



WEEK THREE – MAY 2020 – PRETEEN

Bible Story: *Go the Distance (Peter and John Are Taken to the Sanhedrin) • Acts 3:1–4:21*

Key Question: *What keeps you from finishing what you start?*

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)*

Life App: *Determination—Deciding it’s worth it to finish what you started*

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

Summary: In Acts 3:1–4:21, we see that Jesus’ mission isn’t going to be that easy. Peter healed someone in the name of Jesus and caused quite a stir. Peter and John used this moment to share the message of Jesus. Soon though, the religious leaders arrested them and had them stand trial. Peter and John showed determination. They made it clear that no matter what happened to them, they would continue sharing Jesus with others.

OPENING DISCUSSION

1. Icebreakers / Zoom SetUp

What to ask:

- 2 people share: What has been the best thing you have done this week?
- 2 people share: What's one thing you miss being able to do right now?
- Leader share: What is one thing you look forward to during this Zoom call?
- Fun Activity
 - Challenge kids to come up with ways to “be upside-down.”
 - This could be upside down on a chair, doing a headstand, doing a handstand with a friend holding their feet, leaning over a table . . .
 - Any method goes, as long as they can stay safe while doing it!
 - Let kids have a few minutes to practice their methods of being upside down, then let everyone take turns showing off their methods.
 - Lead the group to vote on which method was the most creative, funniest, weirdest, etc. (Enlist kids' help in coming up with categories, too!)
 - The only rule with voting is that kids can't vote for their own methods.

What to expect:

- Leader: Set healthy standards for what this group time will look like, how much time you'll spend just catching up, and how much time you'll be engaged with the discussion questions -- NOTE: you want to prompt them to watch the weekend message BEFORE this call so they understand what is being talked about.

Recap the Weekend:

- Leader: Recap the story
- ***Consider having one of your the kids retell the story, then you can fill in the gaps

WEEKLY OVERVIEW

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *What keeps you from finishing what you start? Preteens don't always understand why they want to quit. When you start to identify what keeps standing in your way, you can start to make a plan to overcome and finish. We pray that kids will start to see how they can trust God to give them the strength they need to keep going.*

SMALL GROUP

1. Discussion Questions

[Application Activity]

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Ask:
 - When was the last time you didn't finish something you started? What kept you from finishing?
 - Sometimes we don't finish what we start because we simply get distracted. When do you get distracted or find yourself doing something else instead of the thing you're supposed to be doing?
 - What can we do to help us when we want to give up?
 - Who encourages you to show determination and finish what you start?