

City SG—October 2nd, 2022

Today's Bible Story: Down in a Hole (Joseph Sold by Brothers and Joseph in Jail) •
Genesis 37, 39–40

Today's Bottom Line: Hold on because God is with you.

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 (NIRV)

1. Just Keep Climbing

Non-Reader Option highlighted below

What You Need: “Just Keep Climbing” Activity Page cards (2 sets per group) and floor tape

What You Do:

- Split kids into two teams.
- Hand each team a stack of “Just Keep Climbing” Activity pages and some floor tape.
- Explain the steps of the game before beginning.
 - Put the pages in order of what happened in the Bible story.
 - Kids can also put the pages in color order (Red, Green, Yellow, Blue and Orange) as well. Just make sure to read the pages with them once completed in order to enforce Biblical learning.
 - Make a pathway for their team to “climb” across the room by taping the cards to the floor.
 - Use the pages as “climbing holds” for their hands and feet to crawl across the room.
 - Only one kid from each team can “climb” at a time.
 - The first team to get the story in the correct order and get all of their members across is the winner!
- Start the game and encourage the teams as they work.
- Declare a winner.

What You Say:

“Some of that was difficult—putting the story in the correct order, taping the pages to the floor, and crawling across the floor. Difficult but not impossible, right? When I look at these papers, I am reminded that just like Joseph, you can **[Bottom Line] hold on because God is with you.**”

“Joseph had to go through some really hard things like being thrown into a pit and sold by his own brothers. He was trapped in slavery, accused of doing something he didn't even do, and put in jail for a really long time. But with God's help, he interpreted the baker's and drink taster's dreams.

“We will have to wait until next week to hear what happened next in Joseph's life, but who here would want ANY of those things to happen to them? *(Pause.)* How do you think Joseph felt when his brothers threw him in a pit and sold him? Pretty awful, right? *(Invite kids to share.)* What Joseph went through doesn't seem fair, but we can see from the story of his life that Joseph was able to hold on to the hope that God had a plan.”

2. Sleep Mask Chaos

Non-Reader Option highlighted below

What You Need: “Sleep Mask Chaos” phrases (1 set per Group) and Bibles

What You Do:

- Help kids look up and read the verse using the Bible navigation tips below.
Finding verses 1st - 3rd graders: Guide kids to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like. When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Galatians in the list under “New Testament.” When the kids find Galatians, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Galatians. Help the kids find the page. When they find Galatians, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 6. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 9 in chapter 6.
- Reread the memory verse out loud together.
- Ask if any of the kids would like to read the verse out loud.
- Pick a few of your kids to hold up a sleep mask and ask them to stand shoulder to shoulder in a line.
- Make sure they are not already standing in verse order.
 - If you don’t have ten kids, you can have some kids hold up two masks.
 - Ensure that at least three kids aren’t holding masks.
- Tell them to hold the sleep masks over their eyes.
- Instruct the rest of the kids to move the kids so they’re in the right order.
 - *Masks will have been printed on colored paper. Kids can use them as a cue for which order to put the masks into in the same sequence as Activity #1 (Red, Green, Blue, Yellow, Orange. Be sure to say the verse out loud together (once in order) so as to enforce learning of the verse.*
 - Tell them to only touch the kids’ shoulders and remind them to be gentle.
 - They can use their Bibles as a reference as needed.
- Once kids are in order, read the verse aloud with the other kids.
- Repeat, with kids switching roles as needed, so everyone gets a turn to hold a mask.

What You Say:

“Sometimes, we get tired of doing the right thing and doing good. When things are hard or friends aren’t being kind, it can be really hard to ‘do good.’ But Paul reminds us in this verse to not become tired of doing good.

“What are some things that can make it hard for you to do good? (*Invite kids to share—a bully at school, a hard math test may make you want to cheat, your sister takes your favorite toy without permission, your brother is being annoying, etc.*) Those are really hard things, but God is with us so we can do hard things and face hard things and still choose to do good. How can you choose to do good when people aren’t kind to you or things are hard? (*Invite kids to share—speak kindly to them even if they aren’t to you, share with them even if they aren’t sharing with you, pray for someone, help do chores, etc.*) Yes, you can do all those things, and God will help you have the strength to do them. You can **[Bottom Line] hold on because God is with you.**”

3. Pray and Dismiss

What You Say: “Today was so much fun! I hope you guys had as much fun as I did. I may not have ever been rock climbing (adjust if you actually are a rock climber), but I know that in order to climb a rock wall, you have to hold onto the climbing hold, like the one you have, or you will fall. When things get hard in our lives, we can hold onto Jesus, just like a rock climber holds onto their climbing holds. Without Jesus, we will fall when things get hard, and we won’t be able to keep going. But you can always [Bottom Line] hold on because God is with you

4. Extra Time Dice Game

What You Need: Foam Dice (1 per Group)

What You Do:

- Gather the kids in a circle.
- Hand the dice to a child.
- Have him/her roll the dice.
- Using the list below, ask the corresponding question.
- After he answers it, instruct him to toss the foam dice to another kid who will answer the question corresponding to the number closest to their right thumb.
- Repeat as time allows.
- Make sure each kid gets a turn to answer a question.
- If a kid gets the same question on their next turn, they can re-roll the dice.
- Questions:
 1. Who is your favorite superhero and why?
 2. If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be and why?
 3. What is your favorite food?
 4. What is your favorite flavor of ice cream?
 5. Do you enjoy reading books or playing outside more?
 6. Do you have any pets? If so, what kind of animals and what are their names?