

Alley SG - September 21-22, 2019

Bible Story: Under Pressure (Joseph Interprets Pharaoh's Dreams) • Genesis 41

Bottom Line: When the pressure is on, you can trust God is with you.

Key Question: What do you need to trust God with right now?

Memory Verse: Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding...
(Proverbs 3:5 NIV)

1. Get Your Head in the Game

What You Need: Paper (1 per student), markers

What You Do:

- **Give** kids paper and markers.
- **Instruct** kids to write "DREAM" vertically on the left edge of their papers.
 - In the middle of the paper, **instruct** them to write "MAERD," which is "DREAM" backwards.
 - Make sure kids line up the letters on both sides of the paper. For example: The "D" in "DREAM" is directly across from the "M" IN "MAERD," the "R" is directly across from the "A" and so on.
- Encourage kids to come up with topics for dreams using the letters on their papers. For example:

Dinosaurs	Marching
Raining	Ants
Exploding	Eggs
Armadillos	Racing
Monsters	Dancing
- Let kids tell crazy dream stories as they work on their acrostics.

What You Say:

"There were some crazy dreams in our story today. **[Transition]** In our talk today, we heard what the dreams are and what they have to do with trusting God."

2. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Multi-Colored Craft sticks (**Blue, Red, Yellow, Green**) (1 set of 4 per student), markers, "Boomerang Directions" Page (1 per group)

What You Do:

- **Give** kids four craft sticks. (If you have multiple colors of craft sticks, give kids 4 different colors.)
- **Encourage** kids to write an example on each stick of a tough situation that can put you under pressure.
 - If necessary, give an example: you have to take a really hard science test or you have try-out for the school play.
 - **Allow** kids to work together to come up with ideas.
- Using the "Boomerang Directions" Activity Page, **show** kids how to make a boomerang with their craft sticks.
- **Allow** time for kids throw their boomerangs at a wall or other hard surface and watch them explode.
- **Encourage** them to write on any additional crafts sticks used an example of tough situations that create pressure.
- **Explain** the boomerangs explode because the sticks are under pressure. The pressure is released when the boomerang hits a hard surface causing the explosion.
- **Ask:**
 - What are some things we can do when we are in tough situations and feel under pressure?

3. Discussion Questions

- What are some feelings you may have when you face a tough situation or have to do something very difficult?
- What is something you can do to stay calm when you start to feel like the pressure is on and things are out of control?
- What do you need to trust God with right now?

4. Verses to Take with You

What You Need: Reference Cards (1 set per group), Bibles, markers, boomerangs from Activity 2

What You Do:

- **Lay** the “Reference Cards” in a line six inches from a wall. **Place** the cards about twelve inches apart.
- **Instruct** kids to take turns “exploding” their boomerangs on the wall above the “Reference Cards.”
- **Direct** them to pick up the “Reference Card” closest to one of their craft sticks.
- After kids all have a “Reference Card,” **gather** kids in a circle.
- **Give** kids a Bible.
- **Instruct** kids to look up the Bible verse from the reference on their card and write the verse on the back of their cards.
- **Allow** kids to share their verses with the group.
- **Challenge** kids to pick a verse to memorize this week.
- **Encourage** them to remember their verse when they face tough situations this week or feel under pressure.

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: Paper (1 per student), pens

What You Do:

- **Challenge** kids to create an acrostic prayer using the word “TRUST.”
- For example,
 - **T**rusting You LORD is
 - **R**eally the wise choice. You GOD alone
 - **U**nderstand everything. I am so thankful You are with me every
 - **S**tep of the way. You are with me every moment of my life.
 - **T**hank You for being totally trustworthy!
- **Encourage** kids to share their prayers with the group.

What You Say:

Close in prayer by inviting and encouraging kids to take turns praying aloud. Remind them that their prayers can be as simple or as involved as they want them to be. Also remind them that your group is a safe place and a great way to get comfortable praying aloud is to pray aloud during Small Group.

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!