

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

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



OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Instruct the kids to stand in a circle.
- Read from the "Would You Rather" options below and invite the kids to choose which option they would rather

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Exile

Jesus Tempted in the Desert
Luke 4:1-13
(Supporting: Matthew 4:1-11)

- take part in.
- Direct the kids to stay standing if they'd like to do option A and sit down if they would rather do option B.
- After each round, invite a couple of kids to explain why they made the choice they did.
- Continue until all of the "Would You Rather" questions are asked.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Be ready to do the right thing.

Would You Rather Questions:

1. Would you rather a) have to give up fruity candy (Skittles®, Starburst®, Twizzlers®, etc.) for the rest of your life or b) give up anything chocolate for the rest of your life?
2. Would you rather a) walk through a desert in a ski suit or b) walk through a snow storm in summer clothes?
3. Would you rather a) have the ability to fly or b) have the power to read people's minds?
4. Would you rather: a) be a world-class athlete or b) be an award-winning actor?
5. Would you rather: a) be the funniest person or b) be the smartest person?
6. Would you rather: a) be able to talk to animals or b) speak five languages?
7. Would you rather: a) wear shoes that are too big or b) wear shoes too small?
8. Would you rather: a) have 100 spiders in your room or b) eat five spiders?
9. Would you rather: a) live on the moon or b) live under water?
10. Would you rather: a) have hands for feet or b) have feet for hands?

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life."
2 Peter 1:3a, NIV

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Seeing the different choices you each made was fun! Hopefully you will never be in a position where you have to choose to never eat either fruity candy or chocolate again! But if you are, I think our game helped you get ready.

[Transition] Today in Large Group, we'll learn how we have the power to make choices and what this means for us every day. Will we make the best choices? How can we know if they are the right choices? Let's go find out!"

MONTHLY LIFE APP

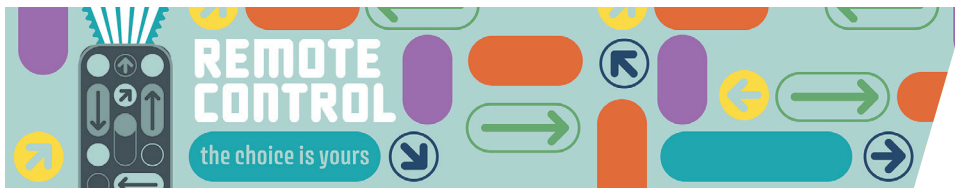
Self-control—Choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.





CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Exile

Jesus Tempted in the Desert
Luke 4:1-13
(Supporting: Matthew 4:1-11)

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Be ready to do the right thing.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life."
2 Peter 1:3a, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Self-control—Choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.



CROSS THE DESERT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Ready or Not" Activity Pages

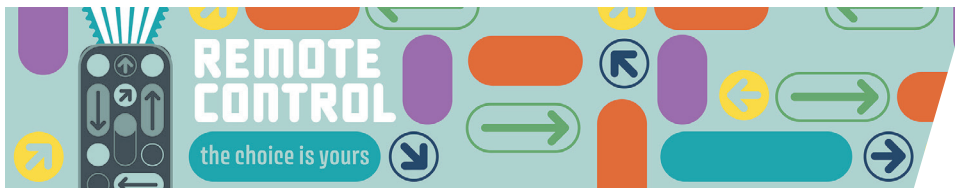
WHAT YOU DO:

- Guide kids to line up shoulder to shoulder at one end of your environment.
- Briefly review the truth that Jesus used the Scriptures He'd learned to help Him resist the devil's tricks and lies.
 - Because He'd LISTENED to God's Word and LEARNED God's Word, He was READY to make the wise choice.
 - Emphasize that kids can be ready to make the wise choice, too.
- Read a scenario from "Ready or Not," guiding kids to call out "READY!" if it describes a wise choice and "NOT!" if it describes an unwise choice.
- Whenever kids call, "READY!" say, "Yes! You'll **be ready to do the right thing!** Move forward [three baby steps, two tiptoe steps, one hop, etc.]."

WHAT YOU SAY:

"In order to DO the right things, we need to LEARN the right things. In the Bible, we can learn from wise people who help us understand how God wants us to live. When we read the Bible, it's like we hear what God wants us to know. What are some other ways that you can listen and learn what God wants? (*listen to Bible stories; listen to adults tell me about God or recite Bible verses*) Great ideas! [**Make It Personal**] (**Tell kids how you listen and learn what God wants, whether by reading your Bible at a certain time each day, putting a Bible verse card in your car or lunch box, or going to a Bible study with other people who love God.**) So when we LEARN more about God from the Bible, we can **be ready to do the right thing.**"





CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



RIGHT CHOICE REMOTES

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, paper, markers, craft supplies

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has a Bible.
- As a group, look up and read this month’s memory verse using the Bible navigation tips below.
- Recite the verse a few times as a group.
- Keep the Bibles open to use during the activity.
- Place the paper, markers, and craft supplies in the middle of the group.
- Invite the kids to design their own remote controls—video game remotes, TV remotes, remote controls for a toy or machine they dream up, or anything they imagine!
- Instruct the kids to write the memory verse on the back of their remote controls.
- Invite the kids to show off their remotes to the group when they finish.

TODAY’S BIBLE STORY

Exile

Jesus Tempted in the Desert
Luke 4:1-13
(Supporting: Matthew 4:1-11)

Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders: Guide them 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 2 Peter in the list under “New Testament.” When the kids find 2 Peter, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find 2 Peter. Help the kids find the page. When they find 2 Peter, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 1. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 3 in chapter 1.

TODAY’S BOTTOM LINE

Be ready to do the right thing.

WHAT YOU SAY:

“We have such a creative group! I love all of the remote control designs! What our memory verse says is true. Just like our remotes give power to TVs and video games, God gives us even greater power to **be ready to do the right thing.**”

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

“God’s power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life.”
2 Peter 1:3a, NIV

“There may be times when facing temptation is extra hard for us. Maybe you want someone at school to like you, so you’re willing to do whatever that person asks—even if it puts you in a bad situation. Maybe you’re tired from a full day of basketball camp and don’t want to help clean up after dinner when your dad says it’s your turn.

MONTHLY LIFE APP

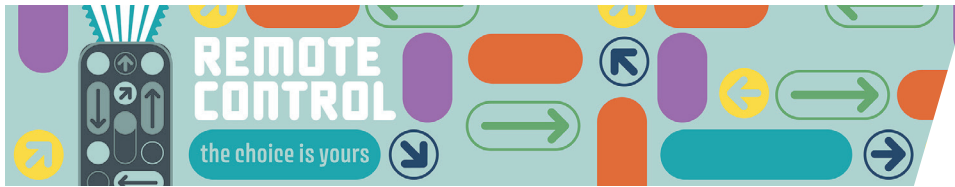
Self-control—Choosing to do what you should even when you don’t want to

“These are the moments when we need to press the ‘ON’ button to the power God has given us and power through the right decisions. **[Make it Personal]** (Share about a time when it was hard for you to do the right thing but you were reminded of the power God has given you.)

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

“This week, hang your remote controls somewhere you can be reminded of the power God has given you! That way, no matter what comes your way you can **Be ready to do the right thing.**”



WEEK
ONE
JANUARY 2022

SMALL GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use the conversation guide below to lead kids in prayer.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Exile

Jesus Tempted in the Desert
Luke 4:1-13
(Supporting: Matthew 4:1-11)

WHAT YOU SAY:

"What are some of the things we talked about that you have to get ready for? (*school, bed, reading the Bible*) Don't forget that when you know how God wants you to live, you'll **be ready to do the right thing**. Let's pray.

"Dear God, thank You SO much for giving us Your power to live the way You want us to live. Thank You for giving us Your Word to show us Who You are and what You're like. Thank You for giving us people who love You who can teach us more about You. Help us LISTEN and LEARN so that'll we'll always **be READY to do the right thing**. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Be ready to do the right thing.

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell parents today's Bottom Line. **Be ready to do the right thing.**

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"God's power has given us everything we need to lead a godly life."
2 Peter 1:3a, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Self-control—Choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

