

# Alley SG - July 21-22, 2018

**Bible Story:** He Won't Back Down (Peter and John before the Sanhedrin) • Acts 4:1-22; supporting Acts 3

**Key Question:** How can you face challenges knowing Jesus is with you?

**Bottom Line:** When Jesus is with you, you can face anything.

**Memory Verse:** "Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." *Philippians 1:6, NIV*

## OPENING ACTIVITY: Just for Fun

**What You Need:** A bandana/blindfold (one per group)

**What You Do:**

- **Form** a circle with the group.
- **Ask** for one volunteer to stand in the center of the circle.
- **Blindfold** the volunteer.
- **Spin** the volunteer in circles and **instruct** the circle of kids to rotate in one direction as well.
- When you **stop** spinning the volunteer, everyone stops moving.
- **Ask** the volunteer to say an animal and the kid directly across from (facing) the volunteer must make the animal sound.
- **Ask** the volunteer to guess who he is facing.
- **Repeat** allowing other kids an opportunity to be in the center and guess whom they are facing.
- **Ask** children what it felt like not knowing where everyone was, and remind them that we can know that Jesus is always with us!

## 1. Take a Snapshot

**What You Need:** White cardstock (6 per group, per service), markers

**What You Do:**

- **Ask** kids if they could pick any super power to possess what it would be?
- **Ask** kids if they consider any of the following super powers. Why or why not? (*Dig deeper: Have you ever seen someone respond with incredible self-control and you didn't know how he or she managed not to get angry at the situation? Or have you been around someone so ANNOYING you were amazed how someone had the patience to hang with that person?*)
  - Determination/courage
  - Wisdom
  - Self-control
  - Non-physical strength
  - Patience
  - Confidence
- **Pass** out the card stock and markers to the group.
- **Encourage** the group to work together to create 6 shields, one shield to represent each of the powers listed above.

## 2. Bible Story Extension

**What You Need:** “Power Shields” from the Take a Snapshot Activity, Bibles

**What You Do:**

- **Review** the Bible story. Potential discussion questions are:
  - Why were Peter and John in trouble?
  - Why did they make the choices they did?
  - What challenge did Peter and John face?
  - What supernatural power(s) did they demonstrate? (*strength, confidence, courage, wisdom in knowing the words to speak*)
  - How did Peter and John get the supernatural powers?
  - How did knowing Jesus was with them help them face the Sanhedrin?
- **Explain** that when you believe Jesus is who He says He is, the Holy Spirit becomes part of you. Through the Holy Spirit, you receive supernatural “power” to face challenges.
- **Review** some of the powers the group discussed earlier.
  - As you review them, **lay** the “Power Shields” from the Take a Snapshot Activity near the opposite side of the environment from where the group is sitting.
- **Set** the scene by reading difficult scenarios kids might face from the list below.
- On your cue, **instruct** kids to race to the “Power Shields” and pick a “power” they could use to help them face each challenge.
  - Whoever holds up a “shield” first gives an example of how they would use the power to face the situation.
  - More than one “power” could be used for each situation.
  - In the case of a tie, **allow** each kid in the tie to present his/her example to the rest of the group and the group can vote for who they think should win the round based on their presentations.
- **Give** kids an opportunity to **share** examples of challenges they might be facing or have faced, and as a group **discuss** what “power” would help them with the challenge.
- Scenarios could include:
  - You are doing a group project and one member of the group isn’t helping at all. What “power” could you use in this situation?
  - A kid in your class is being bullied or treated unkindly. What “power” could you use in this situation?
  - Reading is hard for you and your teacher just gave the class a long book to read at home. What “power” could you use in this situation?
  - Your friends are going to a movie and your parents won’t let you go because it’s PG-13 and they haven’t seen it yet. What “power” could you use in this situation?
  - You just found out that you didn’t make the team that you and all your friends tried out for, but most of your friends made it. What “power” could you use in this situation?
  - It’s your first time staying home alone for an hour. You know where all your birthday presents are being hidden and you really want to know if you’re getting that awesome thing you asked for. What “power” could you use in this situation?
  - Add any other scenarios you can think of based on what you know about your group.

### 3. Discussion Questions

- When is it hard to be confident? How can you get yourself ready to face challenges?
- Peter and John had confidence knowing Jesus was with them. How can knowing Jesus is with you help you face challenges and give you confidence?
- Can you think of a time you responded to a situation knowing that the Spirit was helping you? What was it? Maybe you had something to say and you decided to hold your tongue. Or you were tired of waiting for your friend to text you back and instead of getting mad you patiently waited. Or there was a lot of drama among your friends but you had the confidence and self-control to not get involved.
- ***[Make it Personal] Share a story that fits the above description. Most of the time, kids this age will need a concrete example to be able to bring to mind a story about when something similar happened to them.***

### 4. Verse to Take with You

**What You Need:** “Power Shields” from Take a Snapshot Activity, Bibles, a concordance or mobile device

#### **What You Do:**

- Using a Bible App or a concordance, **instruct** kids to find verses that correspond to the “powers” on the “Power Shields” they created.
- If kids are struggling using a Bible App or concordance, **encourage** the group to help each other. Be prepared to **show** kids how to find verses as well.
- **Share** and **discuss** the verses kids find.
- **Encourage** the group to write the verses on the appropriate shield.
- Examples of potential verses could include:
  - Determination/Courage – Acts 4:13, Joshua 1:9
  - Non-physical Strength – Colossians 1:11, Philippians 4:13
  - Confidence – Hebrews 13:6, 2 Corinthians 3:4-5
  - Self-Control – Galatians 5:22
  - Patience – Ephesians 4:2
  - Wisdom – James 1:5, Ephesians 1:17

### 5. Make it Personal with Prayer

**What You Need:** “Power Shields” from the Take a Snapshot Activity, index cards

#### **What You Do:**

- **Challenge** kids to identify a supernatural power they may need this week.
- If you have enough for each kid, **encourage** kids to select one of the “Power Shields” to take home.
  - Or simply have them write the power on an index card with one of the verses that resonates with them from the “Verses to Take with You” Activity.
- **Close** in prayer by:
  - Thanking Jesus for being Who He is and rescuing us.
  - Thanking Jesus for always being with us and giving us power through His Holy Spirit.
  - Asking Jesus to show us opportunities to use His power to face any challenge we may encounter this week.