

Alley SG - August 24-25, 2019

Bible Story: Live to Tell (Abraham to Isaac) • *Genesis 12-21*

Bottom Line: Trust and obey even if you don't know how it will work out.

Key Question: What do you think your leaders know that you don't?

Memory Verse: "And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love." 2 John 6 (NIV)

1. Just for Fun

What You Need: No Supplies Needed

What You Do:

- **Pair up**—girls with girls and boys with boys.
- **Invite** partners to do an "anti-gravity test."
- **Instruct** the first partner to place her arms straight down at her sides.
- **Direct** the second partner to stand behind her.
- **Explain** that the first partner will try as hard as she can to push her arms up while the second partners tries as hard as she can to hold them down.
- **Hold** this position for one minute.
- **When time is up**, ask the second partner to let go and the first partner to relax her arms. If done correctly, her arms will float up in the air by themselves.
- **Switch** places and try again.

2. Get Your Head in the Game

What You Need: "Paper Airplane Designs" Page (1 per group), Paper (1 per student)

What You Do:

- **Set out** paper.
- **Invite** students to design paper airplanes.
- **Provide** instructions and design ideas from the "Paper Airplane Designs" Page for those who are not familiar with folding a sheet of paper to make it fly.
- **Race** the airplanes to test the best design for distance, height, and the straightest flight pattern.

What You Say:

"Paper airplanes tend to have a mind of their own. Even when you aim and launch them as straight as you can, they suddenly take off in a different direction than you planned. That's how life goes sometimes, too. We think we know the plan, but then something changes. At the time—or sometimes never—we don't understand why things happen the way they do. That's the story of the man we learned about today. Things didn't go the way he thought they would, but in the end, it was just what God wanted."

3. Discussion Questions

Ask:

- What do you think your leaders know that you don't?
- Why does it matter if our leaders know stuff that we don't know? How does that affect us?
- Are you still obeying if you do what's asked of you but with a bad attitude? Explain.
- What do you do when a leader or other adult tells you to do something and you're not sure it's the right thing to do?
- If we genuinely believe God knows the future, how should that affect our obedience?

4. Verse to Take with You

What You Need: Faith verse pages (set of 3 per group, per service), notecards (1 per student), pens (campus supplies)

What You Do:

- **Form** groups of three students.
- **Give** each person a different faith verse page, a notecard, pen, and scissors.
- **Without** teammates seeing one another's verses, have them write on one side of a notecard a question they have about their verse. On the other side, have them write a statement about what they think the verse means.
- **Ask** them to cut their verse page into six pieces like a jigsaw puzzle then mix up the pieces.
- **Invite** players on each team to exchange puzzles with one another then assemble them to discover what the verse says.
- **Challenge** teams to discuss the verses by having each person read from his notecard the statement he wrote about the verse then ask his team to answer the question on the back.
- **Bring** teams together and let them share what they discovered from each verse. Let them ask any questions they weren't able to answer within their team.
- **Reflect back** on the puzzle activity by saying, "Like the puzzles you assembled without first knowing what the verses said, there will be many times in your life when you won't know how a situation will look in the end until it ends."
- **Ask:**
 - How does your faith and trust in God show up in obedience?
 - Do you think it's possible to obey God if you don't trust Him? Why or why not?
 - If you disobey more than you obey, how might that also be a faith problem?

What You Say:

"We don't get to choose everything that happens, but we do get to choose whether we'll respond by being obedient. You can put your faith to work this week and follow God even when you're feeling afraid or unsure. Put faith and obedience to work and show that you trust God with whatever happens next."

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Pray with the kids, letting a few volunteers pray aloud for the group if they're comfortable doing so.
- Focus on trusting God no matter what and asking God's help to trust the leaders He has put in our lives.
- Pray for help in obeying those who lead us even when we don't know how it will work out.

What You Say:

"Dear God, we know that You sometimes ask us to do things without us knowing exactly what is going to happen. Help us trust You this week. We ask this in Jesus' name, amen."

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!