

# Alley SG - July 28-29, 2018

**Bible Story:** Something to Believe In (Nothing Can Separate Us from God's Love)

• *Romans 8:38-39*

**Key Question:** How would you live if you believed what God says is true?

**Bottom Line:** Live like you believe what God says is true.

**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*

## 1. Get Your Head in the Game

**What You Need:** Straws (one per kid), Bag of Skittles (2 per group, per service), cups (2 per group, per service), (optional: mobile device timer)

**What You Do:**

- **Divide** the group into two teams.
- **Give** each kid a straw and each team a cup.
- **Ask** each team to pick a Skittles color.
- **Dump** a bag of Skittles on the floor.
- **Give** teams an amount of time (30 seconds to a minute) to separate the Skittles corresponding to the color they selected.
  - Teams must use a straw to pick up the Skittles by sucking on the end of the straw, placing the other end on the Skittle, and lifting the Skittle by creating suction.
  - Skittles must be put in the team's cup to count.
  - Kids cannot touch the Skittles with their hands.
- **Declare** the team with the most Skittles in their cup as the winner.
- If time allows, you can **repeat** the activity using different colored Skittles to be separated.

**What You Say:**

"You did a great job separating the Skittles! There are a lot of examples in this world of things you can separate. Oil and water. Egg yolks and eggs whites. If you had a lot of time you could even separate grains of sand. **[Transition]** But there is something you can never separate. God's love for us!"

## 2. Take a Snapshot

**What You Need:** "Truth" and "Not Truth" Activity Pages (one set per group), two different color flyswatters (per group), "Game Cards" Activity Pages (one set per group), Bible

**What You Do:**

- **Divide** the group into 2 teams.
- **Give** one member on each team a flyswatter
- **Place** the "Truth" and "Not Truth" pages on a flat surface.
- **Shuffle** the "Game Cards."
- **Select** a card from the pile and read it to the group.
- The first team member to "swat" the correct answer to the statement gets a point. (**Ask** kids to pick a different person to be the "fly swatter" for each round.)
- **Tell** kids to be ready to go to the Bible to find a reference to support the answers.

- As a group, **edit** the “Not Truth” cards so that they become a “Truth” statement.
- **Declare** a winner.
- **Ask:**
  - Looking at these truths, which ones helps you have confidence? Why?

### 3. Discussion Questions

- Have you ever felt like God was far away or not listening to you?
- God promises He will never leave us, but what can you do when you just don't feel like He's near?
- How can knowing God is with you change how you live? Has following God or knowing what He says ever changed or influenced something you did?
- What does it mean to live with confidence in God?
- What does it look like to live like you believe what God says is true? How can you respond when things don't go your way, even when you're doing your best to follow God?

### 4. Verse to Take with You

**What You Need:** Duct tape (one roll per group), scissors, Bibles, permanent markers

**What You Do:**

- **Pass** out Bibles.
- **Ask** kids to look up Romans 8:38-39.
- **Ask** kids to paraphrase what those verses mean, in their own words.
- **Give** each kid a piece of duct tape, about 6-8 inches long.
- **Ask** them to fold the tape in half, sticky sides together, and press the sides together.
- **Challenge** them to **separate** the duct tape from itself. It should be VERY difficult, if not impossible, to separate the duct tape once it adheres to itself.
  - If anyone is able to separate the tape, point out that it's not 100% separated, since there should be some adhesive that has transferred to the other side.
- **Ask** if anyone can tell you what the duct tape has to do with Romans 8:38-39.
  - If necessary, **explain** that the duct tape is a visual for Romans 8:38-39. Just like you can't separate the tape, nothing can separate you from God's love.
- **Tell** kids to write the verse reference Romans 8:38-39 on their duct tape.
  - If they want, they can write the entire verse on the tape with permanent marker.
- **Encourage** them to keep the duct tape as a reminder that nothing can ever separate them from God's love. Perhaps they could even use it as a bookmark.

### 5. Make it Personal with Prayer

**What You Need:** No supplies needed

**What You Do:**

- **Review** what your group has learned this summer about confidence.
- Below is a list of Bible stories and key questions to help prompt the conversation:
  - Jesus is the Cornerstone \* Why does Jesus matter?
  - Gideon \* How could God use you?
  - Samson \* What happens when you trust yourself more than God?

- Elijah and the Prophets of Baal \* How would you live if you believed God could do the impossible?
- Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego \* What does it mean to trust God?
- Philip and Nathaniel \* Who encourages you to trust God?
- Peter Walks on Water \* What distracts you from focusing on Jesus?
- Peter and John Before the Sanhedrin \* How can you face challenges knowing Jesus is with you?
- Nothing Can Separate Us from God's Love \* How would you live if you believed what God says is true?
- **Pair** kids up.
- **Encourage** kids to discuss what they learned this summer. What was encouraging? Was there a story they hadn't heard before? What did they learn about having confidence and living like they believe what God says is true?
- **Encourage** kids to pray for each other asking God for help to live with confidence.