

CITY LG – May 20-22, 2023

Today's Bible Story: Under Pressure (Peter and John Are Taken to the Sanhedrin) • Acts 3:1–4:21

Today's Bottom Line: God is with you no matter what.

Monthly Memory Verse: So we can say boldly, 'The Lord helps me. I will not be afraid.' (Hebrews 13:6a, NIV)

WORSHIP

Turn it Up

Look to You

Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Groups

SLIDE: Theme

"Hey there, everybody! I'm so glad you're here. This month, we're 'raising our game' as we talk about confidence!

SLIDE: Virtue

"Confidence is living like you believe God is with you.

SLIDE: Theme

"Doesn't that just completely change the way you go about your day? If you're absolutely SURE that God is with you? I think so! If we believe that God is with us, then we'll have the confidence even when things are hard.

Let's talk about that in our groups for a few minutes. Answer this question with your group... **When have you gone through something difficult?** I'll give you a few minutes to talk about when you went through a hard time with your group.

MUSIC: Play the Spotify playlist quietly in the background.

We're going to hear about a time when a couple of Jesus' friends went through something difficult. We've been making our way through God's Big Story, all throughout the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*)

"We're picking up the story today after Jesus had died on the cross, then came back to life. Jesus then appeared to many of His friends and followers, and eventually He returned to heaven to be with God.

"Before Jesus left, though, He gave a big job to His followers. He told them to spread the word about Him throughout the entire world! Jesus made a promise to His friends as well. He told them that God would send the Holy Spirit to help them.

"Last week, we talked about how God sent the Holy Spirit to the believers at the feast of Pentecost. That day, Jesus' friend Peter told the crowd about Jesus, and thousands of people put their faith in Jesus as their Savior. Through the help of God's Spirit, the early church began to grow!"

Let's check out the Story Lab today...

VIDEO: Bible Story

"It must have been pretty tough for Peter and John to have to face the religious leaders like that. But they were confident, because they knew that God was with them.

"God is with YOU, too, no matter what you might be facing in life. When you put your faith in Jesus. You have God's Holy Spirit to help you. Let's take a look at our Bottom line for today..."

VIDEO: Bottom Line

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Let's say that together... **"God is with you no matter what.**

"This week, if there are times when you feel sad or frustrated or disappointed, remember to talk to God about it. Remember that God's Spirit is always there with you.

"Before we go to Small Group, let's read our memory verse, Hebrews 13:6a."

SLIDE: Memory Verse

"So we can say boldly, 'The Lord helps me. I will not be afraid.' (Hebrews 13:6a, NIV)

"Awesome job! God IS our helper. Let's pray and thank God for that."

*"Dear God, thank You for protecting Peter and John. Thank You for helping them to be brave and confident when they had to face the religious leaders. Thank You for reminding us that You're with us today, just like you were with Peter and John way back then. Thank You for being a God that **[Basic Truth] we can trust no matter what.** We love You, God, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."*

OFFERING TIME:

Before we go to small groups, all this month, we have been bringing our money to support Vida Nueva Ministries in Piedras Negras, Mexico. Your offering helps people just like you to have the resources they need to experience a new life with Jesus! Here is a picture of our friends Eli and Mandy Garcia and their family...

SLIDE: Eli and Mandy

They are our friends and Parkview Global heroes that tell people about Jesus down in Mexico. So, if you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now! While you are doing that check out this video...

Video: Summer Jam Promo

CG: Summer JAM Slide

"Guess what today is?? It's the opening weekend for signing up for Summer Jam! It's coming up very soon and we're so excited to invite you to these 3 nights jam-packed with FUN and Adventure! You won't want to miss it. Tell whoever brought you that you need to visit the Summer Jam Tent after our time together today to sign up and get your t shirt!"