

Alley SG—May 8th-10th, 2021

1. Just for Fun

What You Need: No Supplies Needed

What You Do:

- Challenge kids to practice saying each of the following tongue twisters five times in a row as fast as they can.
 - Speak sweet speech.
 - Would words wound a wooly worm?
 - Selfish Shelly sells shells.
 - Peach speech.
 - Truly Trudy tours towers.
 - Six sleek swans swam swiftly southwards
 - Wayne went to Wales to watch walruses!
 - Lesser leather never weathered wetter weather better.
- Invite kids to make up their own tongue twisters or share others they know.

2. Opening Activity

What You Need: “Picture It!” Pages (1 set per group), clipboard (1 per Group), Cell phone timer

What You Do:

- Attach all of the “Picture It” pages face-down on a clipboard.
- Give one kid the clipboard and ask that kid to turn over only the top page without anyone else seeing what’s on it.
- The kid with the clipboard must give clues about the underlined words on the page.
 - They can say anything other than the words that are underlined.
 - The goal is to get the remaining kids to guess what is pictured and say the description as it’s written at the bottom of the page within 45-seconds.
 - (Adjust this time as needed if kids seem to need a little longer or if the time challenge seems too easy.)
- Let kids know that the images are silly and totally random. For example, one of the images might be a dog wearing roller skates riding a merry-go-round.
- When someone guess correctly or when time is up, show the group the picture.
- Ask them how similar or different it is compared to what they were picturing in their mind.
- Allow all of the kids to have at least one turn giving clues.

What You Say:

“This is a game that required good listening skills and a bit of imagination. Hearing the clues and putting them together was the secret to figuring out what was on the pictures. **[Transition]** **Listening is something we should always keep practicing. Listening to what others have to say, listening to instructions, listening to good advice, AND most importantly, listening to God.**”

3. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: Index cards (1 per student), pens

What You Do:

- Give kids a minute to quietly think about their answer to the following question:
 - What comes to mind when you think about what it means to practice hearing from God?
- Challenge them to form an answer to the question using only words that begin with the letters of their first name.
 - They can form a sentence by adding additional words or simply make a list of descriptive words.
 - For example, if a kid's name is "SAM," they might create the sentence, "Spending A Moment with God," or words like, Silent, Ask, Music.
- Provide index cards and pens for kids to write their answers on.

Note: If kids are struggling to come up with words that work with their first name, suggest they use their last name, letters in the word, "HEAR," or consider making this a group activity in which kids work together to come up with words for one another's names.

4. Discussion Questions

Ask:

- How do we hear from God? *Read some of the answers from the index cards.*
- Do you think God communicates with everyone the same way? Why or why not?
- What can you do if you're not sure you are hearing God correctly? Who can you talk to?
- Share about a time you or someone you know had to make a choice and God helped you know exactly what to do.
- Based on today's Bible story, if your life is a house, what does it look to build it on a foundation of rock? What does it look like to build it on a foundation of sand?

5. Make it Personal with Prayer

What You Need: Bibles, index cards, pens

What You Do:

- Give each kid an index card and pen.
- Ask kids to find and read Proverbs 2:1-5 again looking for one way they can better practice hearing God and doing what He says this week.
- Invite them to write a one-sentence prayer built on something they took away from Proverbs 2:1-5.
- When finished, ask kids to take turns reading their prayers aloud as the others join in silently with their own prayer.
- Close in prayer.

What You Say:

"Dear God, we thank You for Your Word. We understand that if we build our life on You, we are building it on something solid, strong, and true. Help us practice hearing what it is You are saying to us and doing what You tell us to do. We love You! Amen."