

# Alley SG-January 25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**Bible Story:** (Reason to Believe) Jesus and John the Baptist • Matthew 11:1-6

**Bottom Line:** If you don't understand something about God, ask.

**Key Question:** When you have questions about God, who can you ask?

**Memory Verse:** "For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding."  
(Proverbs 2:6 NIV)

## 1. Just for Fun

**What You Need:** Alley Cash (\$10 per group, per service)

### What You Do:

- **Ask:** Did anyone memorize a verse from last week to help them make wise choices? **Allow** kids an opportunity to recite the verse from memory.
  - **If any students recite the verse, award them \$1 in Alley Cash.**
- **Pair** kids up.
- **Explain** kids will play the question game. To play:
  - One kid asks his or her teammate a question.
  - The teammate must respond with a question that makes sense in the context of the first question that was asked.
  - The first kid who doesn't respond with a question within 15-seconds loses that round.
  - **Play** two rounds and then **switch** partners.
  - For example:
    - Kid 1: Do you like to play tennis?
    - Kid 2: How do you play tennis?
    - Kid 1: Do you have a racket?
    - Kid 2: Do I need a racket?

## 2. Bible Story Extension

**What You Need:** "Answer Cards" (1 set per group), timer on mobile device (*optional*)

### What You Do:

- **Divide** the kids into two teams.
- **Explain** the kids are going to play a review game.
  - You will **read** an "Answer Card" card to the teams, and they will take turns coming up with a possible question for the answer you just read.
  - There are multiple possible questions for each answer.
  - **Give** teams 15-seconds to state a question, alternating which team starts for each round.
  - For each relevant question stated, teams earn one point.
  - The team with the most points wins.
- "Answer Cards" are (*potential questions are in italics*):
  - John (*Who was in prison? Who spoke truth to Herod? Who asked Jesus questions? Who was sent to prepare the way for Jesus? Who baptized Jesus?*)
  - Herod (*Who put John in jail? Who didn't want to hear the truth? Who was the ruler of Galilee?*)
  - John's disciples (*Who visited John in jail? Who did John send to ask Jesus questions?*)
  - Jesus (*Who gave the blind their sight? Who healed the deaf so they could hear? Who healed the lame so they could walk? Who is the Son of God? Who gave His life for all people?*)
  - The Bible

### 3. Discussion Questions

#### Ask:

- When you have questions about God, who can you ask?
- What if you don't get answers to the questions you have, what can you do?
- What truths do you know about God? How can knowing these truths help you while you wait to find answers to questions you may have?
- What do you do when you have questions that don't really have answers?

### 4. Verse to Take with You

**What You Need:** "Verse Cards" (2 sets per group), Bibles, Printed "James 1:5" Sheet (2 per Group), Water Bottles ½ Full (2 per group), index cards (1 per student), pens

#### What You Do:

- **Divide** the group into two teams.
- **Gather** teams together.
- **Lay** a set of "Verse Cards" facedown from each team.
- **Give** kids a Bible and read James 1:5 together.
- **Give** each team a prepared water bottle, filled a quarter of the way full with water.
- **Explain** kids will compete in a relay race to gather all the words from James 1:5. To compete:
  - A kid from each team races to flip their water bottle to land standing up.
  - Once they do so, they can grab one of the "Verse Cards" of their choice.
  - If the word is in the verse, they may grab the "Verse Card" for their team.
  - If it is not in the verse, they return it facedown and start the process of flipping the water bottle again.
  - If they are unsure if the word is in the verse, they can look at the printed "James 1:5" sheet.
  - The first team to collect all the words in the verse and put them in the correct order wins.
- **Give** kids an index card to write out James 1:5 and **encourage** kids to memorize James 1:5 this week.

### 5. Make it Personal with Prayer

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

#### What You Do:

- **Ask:** What was one new thing you learned today?
- **Give** kids some time to think of an area they need God's help. Perhaps they have a question about what God says or they are struggling with a decision they need to make. Maybe they have a situation with a friend or brother and sister they need God's wisdom in handling.
- **Give** kids an opportunity to share areas they need wisdom.
- **Close** in prayer.

#### What You Say:

"God, You are generous, and You give us all that we need. We want to know You, God. Give us wisdom to recognize the people You have put in our lives to help us learn more about You. Remind us of Your Word so we can make wise choices. 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!**