

ALLEY SG- January 14th/15th

Bible Story: Jesus' baptism & John calls Jesus Lamb of God • *John 1:19-42 (Supporting: Matthew 3, Mark 1:1-11, Luke 3:1-22)*

Bottom Line: Discovering what God says helps you follow Jesus.

Memory Verse: "Your word is like a lamp that shows me the way. It is like a light that guides me." *Psalms 119:105 (NIRV)*

Life App: Knowledge—learning something new so you can be better at whatever you do.

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Follow in His Footsteps

What You Need: Cardstock; 2 pieces for each kid, markers, masking tape

What You Do:

- Give kids two pieces of paper and pencils or markers.
- Tell kids to trace one foot on each piece of paper and decorate their "paper feet."
- With masking tape, create a start line and a finish line, long enough to accommodate all kids if they are standing shoulder to shoulder.
- Tell kids they will race each other to the finish line, but they can only follow their paper feet.
 - They set one paper foot down and stand on it.
 - They can only move forward when they put the other paper foot down to step on.
 - During the race, kids can only move their feet if they are on the paper feet. If they break this rule, they have to go back to the start line and start again.
- The first kid to make it to the finish line.

What You Say:

- What is hard about follow the leader? What would have helped you all during the game?
- What is something that you gained the knowledge to do that changed everything you knew before? For example, riding a bike, playing a sport,
- What is a time that you discovered something about God's word that helped you? How did that change the way you looked at the world. (**Make it personal. Feel free to share with the group you changed the way you look at the world. Remember to keep it appropriate**).
- **[Bottom Line] discovering what God says helps you FOLLOW Jesus.**

Building the Story

What You Need: "Building the Story" cards, Play-Doh (one or two cans per bin)

What You Do:

- Have the kids sit around in the circle and choose one to form the Play-Doh.
- On the Bible story cards, you will have something from the story that the child must form.
- While the kid forms the Play-Doh into the word, the rest of the kids may guess.
- First kid to get the right answer can be the next to form the Play-Doh.
- Play as many rounds as you would like or interest allows.

What You Say:

- John understood that Jesus following Jesus is the most important thing, where did he learn this? (God told him).
- Why is following Jesus better than following ourselves? (Jesus gives us salvation and helps us lead an awesome life).
- What does follow Jesus look like? **(Make it personal: share how you followed Jesus).**
- **[Bottom Line] discovering what God says helps you FOLLOW Jesus.**
- Does knowing who Jesus is help you to trust Him? Does trusting Him help you to follow Him? Why or why not?

Pray

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Pray with the kids, thanking God for His Word and for giving us the story of Jesus.
- Share with God our desire is to be more like His Son, and we know that discovering what He says will help us follow Jesus.
- Ask God to open our eyes, our ears, and our minds to identify opportunities to gain knowledge so we can follow Jesus better.

EXTRA ACTIVITY

Memory Verse Word Search

What You Need: "Psalms 119:105 Word Search" activity page, Bibles

What You Do:

- Hand a word search page and a Bible to each kid in the circle.
- Have them try to solve the word search by themselves (some words are combined due to the size of the passage).
- Let them know if they get stuck, they can look up the verse in the Bible.
- Once they finish the puzzle, have them place all the words in order at the Bottom of the page.

What You Say:

- How many of you have seen this Psalm before?
- What do you think it mean for God's word to show you the way?
- What do you think a life where God's word guides you look like? Why does it matter?
- What is a way you can live that out this week and remember **[Bottom Line] 'discovering what God says helps you follow Jesus.'**