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BIBLE STORY

Go the Distance Peter and John Are Taken to the Sanhedrin Acts 3:1–4:21

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

BOTTOM LINE

Keep going even when it gets tough.

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

	PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience For Leaders Only Create the Environment Monthly Overview
15 MIN	SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction Early Arrivers Stand Them Up; Knock Them Down
25 MIN	STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways Opener Bible Story Worship Prayer Closer
10 MIN	WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God "At the Top of My Lungs" from At the Top of My Lungs "Thank You God" from <i>Can't Stop Won't Stop</i>
25 MIN	GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect Bible Story Pictures Tough Stuff Keep Spinning Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience GodTime Parent Cue



GETTING READY

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

CHOOSE ONE OR BOTH OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container
- Paper; one piece for each kid
- Pencils

STAND THEM UP; KNOCK THEM DOWN

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

• Dominoes or other similar rectangular(ish) objects that can be set up on end like dominoes, like books, markers with flat bottoms, etc.; 20 for every 2 or 3 kids

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

CHOOSE AS MANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES AS YOU LIKE.

* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #2.

1. BIBLE STORY PICTURES

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Bible Story Pictures" Activity Pages; one set for each small group
- Crayons
- Wall tape

* 2. TOUGH STUFF

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Plastic tablecloth
- Paper towels
- Wet wipes
- Large mixing bowls; one for every four kids
- Dry cornstarch; two cups for every four kids
 Put two cups of cornstarch into each mixing bowl.
- Pitcher of water; one cup of water for every four kids
- Liquid measuring cup

3. KEEP SPINNING

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body **WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Bible
- DIDIE

PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

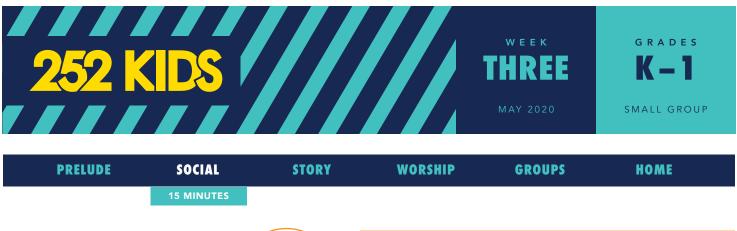
Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

No supplies needed

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's GodTime and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app.**



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PLAY

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

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray for the kids who are in the middle of trying to keep going when something is harder than they thought it would be. Ask God to help those kids stick with it, whether it's a sport, an instrument, a new skill, or simply being kind to a sibling. Pray that God would guide you as you help kids think through practical ideas to keep plugging away.

1. EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, paper, pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids, and show them where to place their offerings.
- Give kids each one piece of paper and a pencil.
- Instruct kids to draw as many squares on their paper as they can until you tell them to stop.
 - If they think they've filled their paper, explain that they can draw a square inside another square or the squares can overlap. They don't have to all be separate.



15 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

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PLAY

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2. STAND THEM UP; KNOCK THEM DOWN

WHAT YOU NEED: Dominoes or other similar rectangular(ish) objects that can be set up vertically

WHAT YOU DO:

- Quickly show kids how to stand several dominoes up on their ends in a row and then knock them down.
- Divide kids into groups of two or three, and give each group 20 dominoes.
- Groups must line up a certain number of dominoes (your call on how many) before knocking them down.
- If they accidentally knock them down too soon, they must start over.
- Repeat as many times as you wish, telling kids a different number of dominoes to set up each time.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Whew! That was tough! It's so frustrating when you ALMOST had enough dominoes lined up, and then you accidentally knocked them down. But you had determination and kept going! [Transition] Let's go to Large Group, where we'll hear all about what we should do when things get tough."

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME
				25 MINUTES	

TALK ABOUT GOD BIBLE STORY REVIEW

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I M A G I N E

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

1. BIBLE STORY PICTURES

WHAT YOU NEED: "Bible Story Pictures" Activity Pages, crayons, wall tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Hand out the Bible Story Pictures.
 - If you have more kids than pictures, some kids can share a picture.
 - $\,\,$ $\,$ $\,$ If you have more pictures than kids, some kids can have two pictures.
- As kids color their pictures, ask them what's happening in each scene. (Use the list of pictures below if kids don't remember the story details that are being depicted in their picture.)
- Kids then work together to tape the pictures in order on the wall.
- Retell the story together, using the pictures.
 - 1. Peter and John see a man lying on a mat.
 - 2. Peter takes the man's hand.
 - 3. The man leaps up and walks.
 - 4. A crowd gathers, and Peter speaks to them about what happened.
 - 5. The religious leaders are angry with Peter and John for preaching about Jesus.
 - 6. Peter and John are thrown into prison.
 - 7. Peter and John are brought in front of the religious leaders. They are told to stop speaking about Jesus. They refuse.
 - 8. The religious leaders let Peter and John go.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Wow! Things got REALLY tough for Peter and John, didn't they? But they kept going. They kept telling everyone they saw about Jesus and all He has done for all of us. Even when they got thrown into jail, they wouldn't stop talking about Jesus! That's SO amazing! I hope that I can **keep going even when it gets tough,** just like Peter and John did."



PRELUDE	SOCIAL	STORY	WORSHIP	GROUPS	HOME
				25 MINUTES	

LIVE FOR GOD APPLICATION ACTIVITY

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EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

* 2. TOUGH STUFF

WHAT YOU NEED: Plastic tablecloth, paper towels, wet wipes, mixing bowls with cornstarch, pitcher of water, liquid measuring cup

WHAT YOU DO:

- Spread the tablecloth down in your small group area.
- Place the bowls of cornstarch on the tablecloth, and encourage kids to divide up and sit around the bowls.
- Ask a kid from each group to assist you in pouring one cup of water into their bowl.
- Ask another kid from each group to use his hands to mix up the water and cornstarch. After a few seconds, allow another kid to help.
- Once it's all mixed up, encourage kids to play with the goo.
- Remind them to keep their hands over the bowl so they don't spread the mess around.
- Talk about what happens to the goo when you squeeze it in your fist versus when you open your hand.
- When you're finished, help kids clean their hands with the paper towels and wet wipes.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"That was so cool! The goo was 'tough' when you squeezed it, but when you let go, it dripped back down into the bowl. Today we're learning to **keep going even when it gets tough.** Just like the goo was tough sometimes, things in our lives can get tough sometimes. Maybe you start out on a school project, and it seems easy enough, but as you work on it, it gets tougher. Or maybe you get tired in gym class or soccer practice and think it's impossible to keep going. You know what? It's probably not. With determination, you can keep going, and not only that, but the next time it might even be easier!"

[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time when you kept going even when things got tough, and as you kept going, it actually got easier. Make sure to keep it appropriate and relevant for young kids.)





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WHAT YOU DO:

- Lead kids in saying Galatians 6:9 together a few times.
- Line kids up so they're standing side by side.
- Assign a word or phrase of the verse to each kid, in order, down the line.
- Practice saying the verse several times, with each kid saying his or her word(s) in order.
- Then kids have to spin around one time as they say their specific word(s).
 - Essentially, you'll call out the word/phrase and the kid who is assigned to that word will spin around and then stop when you move on to the next word.
- Repeat as long as you like, with kids saying the verse faster and faster each time.
- Kids will probably get dizzy, but they should keep going if at all possible.
- If they can't continue to stand, they can spin on their bottoms.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Wow! That was fun and crazy! You all got pretty dizzy, but you kept going even when it got tough. When things get tough in our lives, we can keep going, too. Last week we learned that God gives us what we need to keep going. It's true! He helps us have determination to do good things and keep going even when it gets tough."



WEEK GRADES K — 1 SMALL GROUP



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WHAT YOU DO:

- Lead a call-and-response prayer.
- You will say the "When . . ." part, and kids will respond with, "help me keep going."

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, we know You'll help us when we ask.

- "When my homework is just too hard . . . help me keep going.
- "When I can't read all the words in my new book . . . help me keep going.

"When I feel like I can't run down the soccer field one more time . . . help me keep going.

"When I think I'll never learn the new math rules . . . help me keep going.

"When things get tough . . . help me keep going. "Amen!"

As adults arrive to pick up, tell them to ask kids about the goo they made today.