

Alley SG – July 20-21, 2019

Bible Story: This One's for the Children (Jesus and the Little Children) • *Mark 10:13-16*
(supporting: *Mark 9:36-37*)

Bottom Line: God can give you the strength to be gentle.

Key Question: Why is it sometimes hard to be gentle?

Memory Verse: “*being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.*” *Philippians 1:6, NIV*

1. Just for Fun

What You Need: Water bottle (1 per group), deck of cards (1 per group)

What You Do:

- **Place** a stack of cards on a bottle.
- **Challenge** kids to gently blow the cards off the bottle, leaving only the bottom card on the bottle.
- **Let** them experiment with the different forces with which they blow the cards.

2. Get Your Head in the Game

What You Need: Bottles of bubbles (1 per couple of students), white floor tape & paper towels (campus supplies)

What You Do:

- **Divide** the group into teams of two or three.
- **Give** each team a bottle of bubbles and a wand.
- **Tell** teams to select one kid to be the bubble blower.
- Using masking tape, **establish** a starting line for the bubble blowers to stand on and **create** a finish line about two feet away from the bubble blowers.
- **Explain** the game to the group. To play:
 - The “bubble blowers” blow bubbles for their teams.
 - Team members gently blow the bubbles in the air towards the finish line.
 - Teams score a point for each bubble that crosses the finish line.
 - Teams have 60 seconds to see how many bubbles they can gently blow across the finish line.
 - The team with the most bubble crossings wins.
 - You will be the official bubble counter. **Position** yourself at the finish line with paper and pencil to keep a running tally of the bubble crossings. If you have more than two teams, you may want to have teams take turns playing so you can keep track of all the bubbles!

What You Say:

“Bubbles are delicate things. If you didn’t handle them gently, they popped before they reached the finish line. **[Transition]** In Large Group today, we heard about what else we need to treat with gentleness; other people.”

3. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Spoons (1 per student, per service), bottle of bubbles (1 per group)

What You Do:

- **Give** each kid a spoon.
- **Blow** a bunch of bubbles and **challenge** kids to catch a bubble on the back of their spoons.
- **Ask:** What did you have to do to catch the bubbles? How did you have to move? What did you focus on?
- **Gather** kids in a circle.
- **Ask** kids to finish the sentence: GENTLENESS IS . . .
- **Ask:**
 - What did you have to think about as you were trying to catch the bubbles?
 - How would you want someone to speak to you if you just messed up on a test?
 - If you were sad and upset?
- **Discuss** the answers. Consider asking:
 - What can happen when you treat others with gentleness? How do you think it makes someone feel when he or she is treated with gentleness? *(If necessary, prompt kids by sharing a time of when someone treated you gently and how you felt or responded.)*
 - What is the opposite of gentleness? What can happen when you aren't gentle with others?
 - Why is it sometimes hard to be gentle?

4. Memory Verse Scramble

What You Need: Bibles, Memory Verse Cards from Week 1 (2 sets per group)

What You Do:

- Look up Philippians 1:6, and review it together as a group.
- Divide your group into 2 teams.
- Give each team a set of "Memory Verse Cards".
- Scatter the phrases on the floor/table face down.
- On your "GO!" teams will compete to put the verse in order.
- Play as many rounds as time/interest 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!