

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Pennies, paper clips, bowls of water, towels

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place a bowl of water on a towel for each kid.
- Give each kid a paper clip and a penny.
- Challenge kids to figure out how to float the penny on the surface of the water using the paper clip in some way.
- Assist as needed.
- If some kids are unable to keep the penny from sinking after their best efforts, let those who have success show the others their technique.
- One suggestion is to bend the center of the paper clip up forming an "L"-shaped hook.
- Place the penny on the base of the "L" or bottom of the hook.
- Use the hook to gently set the penny on the surface of the water then slowly move the hook down and away.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

One Step at a Time
Peter Walks on Water
Matthew 14:22-33

KEY QUESTION

What distracts you from focusing on Jesus?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Stay focused on Jesus.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.
Philippians 1:6, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Confidence—Learning to see yourself the way God sees you

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"It's not easy to float a penny, but with some patience and focus, you did it. Some things don't naturally stay on top of the water. They sink. That's no surprise, right? **[Transition] Well, get ready to be surprised because in today's Bible story we'll hear about something much larger than a penny that stayed on top of the water—even in a raging storm.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Dice, "Music Score" Activity Page, pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a pencil and a copy of the "Music Score" Activity Page.
- Instruct kids to write on the line beside each staff something that takes up their time during a typical day.
 - They don't need to include hours that they sleep.
 - Examples might be homework, after-school activities, sports, reading, practicing an instrument, school, hanging out with friends, watching TV, playing video games, eating, etc.
- Ask kids to draw musical notes on the lines or spaces of each staff to indicate how much time they give to each of the areas they labeled on the left. (Point out the "key" at the bottom, indicating how much time each music note represents.)
- Take turns rolling the die.
- Based on the number rolled, ask kids to discuss (together as a group) their answers to the following questions. (If they roll a 3, they will discuss the third staff line on their music score. If they roll a six, they will discuss the sixth line, etc.)
 - How might this activity potentially distract you from God or make it hard to stay focused on Him?
 - How can you keep your focus on God during this activity?
- Continue until you've discussed a variety of activities.
- Set aside the "Music Scores" for use later in "Make it Personal with Prayer."

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DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What does it mean to stay focused on Jesus?
- How can you tell if you are staying focused on Jesus?
- Why is it important for followers of Jesus to stay focused on Him?
- Do you think it's possible to stay focused on Jesus ALL of the time? Why or why not?

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Music Score" from "Take a Snapshot"

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid their "Music Score" from "Take a Snapshot."
- Encourage kids to look over the activities they wrote on their "Music Scores" then pray and ask for God's help to stay focused on Jesus as they participate in those activities this week.
- Invite those who are willing to pray out loud for one another.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, it's so easy for us to turn our focus off of You and make other things bigger or more important than our relationship with You. Help us to not focus on our fears and problems this week but keep our eyes on You. Remind us to invite You into our day-to-day activities and choices by remembering that You are with us wherever we go. Amen."

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