



WEEK FOUR - OCTOBER 2018

Bible Story: *Don't Look Back • Exodus 16:2-21; 17:1-7*

Bottom Line: *Don't miss out on what you have now.*

Memory Verse: *"Then he said to them, 'Watch out! Be on your guard against wanting to have more and more things. Life is not made up of how much a person has.'" Luke 12:15 (NIRV)*

Life App: *Contentment—Deciding to be okay with what you have*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what.*

9:00-9:10 | 10:30-10:44 - KIDS ARRIVE

Team Welcomes Kids *(Providing Time for Fun Interactions)*

Summary: We wrap up our study on contentment in Exodus 16:2-21 and 17:1-7 with a look at how God's people respond to the wilderness. God rescued them from slavery in Egypt, yet when they find themselves in uncomfortable situations they complain that God doesn't care about them and even long to return to Egypt. In spite of that, God continued to meet their needs in the wilderness providing what they needed the whole time.

If we're only thinking about what we don't have, we'll miss being able to celebrate how God is taking care of us. It's easy to find something else we think we need that will make us happy, but contentment is finding the joy in what God has provided right here and now. We pray that kids will start seeing the good in their life rather than complain and miss out.

9:10-9:35 | 10:40-11:05 - LARGE GROUP

"Je-sus loves me.

2 lap pats – 2 claps

Je-sus loves me.

2 lap pats – 2 claps

Jesus loves [child's name]"
shout out the name

1. Early Arriver Idea / My Stuff

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building & designing

What You Need: Paper; crayons

What You Do:

- Hand out the paper and crayons.
- Tell kids to write and draw things they own or things they are able to do.
 - They might list or draw their toys or games.
 - They might draw a picture of themselves playing basketball or baking cookies with a parent.
- Prompt them to keep listing and drawing until it's time to go to Large Group.
- Collect kids' papers to use again during Prayer.

What You Say:

"Wow! Look at all of those things you have and things you can do! Those are some pretty impressive lists."

***Bible Story - INTRO, Story, OUTRO Videos (whatever works best for your few)
Worship SONGS***

9:35-10:05 | 11:05-11:35 - SMALL GROUP

GROUPS

(Creating a Safe Place to Connect)

2. Future Fast Forward

[Bible Story Review]

Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building & designing

What You Need: "Shield" Activity Page; scissors; tape; crayons; cardstock strips

What You Do:

- Give each kid a shield and set the markers where everyone can reach them.
- Encourage your group to draw a mural of all the things that kids can do that adults cannot.
- Brainstorm a few ideas before they get started. Kids can play instead of having to go to work, do silly things that adults would be embarrassed to do, take naps, and make friends easily and less awkwardly.
- While the kids are thinking and drawing, draw your own illustration of what you miss most about being a kid.

- After kids are finished, allow them to share their drawings with the rest of the group.
- **[Make It Personal] (Show your own drawing, explaining what you feel like you are missing out on by not being a kid anymore!)**
- Help kids use the cardstock strips to create a handle for their shields.
 - Fold the strip in half lengthwise to reinforce it.
 - Tape one end of the strip several inches from the top of the back of the shield.
 - Create an arch with the strip, and tape the other end so it leaves some room in the middle to grab onto the handle

What You Say:

*"I know it seems like there are so many awesome things you can do when you get older, but you all had some amazing thoughts and ideas on what adults are missing out on! You did a great job focusing on what's right in front of you. Just like the Israelites in our story today, we can get distracted thinking about what we don't have instead of seeing what we have right now. Do you remember why the Israelites were complaining? (Allow time for responses.) That's right! And what did they have right in front of them that they were totally missing out on? (Allow time for kids to discuss the story and answer.) The next time you are tempted to be discontent with where God has you, remember, [Bottom Line] **don't miss out on what you have now.**"*

[Make It Personal] (Share a personal story from a time you found yourself being discontent in a season God had you in and how you learned to not miss out on what you had.

3. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Guide kids in a quick review discussion. Ask a couple questions to get them talking:
 - What's one thing you want that keeps you from being content?
 - What can you do when you feel like you really want that thing, and you're not content with what you have now?
- If your group knows each other pretty well, let them pair off and answer the above questions with a partner.
- Pray over the group as you finish out this month.

What You Say:

"God, I thank You so much for the amazing people sitting in this circle. I know You have big plans for each of them and I can't wait to see all of them follow after You. I pray that they always dream big and do their best. As they do this, I also pray that they would do so with a heart of deep contentment. I believe You will help them stay focused on what You have given them. In Jesus' name, amen!"

As adults arrive to pick up, have each kid show their adult the shield they made. Give them a high five and tell them, [Bottom Line] "Don't miss out on what you have now."