

Alley SG - May 25-26, 2019

Bible Story: Learning to Fly (Fix Your Eyes on Jesus) • Hebrews 12:2-3

Bottom Line: Keep going because of what Jesus did for you.

Key Question: What can help you focus on Jesus?

Memory Verse: Those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:31 NIV)

1. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Index cards, markers

What You Do:

- **Give** kids index cards and markers.
- **Give** kids time to write on two index cards a word describing Jesus. (One word on each card.)
- When everyone is done, **group** similar answers together.
- **Discuss** the words.
 - What word was the most common description of Jesus?
 - Select a couple of words and ask why do you think this word describes Jesus.
- Next, **encourage** them to write on two index cards something Jesus has done for them.
- **Discuss** the answers.
 - Were answers similar? If so, why do you think that is?
 - Were answers different? If so, why do you think that is?

2. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: Bibles

What You Do:

- **Direct** kids to stand up.
- **Challenge** them to stand on one foot and to draw their other foot to rest on their calf. Be sure kids don't put their foot on their knee. **Instruct** them to rest their foot above or below their knee.
- **Allow** kids time to try the pose.
- **Explain** they will be more stable if they fix their gaze on a non-moving object or on the ground in front of them.
- As kids get their balance, **challenge** them to close one eye. Challenge them to switch and close the other eye. Challenge them to close both eyes.
- **Ask:** What did you notice as you closed your eyes? What helped to stay balanced on one foot?
- **Read** Hebrew 12:2-3.
- **Ask:**
 - What does it mean to "fix your eyes on Jesus"? (*to be focused on Him, to think about Him, to have your actions, your thoughts, your emotions show others how you love and trust Him*)
 - What happened when you lost focus while trying the pose? (*you fell, lost your balance*)
 - What can happen if you lose your focus on Jesus?
 - What are things you can do to fix your eyes on Jesus? (*read the Bible, pray or talk to Him, listen to music that reminds you of Him, talk about Him with your family and friends*)

3. Discussion Questions

- Why is it worth it to keep going even when things are hard?
- What could be the benefits of not giving up? What could be the downfalls of giving up?
- What are things you can do to focus on Jesus?
- How can perseverance help point people to Jesus?

4. Verse to Take with You

What You Need: Bible, dice (10 per group), note card (3 per student), pens, verses page (1 per group)

What You Do:

- **Explain** that one way to fix our eyes on Jesus is to learn what the Bible says about Him.
- **Give** each kid a dice, note cards, pen, and a Bible.
- **Give** kids a verse to look up. There are several verses for you to choose from on the “Verses” sheet.
- **Read** the verse out loud.
- **Explain** kids will race to write out the verse.
 - When you say “go,” the race begins.
 - Kids **roll** their dice.
 - The number on the dice is the number of words in the verse they can write on their card. For example, if they roll a “two,” they write two words on their card and roll again.
 - Once a kid has written down all the words of the verse, including the reference, he stands up and reads the verse out loud to be sure it’s correct.
 - **Encourage** the rest of the group to keep going and finish writing the verse on their card.
 - **Repeat** the activity for a couple of verses. Tell kids to use a new card for each verse. At the end of the activity, kids will have a verse card to take home with them.
- **Discuss** the verses. Potential discussion questions could be:
 - What verses do you find helpful?
 - How could knowing these verses help you stay focused on Jesus?
 - How can these verses remind you not to give up?

5. Memory Verse Scramble

What You Need: Bibles, Memory Verse cards from Week 1 (3 sets per group)

What You Do:

- Guide kids to look up Isaiah 40:31.
- Say the verse together several times.
- Divide your group into 2 or 3 teams (depending on the size of your group)
- Give each team a set of “Memory Verse Scramble” pages.
- Tell the kids to spread the sheets out, face down, and scramble them up on the floor.
- On your “Go!” the first team to put the verse in order wins.
 - Have a team member read the verse to you to complete the round.
 - Play a few rounds as time allows.

BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT “COMMUNION CALL”

HAND OUT “GOD TIME” CARDS TO EACH STUDENT BEFORE DISMISSING AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO BEGIN WORKING ON THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY

IF STUDENTS BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE \$3 IN ALLEY CASH!