

Alley SG – October 7 & 8, 2017

Bible Story: So You Think You Can Use Your Time Wisely (Teach us to number our days) • *Psalm 90:12, NIV*

Bottom Line: Use your time wisely.

Key Question: How can you best use your time?

Memory Verse: "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much." *Luke 16:10a, NIV*

CONNECT TIME:

NOTE: This time is meant to be done as students arrive, and before Large Group

What You Need: Decks of cards (one deck for every 3-5 students)

What You Do:

- **Ask** everyone to get in a group of 5 or less and sit in a circle.
- **Tell** them to divide the deck of cards equally between the players.
 - Everyone holds his/her own cards in a pile, facedown.
- **Explain** that you'll play a game by going around the table clockwise with each player placing the top card of their pile face up in the center of the table or floor, making a face-up pile.
 - When someone plays a jack, the first player to slap it (i.e., put their hand down on top of the center pile) wins the pile and adds those cards face down in the bottom of his or her own pile.
 - Play continues, starting with the player to the left of the player who won the cards.
 - Tell kids that when they are playing a card, they cannot peek at it in advance; they must turn it over so that everyone sees it at once.
 - It is best if the card is moved to the center of the table face down and then turned "away from" the player (so that, if anything, the others will see it a split second before the player who plays the card).
 - If several people slap the pile, the person whose hand is underneath (i.e. in contact with the card) is the winner of all the cards.

Note: A referee might be needed if your students are very competitive about this!

- **Explain** that if a player slaps a card that is *not* a jack, the player who slapped has to give the top card of his or her own pile face down to the person who played the card that they wrongly slapped. That person adds it to the bottom of his or her own pile.
- **Tell** them that when they run out of cards, they no longer play a card when it is their turn, obviously. But they are still entitled to take part in the slapping of the next jack, and if they win, they are back in the game because they have cards again. If someone else wins or if you slap a card that is not a jack, you are officially out of the game.
- **Say** that when one player has all the cards, that player wins.

Before you lead students to Large Group Area, give each of them a label with a number on it to wear.

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

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1. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: Bible, index cards with lines (blank on one side), pencils, “About the Author” Sheet

What You Do:

- **Remind** kids of today’s Bible passage, Psalm 90:12. Ask someone to open a Bible and read the verse aloud.
- **Challenge** them to figure out how many days they’ve been alive.
- **Pass out** the index cards and pencils—they can use the **blank side** to do some math and figuring. *Note: They will need the lined side for something else.*
 - For those who figure it out quickly, ask them to try to figure out how many minutes they’ve been alive or how even many seconds. (It doesn’t matter if they are correct—it’s just supposed to get them thinking about the size of the number.)
- **Read** the “About the Author” Sheet.
- **Ask** them to use the **lined side** of their index card to write or list what they want to be said about them someday—what will be their accomplishments?
- **Give** them a few minutes to do this.
- **See** if anyone would like to read his or her paragraph or list to the group.
- **Finish** by asking: how could thinking ahead to what you want to be known for help you spend your time wisely now?

2. Discussion Questions

- What kinds of things can we do with our time that would show God we love Him?
- What kinds of things can we do with our time that would show God we love this earth?
- What kinds of things can we do with our time that would show God we love the people in it?
- Who is someone you know who spends their time carefully—they have a plan and goals?

3. God Time Sheets (Take Home Activity Sheets)

Hand out the “God Time” Take Home Sheets to each student, and allow them to work on them until pick up.

NOTE: Remind the students that if they bring back their completed God Time Sheets the following week, they will receive \$5 in Alley Cash.

- **Instruct** students to close their eyes so you can pray and send them out.

Dear Jesus, teach us to number our days. We want to be careful in how we live. We want to be wise and not foolish. We want years from now to be proud of how we’ve loved You and others. Help us to remember not to take each day we have on this earth for granted. We love You. In Jesus’ name, Amen.