

CLIFFHANGER

THE STORY
ISN'T OVER

WEEK
ONE
OCTOBER 2022

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

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



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- What are some hard things you have had to face?
- What helps you get through hard things?
- What are some ways you are reminded that God is with you?
- How can Joseph's story encourage you?
- How can you use your experiences to encourage others?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Down in a Hole

Joseph Sold by Brothers
and Joseph in Jail
Genesis 37, 39–40

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What helps people get
through hard things?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Hold on because God is with you.

MONTHLY 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, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Grit—Refusing to give up
when life gets hard

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

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MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Two baskets, prepared "Gather a Crop" Activity Page, Bibles, large pieces of candy (enough for every kid in the group; see "Just for Fun")

WHAT YOU DO:

- Pass out Bibles and ask kids to turn to Galatians 6:9.
- Ask a volunteer to read the verse out loud for the group.
- Divide kids into two teams and have everyone line up, facing the opposite direction from where you are. Instruct them to keep their eyes closed. **NO PEEKING!**
- While their eyes are closed, tape both sets of "Gather a Crop" cards all over your space in various locations (on the wall, under or on top of tables or chairs, etc.).
- With kids still facing the opposite direction from where you've hidden the cards, explain that they will work as a team to "gather their crop" by collecting the cards and placing them in their team's basket.
- Assign each team a different color of card to find.
- When you say, "Go!" teams can turn around, and one kid from each team will hunt for a card in their team's color.
- They will place the card in the basket and run back to their team, handing the basket to another teammate.
- Then that kid will go and collect another card in the correct color. They will run back to their team and hand the basket to another teammate.
- Continue until their entire crop has been gathered.
- Teammates will work together to put the verse in order. The first team to have their verse in the correct order wins.
- Ask the following questions:
 - What does it mean to gather a crop?
 - Why is it easy to get tired of doing good?
- After the discussion, check to see who chose to wait to eat the candy they were given at the very beginning. If they still have theirs, they can trade it in for a larger piece of candy (ie: trade in the fun size Milky Way for a full-size Milky Way candy bar).
- Explain that those who chose to wait were able to gather the "crop of a bigger return"—the large candy bar.
- Encourage kids to work on memorizing Galatians 6:9 this month.

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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: Large dry erase board, dry erase marker, blank notebooks or journals (8.3"x5.5"), "Pray with Grit" Activity Pages, markers, stickers, scissors, glue sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

- On the white board, write out the word "GRIT" as an acrostic.
- Write the following words for each of the letters:
 - **G**ratitude
 - **R**elationships
 - **I**ntity
 - **T**ruth
- Explain that all month long, you want to encourage kids to pray about things that fall under these categories.
 - **G**ratitude-give thanks to God
 - **R**elationships-pray for the people in your life
 - **I**ntity-ask God to help you grow in specific ways when it comes to who you are becoming
 - **T**ruth-pray the truth of God's Word. Choose a verse to pray and focus on.
- Hand out the blank notebooks, "Prayer Journal" Activity Pages, markers, stickers, scissors, and glue sticks.
- Instruct kids to color, decorate, and cut out the Activity Pages so it fits on the front cover of their notebook.
- When kids have finished decorating, let them glue the Activity Page cover to the front of their journal.
- Tell them to make sure their name is somewhere on it.
- Explain that you will be holding on to everyone's GRIT Prayer Journals all month long.
 - During group time, they'll be using them each week, and at the end of the month, they will be able to take them home.
 - *Note: You might want to take time at some point to make a few extra journals for any kids are not there for Week 1, but who may show up in the weeks ahead. That way, they can still participate in the activities that involve the journals each week.*
- Close the group in prayer.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, thank You for the story of Joseph and what it teaches us about You. Help us to remember that we can hold on through hard things because You are with us. Help us to have grit, no matter what we are facing. Thank You for loving us and for being with us always. In Jesus' name, Amen."