

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: beanbag or other small object and timer or timer app

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather the group in a circle.
- Give one kid the beanbag.
- Set the timer for 30 seconds, but don't tell the group how much time is on it.
- Direct the kids to pass the beanbag around or across the circle by gently tossing it.
- When the timer sounds, the kid holding the beanbag is out for the round.
- Play several rounds, setting the timer at random times.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"You didn't want to get caught with the beanbag, but you never knew when that timer would go off! You were tossing the beanbag, batting it around, doing all kinds of crazy things like (*name any "off limits" behavior kids may have done when caught up in the moment*). It's hard to do the right thing when you don't know what's going to happen any second. **[Transition] Let's go hear about someone who had to do something really brave, even when she had no idea what would happen afterwards."**

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Stand Up
Esther
Esther

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can do what you should even when you don't know what will happen.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the LORD your God. I will be with you everywhere you go."
Joshua 1:9b, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Courage—Being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you're afraid

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

STAND

DON'T FACE YOUR FEARS ALONE

WEEK
FOUR
NOVEMBER 2022

SMALL GROUP

K-3

PRELUDE

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HOME

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



EVEN WHEN

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Even When" Activity Pages, scissors, markers, and glue sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid an "Even When" Activity Page and scissors.
- Set out the glue sticks and markers for kids to share.
- Instruct the kids to cut out the three squares on the second page.
- Guide the kids to glue the squares into the correct squares on the right side of the page to create the correct ending for each picture on the left.
- Invite the kids to dream up and draw their own ending on the last picture.
- Encourage kids to color the pictures after they finish!

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Stand Up

Esther
Esther

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can do what you should even when you don't know what will happen.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Be strong and brave. Do not be afraid. Do not lose hope. I am the LORD your God. I will be with you everywhere you go."
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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Courage—Being brave enough to do what you should do, even when you're afraid

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"I love the endings you created for the last picture! The truth is, it's very rare that we know what's on the other side of facing our fears. There could be the chance that no one buys cookies from us today or that we don't make the team we tried out for. Being courageous doesn't mean that everything always goes right for us, but it does mean that we're that much stronger for trying!

"God wants us to do the right thing, even when we're scared or nervous. And when we face our fears, God is there with us, cheering us on. **[Make it Personal] (Share about a time you took a risk and were obedient to God. Discuss whether it did or didn't work out, but either way, how your courage paid off.)**

"This week, no matter what comes your way, be encouraged that **you can do what you should even when you don't know what will happen.**"

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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



3. CONNECT THE DOTS

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Connect the Dots" Activity Pages and markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a "Connect the Dots" Activity Page and set out the markers.
- Ask someone to volunteer to read the verse from the page.
- Encourage kids to guess what the picture is before they start connecting the dots.
- Instruct the kids to complete the "Connect the Dots" Activity Page.
- Invite the kids to color the page once they finish the activity.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"All right, who guessed correctly? Because I definitely didn't see that picture coming! There's a reason why the writer of this month's verse commands us to be strong and brave. It encourages us to not lose hope when it's scary and we don't know what's going to happen in our world.

"I'm so thankful we're not just left to figure things out on our own. We can have courage because God is with us wherever we go. God is with us in the unknown, and the Holy Spirit helps give us courage. Just like you didn't know what the picture would end up looking like today, **you can do what you should even when you don't know what will happen.**"

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Stand Up

Esther
Esther

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can do what you should even when you don't know what will happen.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

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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



PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Completed pages from "Even When" Activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Make sure each kid has their "Even When" Activity Page.
- Ask, "Have you ever experienced any of the scenarios on the page? If so, would you mind telling us about it?"
- Discuss with the kids that even though we don't know what will happen this week, we can rely on the Holy Spirit to help us have courage to face our fears.
- Close your group time in prayer.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, we are so thankful You gave us Your Holy Spirit to be our helper. Because You are with us, we don't have to stand against our fears alone. God, I'm so thankful that You have a big plan for each of these kids sitting in this group. You have called them to be present-day Esthers in their schools, their neighborhoods, and even in their homes. Because of this, we will speak truth to ourselves in the midst of fear and know **you can do what you should even when you don't know what will happen.**"

As adults arrive to pick up, ask kids to show off their "Rock, Paper, Stand" Activity Page. Ask them to share a quick snippet of the story by explaining what one of the symbols stands for. As you remind them to have Esther-like courage throughout their week, send them off by saying, "**You can do what you should even when you don't know what will happen.**"

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Esther
Esther

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