
- If they get the question correct, they can pick someone in their circle to play "Rock, Paper, Scissors" against. Whoever wins, stays in the game. Eliminated players can raise their hands to answer review questions, for a chance to get back in the game.
- If they get the question wrong, simply encourage their answer with acknowledgment, and ask for another answer from another child.
- Continue as time and interest allow and until all of the review questions have been answered.

Review questions:

- If you can't find anyone to sit with at lunch during school, how can you make it okay? (*Allow them to provide their own idea.*)
- Where was Paul when he wrote Philippians? (*In chains, under house arrest*)
- If you practiced really hard but still didn't win your game, how can you make it okay? (*Allow them to provide their own idea.*)
- What were some other horrible events that happened to Paul besides being in chains? (*Hunger, cold, beatings, shipwrecked*)
- If your parents say that you can't stay over at your friend's house, but everyone else gets to, how can you make it okay? (*Allow them to provide their own idea.*)
- Paul didn't say contentment came easy to him. How did he get to be content? (*He learned it*)
- If you got a bad grade on a test and you really don't want to show your parents, how can you make it okay? (*Allow them to provide their own idea.*)
- How did Paul say we could learn to be content? (*By the power of Christ. He gives him strength.*)
- How did Paul make things okay even though he was in prison? (*He used his time to tell people about God.*)

What You Say:

"You all did a pretty amazing job paying attention to our story today! Can you believe that Paul still chose to be content after all he was going through? I know things don't always go our way or turn out how we want them to, but it's important to remember that **[Bottom Line] God can help you be okay no matter what** even when things don't go your way." **[Make It Personal] (Share a personal story from a time things were not going great for you, yet you chose to be content/make things okay.)**

2. No Matter What

What You Need: “No Matter What” Activity Pages, markers

What You Do:

- Provide each kid with an activity page and a pen or marker.
- Encourage your kids to identify what looks wrong in the pictures.
- Prompt them by asking: “What are some things that are wrong with this picture?”
- Provide them time to search and respond.
- Encourage your few to fix the pictures by drawing or writing what they think could make things better.
- Give them a chance to share what they’re fixing.
- Ask: “What’s something that makes you feel disappointed when it happens?”

What You Say:

“When everything is picture perfect, it’s easy to be content. It’s easy to put a smile on because everything IS okay. But, when we look around and notice that things are missing or maybe life isn’t looking so perfect, it can be hard to trust that everything will be okay in the end. Thankfully, we have a God that we can trust and depend on. **[Bottom Line] God can help you be okay no matter what.** He may not always work things out the way we want Him to, or fix our picture to look exactly how we were thinking, but He can help us be okay with whatever happens. That is pretty awesome!”

3. More to Life

What You Need: “No Matter What” Activity Pages from previous activity, pens/markers, Bibles

What You Do:

- Help kids find Luke 12:15 in their Bibles.
- Read the verse together as a group several times.

Finding verses with 1st graders?: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (*Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.*) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Proverbs in the list under “New Testament.” When the kids find Luke, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Luke. Help the kids find the page. When they find Luke, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 12. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 15 in chapter 12.

- Instruct kids to write out the verse at the bottom of their “No Matter What” Activity Pages.
- Discuss each scenario on the page by asking the question, “How could we learn to be okay even if everything didn’t get fixed like it did through what you drew/wrote?”
- Continue until each scenario has been talked through.
- Remind your few of the personal examples that were brought up in the “No Matter What” activity and ask, “How could you learn to be okay when _____ happens?” (*Insert a couple examples that were shared earlier.*)

What You Say:

“Our verse today is telling us that our life will not automatically be great by having more things or changing what we think could be better! Thankfully, we get to worship a God who cares about our needs so we can always talk to Him about what’s going on in our world. Aren’t you glad that **[Bottom Line] God can help you be okay no matter what?**”

4. More or Less?

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Explain that kids will be comparing numbers of things they see in the room.
- You'll give them two items, and they will figure out which has more and which has less. (You may need to explain that more means which item has a higher number and less means which has the lower number.)
- Guide them to compare the following items. They can be free to move around your space if needed.
 - Boys vs. girls
 - Eyes vs. noses
 - Windows vs. doors
 - Tie-on shoes vs. slip-on shoes
 - Kids vs. SGLs
 - Skirts vs. pants
 - Circles vs. squares (Encourage them to look at things such as the carpet/tile, light fixtures, curtains, clothing, supplies, etc.)
 - Anything else that you could compare in your space

What You Say:

"This month we're going to be learning a lot about more and less, and what it means to be content. Great job everyone!"

5. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask your few to think about their examples from earlier of things that make them feel disappointed.
- Encourage them to praise God for helping us be okay when those things happen.
- Give kids a moment to pray silently and then close your time together with a prayer of your own.

What You Say:

"Dear God, I know I can sometimes be focused on the things I want more of, or even the things I believe I need. Today I want to worship you for all that You have given us. I pray that you help me remember that **[Bottom Line] God can help you be okay no matter what.** Help me to remember that my life is all about You and not the things I have. In Jesus' name, amen."

HAND OUT "GOD TIME" SHEETS TO EACH STUDENT BEFORE DISMISSING

IF CHILDREN BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE A PRIZE!