

City SG - August 10-11, 2019

Bible Story: This Used to Be My Playground (The Fall) • *Genesis 3:1-24*

Bottom Line: Trust and obey even when you think your way is better.

Memory Verse: *The way we show our love is to obey God's commands. He commands you to lead a life of love. That's what you have heard from the beginning. 2 John 6 (NIV)*

1. Rocketing Review

What You Need: Instruction page, orange rocket parts sheet (1 per child), red cardstock paper (1 per child), orange/yellow tissue (1 set per child), stickers (a few per child), tape, scissors, markers (campus supplies)

What You Do:

- Give each child a piece of red cardstock, rocket parts sheet, yellow/orange tissues.
- Lay out scissors, tape, stickers and markers.
- Using direction sheet, guide children to make their rocket.
- Let kids use their own creativity to design and build their rockets.

- As kids are working, review the Bible story using the questions below.
 1. Who created the world and everything in it? (*God*)
 2. Who were the first two people God created? (*Adam and Eve*)
 3. What was the garden like where Adam and Eve lived? (*beautiful, full of flowers and trees and plants and good things to eat*)
 4. God gave Adam and Eve just ONE rule. What was it? (*they could eat fruit from any tree in the garden except from the tree of knowledge of good and evil*)
 5. If they did eat the fruit, what did God say the consequence would be? (*they would die*)
 6. Who came along to make Eve question God's one rule? (*the serpent*)
 7. Why do you think the serpent tricked Eve? (*because he's the enemy/Satan; his one goal is to separate us from the God who loves us*)
 8. What choice did Eve make? Did she obey God's one rule? (*no, she thought her way was better and she disobeyed by eating the fruit God told her not to eat*)
 9. What did Adam do when Eve handed him the fruit? (*he ate some too*)
 10. Immediately, what did Adam and Eve feel? (*shame; they realized they were naked and covered themselves*)
 11. When God came looking for them, what did Adam and Eve do? (*they hid from God*)
 12. What happened as a result of their disobedience? (*their relationship with God was broken; they were forced to leave the garden; they would have to work hard; one day, they would face physical death; sin had entered the world and would pass to their children and to their children and so on*)

What You Say:

"Adam and Eve made such a HUGE mistake. They thought their way was better. But let me ask you something: who made Adam and Eve and that beautiful garden they enjoyed? (*Pause for responses.*) Yes, God did! He always knows best. His rule was there to protect them. But they chose to disobey, and it had devastating consequences. There will be times when we're tempted to think our way is better. But obedience reminds us to trust those who lead us by doing what we're asked to do. We need to **[Bottom Line] trust and obey even when we think our way is better.**"

[Make It Personal] (*Tell your few about a time when you disobeyed your parents as a kid because you thought you knew better. What happened? Whose way was actually better: yours or your parents'? How could you have handled the situation better?*)

2. Uno?

What You Need: UNO® cards (1 deck per group)

What You Do:

- Pass out 8-10 cards (depending on how large group your group is) to each player. If you have more than 10 kids in your group, break into two groups to play two games.
- Encourage the kids to start playing the game.
- General rules:
 - Kids will play one card at a time.
 - They must play a card that matches either the color or the number of the top card on the discard pile.
 - If they do not have a card to play, they must draw a card.
 - Wild cards can be used at any time during a child's turn.
 - If a child plays a "draw two" or "draw four" card, the next player must draw that number of cards and his/her turn is over.
 - Play continues until a player is down to one card. When this happens, he/she must yell "Uno!" If they fail to call out "Uno!" that player must draw two cards.
 - Play continues until one player is out of cards.
- Throughout game play, call out "RULE CHANGE!" and read one of the "new" rules below. The point is to thoroughly confuse them and basically cause frustration.
- *Note: Each time you give a new rule, it takes the place of the one before it.*

New Rules:

1. Instead of matching either the color or number, you can now ONLY match the color, not the number.
 2. If you play a "draw four," you must draw the four cards yourself.
 3. The "reverse" cards may only be played when you have two cards left.
 4. Wild cards aren't wild anymore. All wild cards are RED.
 5. "Draw four" cards aren't wild anymore. "Draw four" cards are now BLUE.
 6. Instead of matching the color, you can now ONLY match the number.
 7. Only girls can play for the next two minutes. *(Be sure to watch and call out the next rule when time is up.)*
 8. Only boys can play for the next two minutes.
 9. Only people born in September, March, or May can play for the next two minutes.
- Call time on the game and gather the cards.
 - Ask:
 - Have you ever played a game of UNO like that before? Was it frustrating?
 - Did you think my rule changes were crazy?
 - In real life, what do you do when you think your way is better?

What You Say:

"How did it feel to have the rules changed so quickly while you were in the middle of the game? *(Pause for responses.)* While these rules were silly, real rules—like the ones at school and at home—help protect everyone. Some rules make sense to you and some might not. Sometimes we just need to obey even when we think our way is better.

"Adam and Eve didn't obey in the garden because they thought their way was better. But years later, in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus would surrender His will and trust that God's way was the best way. Jesus obeyed—going all the way to the cross for you and for me in order to fix our broken relationship with God. God loves you, and He wants the best for you. That's why you should **[Bottom Line] trust and obey even when you think your way is better.**"

3. NO Talking Line Up

What You Need: Bible, paper, markers

What You Do:

- Look up 2 John 6 and review the verse together as a group.
- Count up the number of kids in your group and divide the verse into that number of words or phrases.
- Assign each word or phrase to a kid and instruct kids to write their assigned word/phrase on a sheet of paper in large handwriting.
- Shuffle the pages and hand them back out.
- Instruct kids to line up in verse order, based on the word or phrase on their page.
- There's only ONE rule: they may not talk!
- Time them to see how long it takes them to get in verse order.
- Collect the pages, shuffle, redistribute, and play again—still with no talking—to see if they can beat their time.

What You Say:

“That was fun! You only had one rule—NO talking—and you followed it even when it was REALLY hard. This verse is a great reminder that we show God we love and trust Him by obeying Him. That’s why it’s so important to **[Bottom Line] trust and obey even when you think your way is better.**”

4. Mission Control Says

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Guide kids to gather around you.
- Tell them to pretend that they’re astronauts on a space station and they’re getting ready to go on a spacewalk.
- Play “Mission Control Says” (“Simon Says”) by guiding kids to do what you say ONLY if you say, “Mission Control says,” first.
- Direct kids to:
 - Put on your communication cap.
 - Pull on your spacesuit pants.
 - Float up into the spacesuit top and put your arms through the sleeves.
 - Put on your left glove.
 - Put on your right glove.
 - Put on your space helmet.
 - Open the door to the airlock.
 - Float into the airlock.
 - Close the door.
 - Open the door to outer space!
 - Float outside!
- Reverse the sequence to bring kids back inside the space station.

What You Say:

“You guys did a great job listening and doing only what mission control told you to do!”

5. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Lead the kids in the responsive prayer below. After each phrase, guide kids to say, “His love lasts forever.”

What You Say:

“God knows everything, and God can do anything. His way is ALWAYS best. So here’s the one thing to remember: **[Bottom Line] Trust and obey even when you think your way is better.** Trust and obey your leaders. And trust and obey God. He loves you more than you can imagine! Let’s pray.

“Give thanks to the Lord. He is good.

(His love lasts forever.)

“Give thanks to the greatest God of all.

(His love lasts forever.)

“Give thanks to the most powerful Lord of all.

(His love lasts forever.)

“Give thanks to the only One who does great miracles.

(His love lasts forever.)

“He made the heavens.

(His love lasts forever.)

He spread out the earth on the waters.

(His love lasts forever.)

He made the great lights in the sky.

(His love lasts forever.)

He made the sun to rule over the day.

(His love lasts forever.)

He made the moon and stars to rule over the night.

(His love lasts forever.)

Give thanks to the God of heaven.

(His love lasts forever.)”

(Based on Psalm 136:1-9, 26, NIV)

BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT “COMMUNION CALL”

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

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