

ALLEY LG – April 23rd/24th Daring Faith Week #4

Theme: Dare to GIVE

Bible Story: Jacob's dream – *Genesis 28:10-22*

Bottom Line: In order for me to have Daring Faith, I need to give back to God.

Memory Verse: "Be on your guard. Remain strong in the faith. Be brave." 1 Corinthians 16:13
NIRV

Host is on stage dressed in the costume to become out Daring Faith Host, Montana Duke. There is a hat, a cheap jacket, a satchel, and a rope. SGL: PLEASE wear the costume!!! If you are not comfortable with the size of the jacket, that is fine, just please wear the hat, satchel and rope. If you have a leather jacket or khaki shirt, that would be great. There will be three bags of items for our game near the stage.

CG: Daring Faith

Opener

HOST: "Hey, everybody! Welcome to the fourth week in our series, Daring Faith! I am Montana Duke and we are going to be taking a journey below the Earth to explore! We are going underground to explore what it means to be daring in our Faith. Today we are going to **Dare to Give!**

CG: Dare To Give

During this month we have been trying to see just how daring and brave and courageous and mighty you really are!! It's like our memory verse says,

CG: Memory Verse

"Be on your guard. Remain strong in the faith. Be brave." 1 Corinthians 16:13

CG: Daring Faith Challenge

You will get to prove how brave you are each week with a Daring Faith Challenge!!

Now for today's challenge I need 3 people who are daring enough to take on a tough physical challenge. (*Pick 3 kids who have NOT participated in either of the last three weeks' Challenges*) Let's get our 3 challengers up here. You three will be the "holders"

Now I need 3 people to be their teammates! You are going to help these competitors to see how brave they really are! (*Choose 3 more people who have not participated yet assign them a teammate*) You three will be the "handlers". So we have the holders and the handlers!

Let's meet our Daring Faith Challengers! (*Introduce kids*) Do you think they 3 individuals are brave and mighty enough for a challenge that will test their physical strength??

OK, holder, I need you to stand over here and their handers will stand next to them with this bag.
(Hand them a bag of items)

Let's look at the screen to hear from our trusted cave friend Boulderdash who has the instructions for our Challenge:

Video: Talking Rock Face Video

This is what the talking face will say: (I am including this in case the Talking Head Video does not work)

*"Welcome back everyone to DARING FAITH!!!! My name is BoulderDash! This week we have 3 teams daring to take on another tough physical challenge to see how BRAVE they really are!
Let's get our competitors on stage....We need 1 team member to be the "HOLDER" and other to be the "HANDER". The hander needs to stand next to the bag. The hander selects an item from the bag and hands it to the holder. The hander continues to do this until holder drops something. The team with the most stuff with out dropping anything wins!!! need 1 minute on the clock.....and GO!! Great job competitors!!
Make sure you come back next week for the FINAL Daring competition!"*

SETTING UP THE STORY

Like I said, we are going on an exploration to see what it means to have Daring Faith. Today we are going to Dare to Give!

CG: Dare to Give

Today we are talking about God and how generous He is. Everything we have from our homes to our friends and even the food we eat, all comes from God. God is very generous and we should be thankful and give back to him.

When I say we should give back to God, I am talking about giving God our money, our time and our talents. The Bible explains that God is our provider and that he has given us everything. He also asks us to be thankful and to give back some of what he has given us. But we will talk about that a little later.

Today we are going to hear from God's word about a man named Jacob and a dream he had This TRUE story is found in the very first book of the Bible. Who knows what that is? Yes, Genesis! Listen as I read this story from Genesis chapter 28.

Slide #1

Jacob had to leave his home and his family to travel to a town called Haran. He was running from his brother who wanted to kill him. He had to travel far, and after he had been walking for a long time, the sun set and he stopped for the night to rest.

Slide #2

He found a stone on the ground and placed it under his head as a pillow and went to sleep. Here's where the story gets interesting....As he was sleeping, he had a dream.

Slide #3

In his dream, He saw a stairway from the ground all the way up to Heaven, and the angels of the Lord were on the stairway. The Lord was standing on the top of the ladder and he said, "I am the Lord your God. I will give you the land on which you are laying. Your descendants will be like the dust of the Earth, and you will spread out to the west and the east, to the north and the south. In other words, he would have a LOT of family members!

Slide #4

God also said, "I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you."

Slide #5

When Jacob woke up he thought, "Surely the Lord is in this place! How awesome is this place!"

Slide #6

Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on it.

Slide #7

He made a vow saying, "If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear so that I return safely to my father's house, then the Lord will be my God and this stone I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you one tenth."

Jacob realized all that God was doing for him and he wanted to give back to God. He said he was going to give him one tenth of everything he had! We should be generous just like Jacob. Take a look at this video...

Video: Generosity

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

God has given us all so much, just like Jacob. We should also give back to God, but what does that mean to give back to God??

Well, one way to give to God is with our **money**. We give God our money by giving him our offering. That means giving some of our allowance, or birthday money to the church. Here in the CITY, we collect money during our worship time. Our leaders at the church use that money to help a mission that we as a church support. Our money that you guys give in the CITY goes to sponsor _____ (*Victor at HG, ask Lindsey/Jenny who is sponsored at Orland*) who are children in Kenya, which is in Africa. Our church gives money so that they can go to school, have enough food, and get medical help. We also give back to God by giving him things that money has bought for us. Like toys or clothes! We can give away our toys or clothes to people who need them.

Another way we can give back to God is with our **time**. We can do things to help others with our time. You can use time that you would usually spend playing video games, or playing with friends to do some thing to help someone else. Like, help your mom with chores. Or help a neighbor with yard work. Or help a friend with their homework. Or even help your brother or sister clean their room! There are lots of ways you can use your time to give back to God.

The last way we are going to talk about giving back to God is with your **talents**. What is a talent? Yes something you are good at. If you are good at art, you can make something for someone who is sick to brighten their day. If you are good at a sport like soccer, you can teach someone else how to play. If you are a good singer, you can sing at a retirement home. If you are a good listener, you can listen to a friend who is having a hard time and let them know you are here for them.

We can never thank God enough for everything he has given us, but one thing we can do is to give back part of what he has given us. When we do that, God uses what we give to help others God wants us to use our time, talents and money to give to others. When we do that, we are giving back to Him! It's like our bottom line says,

CG: Bottom Line

Bottom Line: In order to have Daring Faith, I need to give back to God.

Let's say that together, "In order to have daring faith, I need to trust that God will provide for my needs." All month long we are talking about how we can be daring in our faith. And in order to give back to God it DOES take daring faith!!

I want you to think about that right now. Bow your head and close your eyes.

Play song: Here I am to Worship

"We are going to spend some time with God right now. I want you to think about a way that YOU can give back to God. Maybe we feel you want to give with your money. Maybe you have money at home that you can give to the church: that you can give to help sponsor our kids in Africa. Or you have a toy or clothes that you can donate to those who may need them.

Maybe you feel you can give back to God with your time. You might be feeling like you should be doing more to help someone. Or someone you know is in need and you can do something with your time to help them.

OR maybe you have a talent you can bless someone with. You are good at something and you can help someone with your skill that maybe your way of giving back to God.

This is your time to ask God what he wants YOU to do. Take a moment to think about that right now. *(give a minute or so of quiet as the music plays)*

End music when leader says

We are now going to put your daring faith into action! Let's circle up in our small groups. Small group leaders, I will give you some strips of fabric and markers for your group.

If you thought of something that YOU want to do to give back to God write it on a strip of fabric. Take some time now in your small group to talk about your ideas and if you feel comfortable share with your group what you plan to do to give back to God.

(Give small groups time to complete this activity. When it seems like they are done, collect the bins and move on to the next part)

We have been talking all month about having Daring Faith. That means to be daring in our relationship with God. I am going to ask you to be daring right now. If you are willing to make a commitment to give back to God today, you will come up and hang your strip of fabric on this vine. By doing this, you are telling God that you will take this step of Faith and give back to God. Remember: everything you have comes from God. When we are generous and giving with what he has given us, we are telling him thank you for all you have. I am going to play one of my favorite songs, called "Faith." As this song plays, if you feel you are ready to take that daring step of faith and commit to giving back to God, you can bring your fabric strip up and tie it on the vine. Some of our small group leaders can come and help us with the tying for those who need it.

Play Song: Faith

(kids will come up and tie their fabric strips on the vine)

End song when kids are finished. If they are still tying and the song ends, play it again

(GIVE EACH CHILD WHO COMES UP AND MAKES A COMMITMENT A DARING FAITH BRACELET)

I am so proud of each and every one of you who showed daring faith today. This bracelet is for you to wear to remind you of the commitment you made today. Let me pray for you right now...

"God help us never to forget that everything we have comes from you. We are so thankful that you are so generous with us. I pray that we will always remember to give back to you. Thank you for these kids who made a commitment to thank you by giving back to you. Please bless them and give them the strength to follow through on what they promised to do. In your name we pray, Amen."

Now, I want to remind you of our daring faith challenge! We have a challenge for EVERYONE to participate in this month. Some of you who have been here one of the last three weeks have heard this. Remember: IF you finish the challenge you will win a very valuable prize! How many people like to go to Water parks in the summer??? Well, we are getting closer to the summer and if you commit to this challenge you will win a pass to a local Water Park! Here is what you will do: *(Have the leaders pass out the lanyards and booklets if they haven't already)*

Everyone has a lanyard. In your lanyard is a Daring Faith Book. Each of the next Five weeks will have a different challenge. AFTER we learn a new story from the Bible about Daring Faith we want you to take your book home and complete the question. You are NOT answering it here at church; you are taking it home to think about. Bring the booklet back next week and you will receive a jewel sticker for your booklet. Everyone turn to the last pages in the book that says, "Daring Faith Sticker Pages." Each week you BRING your book back with your challenge completed, you will earn a jewel sticker and can stick it here. At the end of the five weeks, if you have ALL FIVE jewels stickers you will receive a FREE pass to a water park!

You cannot work ahead. You can't come back next week with all of your challenges completed. We are going to focus on ONE WAY we can daring in our faith each week. Now you may say, "Montana Duke, but I don't come to church every single week!" That's ok. IF you miss weeks, you may go ahead and complete the challenges of the weeks you have missed. If you miss three weeks, and the next time you come to church you have all three of those weeks' challenges completed, you will get those three Jewels for you book.

Bring your lanyard and booklet back with you every week. You will NOT get another lanyard so don't lose them!! Let's look together at this week's Challenge, *(Read Week #3 in the booklet)*

I challenge you to complete this at home and bring your lanyard back next week for a jewel. If you need help, ask you parents. This is a great thing for you to talk to your parents about; they may have some great ideas for you!

Dismiss children to their Small Groups.