

City “All Together Activities”—October 25th, 2020

Today’s Bible Story: Always on My Mind (Think on These Things) • *Philippians 4:8*

Today’s Bottom Line: Focus on what’s true.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Anyone who lives without blame walks safely. But anyone who takes a crooked path will get caught.* Proverbs 10:9 (NirV)

Monthly Life App: Integrity—Choosing to be truthful in whatever you say and do.

1. Hidden Pictures

What You Need: “Hidden Pictures” Activity Page (1 per child), pens (1 per child)

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Hidden Pictures” Activity Page and a pen.
- Point out the key on the side so they know what to look for.
- They can circle the hidden items as they find them on the page.
- While kids are working, talk about their week using the questions below as a guide.
 1. Tell me about your favorite day this week. Why was it your favorite?
 2. What did you do this weekend (or yesterday)?
 3. If you could switch places with your teacher tomorrow, what would you teach?
 4. What are you reading?
 5. Did you have a chance to practice integrity this week? When? What happened?

2. Up, Down, Pat, or Clap

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Gather the kids to sit in a circle on their knees.
- Explain that this game requires four moves:
 - Up – hands up over your head
 - Down – hands at your sides
 - Pat – pat the floor
 - Clap – clap hands together
- Call out the four motions in any random order for the kids to follow.
- To keep interest high, increase the speed of the commands. You can also select a kid in the group to lead in calling out the motions.
- If the kids in your group seem to master this fairly easily, ask them to do the OPPOSITE of what you call.
- So if you say, “Up,” kids will put their hands down. If you say, “Pat,” kids will clap, and so on.

What You Say:

“You really had to FOCUS in order to play this game! **[Transition]** In our Bible story today, we heard about something even more important that we all should focus on. JESUS!”

3. Thoughts and Actions Line Up

What You Need: “What You Think” and “How You Respond” Cards (1 set of each per service, extra for larger groups), white floor tape

What You Do:

- Separate the “What You Think” and “How You Respond” cards, keeping all the “What You Think” cards in one pile and all the “How You Respond” cards in another.
- Use the floor tape to create two parallel, two-foot lines on the floor, about six feet apart.
- Divide the group into two teams.

- Sit one team, physically distanced. near the “What You Think” cards and spread the cards out on the floor.
- Sit the other team near the “How You Respond” cards and spread them out on the floor.
- Call on a kid from the “What You Think” team to read one of their cards aloud and place it at the top of the tape line near them.
- Call on the other group to read through their “How You Respond” cards and select the one they believe corresponds. Then, they set it on the other line across from the “What You Think” card.
- Repeat with the remaining cards until all cards are matched.
- Point out how in each of these scenarios, the “What You Think” card determines the “How You Respond” action.
- Point to any “negative” thought cards and allow the kids to give an example of how they could change their thinking to produce a different action.
 - For instance, the card “The new kid is strange” and the corresponding action “I’m not inviting him to play with my group of friends at recess” could be changed to “you decide the new kid is just quiet.” The corresponding action could be “you invite the new kid to play with you and your friends at recess.”

What You Say:

“What we THINK about has a big impact on how we respond or what we do. It’s easy to see that in these examples. But in real life, we sometimes forget to **[Bottom Line] focus on what’s true**. It’s easier to believe the worst or to decide that things are bad or that they’ll never get better. But that’s just NOT true. God is good, always. His way is best, always. And He is true, always. So if you find yourself focusing on negative, untrue things this week, or just generally having a bad attitude, ask God to help you change your thinking and **[Bottom Line] focus on what’s true**. Because when you THINK about what’s true, you’ll DO what’s true in response.”

4. Right on Target

What You Need: “Memory Verse Phrases” cards (2 sets per service, extra for larger groups), Bibles, floor tape, and bean bags (4 per service)

What You Do:

- Open a Bible to Proverbs 10:9 and review the memory verse as a group.
- Prepare for the game using the instructions below:
 - Use the floor tape to create two, 3’ x 3’ squares on the floor of your room.
 - Shuffle each set of “Memory Verse Phrases” cards and lay out one set of cards in random order inside each square.
 - Divide the group into two teams to line up about six feet from their team’s square.
- When you say, “Go!” the first kid in each team will toss the beanbag, aiming to land on the first phrase of the verse.
- If successful, **their adult leader representative** will grab the phrase card, and the next kid may throw their beanbag ball.
- If they miss, they must retrieve the beanbag, head to the back of their line, and try again when it is their turn again.
- Each team must pay attention so they collect each phrase *in the order* of the verse.
- Once all phrases have been collected, **their adult leader representative** puts the cards in verse order and sits down to signal they are finished.
- Check their work by reading the verse aloud then declare a winner.

What You Say:

“All month long, we’ve been talking about what it means to live with integrity, to choose to be truthful in all we say and do. This verse reminds us that choosing integrity keeps us on the safe, straight path. So this week, let’s ask God to help us **[Bottom Line] focus on what’s true**. Because what we choose to think about—focus on—really does affect what we DO! Let’s stay off the crooked path by choosing to **[Bottom Line] focus on what’s true**.”