

# Alley SG—October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

**Today's Bible Story:** Deliver Us (Burning Bush and the 10 Plagues) • Exodus 3-6:12, 7-12:42

**Today's Key Question:** When have you been through a hard time?

**Today's Bottom Line:** Hold on because God knows what you're going through

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up.* Galatians 6:9 (NIV)

## 1. Bible Story Extension

**What You Need:** Disposable plastic drinking cups (20 per Group), ping pong balls

### What You Do:

- Play a game of "10 Plague Pong!"
- Set up two sets of 10 cups on the floor. Each set should be placed in four rows, creating a triangle shape. (Row 1: 1 cup, Row 2: 2 cups, Row 3: 3 cups, Row 4: 4 cups)
- Divide the group into two teams and have each team line up about two yards back from their set of cups. Give each team one ping pong ball.
- When the game begins, the first player in line from each team will try to toss the ping pong ball into one of their cups.
  - If they make it in a cup, remove that cup from their set.
  - Then the next player in line will take a turn.
  - If they miss, keep the cups in place, and the next player will take a turn.
  - Teams will continue by having their players take turns tossing ping pong balls into their cups, removing them each time they make it in.
  - The object of the game is to have no more cups.
  - The first team to do this win.
- Ask kids to review what each of the 10 plagues were. See if they can even remember the order in which they occurred or look up the passages starting in Exodus 7.
- Ask:
  - What do you think Moses felt when God spoke to him via the burning bush?
  - What do you think Moses felt and thought when all of these horrible things were happening to the Egyptian people?
  - Why does this story show us we can hang on through hard times? (*God knew everything Moses and the Israelites were going through, and God knows everything about our situation and is with us through it all*)

## 2. Verses to Take with You

**What You Need:** Bibles, "Verses with Grit" Activity Page (1 per kid), pens

### What You Do:

- Ask kids to name synonyms for the word "grit." (Answers may include: courage, determination, and perseverance)
- Hand out Bibles, and/or ask kids to get their phones or devices in order to look up verses. Explain to kids that they can use a Bible app on their device, which is a handy way to look up and read scripture.
- Hand out a copy of "Verses with Grit" Page to each kid as well as pens or pencils.
- Ask kids to pick one of the synonyms the group discussed for "grit" and look up verses about that word.
- Show kids how to use a concordance if they are using a physical Bible.
- Or show kids how to search for key words in their Bible app.
- Give kids a chance to share the verses they found with the group.
- They can use the activity page to write the references to the verses they found.
- They may want to write down the references to verses other kids found as well.
- Ask for a volunteer to read Galatians 6:9.

### 3. Discussion Questions

- When have you been through a hard time? *(Be sure to remind the group that this is a safe space for sharing. Remind them of the importance of confidentiality when it comes to personal stories that are shared with the group.)*
- How did you feel when you were in the middle of it?
- When does it feel like it would be easier to just give up? (ie: during a particularly challenging football practice, studying for a really big math test, or while completing a long list of chores at home)
- Have you ever given up on something? If so, did you regret it?
- How can you be sure that God knows what you're going through?

### 4. Just for Fun

**What You Need:** Index cards (10 per group), tape (roll per group), pen

**What You Do:**

- Ask kids to line up, standing shoulder to shoulder, all facing the same direction.
- Stand so you are facing their backs. On the index cards, write down names of various famous characters, without letting kids see them.
- Tape one card to each kid's back, so the name you wrote is visible to everyone else except for the kid who is wearing it.
- Suggestions for characters to use *(or come up with your own)*:
  - Buzz Lightyear
  - Mickey Mouse
  - Elsa
  - Darth Vader
  - Superman
  - Charlie Brown
  - Mary Poppins
  - Cinderella
- Once everyone has a card taped to their back, tell kids to begin mingling and asking each other "Yes" or "No" questions about the character that is on their back.
- Kids will try to guess who is written on their card from the answers given.
- Once every kid has determined what character is on their card, the game is finished.

**What You Say:**

"That was a challenging game! When the game got started, you had no idea who was written on your card. Thankfully, God knows every little detail of every part of our lives. God always knows what we're going through."

### 5. Make it Personal with Prayer

**What You Say:**

"Dear God, we know that in Your Word, You encourage us to not grow tired of doing good and that at the right time we will gather a crop if we do not give up. Thank You for understanding the details of our lives. We know we can trust You and that we can hold on because You know every detail of our situations and Your presence is always with us. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen."