City SG - July 28-29, 2018

Bible Story: Something to Believe In (Nothing Can Separate Us from God's Love) • *Romans* 8:38-39

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. Crazy Fun Facts

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Read the list of crazy fun facts below.

Encourage your kids to guess if the crazy fun fact you are reading is true or false.

Crazy Fun Facts:

- A hippo's lips are about five feet wide. (False; they are two feet wide)
- Some of the first soles of Nike shoes were made by pouring rubber into a waffle iron. (True)
- To create the sound of Darth Vader's breathing, a sound designer breathed into a scuba mask. (*True*)
- There is more vitamin C in strawberries than in oranges. (True)
- You can compete in an underwater mountain bike race in Sydney, Australia. (False; but there is one in North Carolina)
- Bloodhounds can follow a scent that is one week old. (False; they can follow a scent that is 4
 days old)
- The first microwave oven was almost as tall as a refrigerator. (True)
- Ketchup was originally sold as medicine. (True)
- Popsicles were invented by a 10 year old. (False; an 11 year old)
- If grasshoppers were the size of people, they could leap the length of a football field. (False; they could leap the length of a basketball court)

What You Say:

"Some of those facts were so crazy, I didn't know if I even believed them. Which fact did you think was the craziest? (Allow kids to answer while also sharing what you found the most interesting.)

[Transition] Today in Large Group, we learned about something else that's crazy awesome that we can always believe to be true! Nothing can separate us from God's love!"

2. Sticky Balloons

What You Need: Bible, large inflated balloons (2 per group per service), dot stickers (10 per kid) and a permanent marker to put T and F on balloon.

What You Do:

- Sit in a circle.
- Show kids the balloon with the "T" and tell them it's the "True Balloon."
- Show them the balloon with the "F" and tell them it's the "False Balloon."
- Place the balloons in the middle of the circle and give each child 10 dot stickers.

- Explain that you will read a statement.
 - If they believe that statement is true, they should gently put a sticker on the True Balloon.
 - o If they think it's false, tell them to put a sticker on the False Balloon.
- Read the statements below (or add others of your own) then give kids time to put their stickers on the correct balloon. (Some of the statements refer back to previous weeks.)
 - o (T) Nothing can separate us from God's love.
 - o (F) Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego died in a fiery furnace.
 - o (T) Everything God says is true.
 - o (F) Peter and John tried to heal a man who couldn't walk, but they couldn't do it.
 - o (T) We should find friends who help us trust Jesus.
 - (F) God stops loving us if we are bad.
 - o (T) We should trust that God is always with us.
 - o (F) Some things are just too hard for God.
 - o (T) When Jesus is with us, we can face anything.
 - o (F) God only loves people with red hair.
- After the review, ask the kids to take turns passing the balloons around the circle and removing
 a dot sticker while trying to not let the balloon pop. (Don't force any kids who are super hesitant
 or afraid to try this.)

What You Say:

"Those were sticky stickers. They held on tight to the balloon and when you tried to take them off, POP went the balloon. God sticks close to us. He's right here next to us—closer than the stickers were to the balloon. He never leaves us, and He never stops loving us. This week, if you feel afraid, angry, or sad, stop and talk to God. Think about the Bible stories we heard this month with people who had confidence in God and trusted Him no matter what. That's how you [Bottom Line] live like you believe what God says is true."

3. Confidence Trophy

What You Need: Plastic cups (one per kid), chenille stems (2 per kid), cupcake liners (one per kid), clear tape, glue, "Confidence Trophy Labels" Activity Page (one set per group)

What You Do:

- Provide each kid with a plastic cup, cupcake liner, two chenille stems, and a label.
- Encourage kids to place their label on the cup.
- Demonstrate how to build their Confidence Trophy.
 - o The cupcake liner will become the "base" of the trophy.
 - Put a few drops of glue on the bottom of the cupcake liner and glue it to the bottom of the plastic cup.
 - Instruct kids to press on the inside of the bottom of the cup and the inside of cupcake liner so they don't crush the cupcake liner.
 - When finished, kids should stand the trophy up so the cupcake liner is on the bottom.
 - Bend each chenille stem into the shape of trophy handles.
 - o Using the clear tape, attach the shaped chenille stems to either side of the trophy.
- Make sure there is tape on the top and bottom of the chenille so it stays secure.
- When everyone has completed the trophies, recite the memory verse together.

What You Say:

"Wow! Look at your super cool trophies. I'm sure some of you have received a trophy or ribbon for winning a game or doing an awesome job at an activity before. This trophy represents something that we DIDN'T actually have to win. Our memory verse this month tells us that we can be confident that God is going to do some amazing work in us. Because of this great news, you can **[Bottom Line]** live like you believe what God says is true and live like you're true winners!"

4. Finish Line

What You Need: Bible, white crepe paper (2 foot strip per child), markers, floor tape or painter's tape (campus supplies)

What You Do:

- Open the Bible to Philippians 1:6 and review the memory verse with the kids.
- Give each child a piece of crepe paper and ask them to write their name in large letters across the middle.
- While kids work, place a line of tape on the floor to create a starting line.
- Ask if the kids have ever watched a runner in a race. Let them share experiences.
- Remind the group that a race always has a starting line where the racers begin and a special place called a finish line where they complete or end the race. All the racers are doing their best to run well all the way to the finish line.
- Choose one child to stand at the starting line and give his crepe paper finish line to two other kids
- Ask the two helpers to stand at the other end of the room and each hold an end of the crepe paper at waist height.
- Invite the child at the starting line to lead the others in saying the memory verse together (help them as needed) and then run through his finish line.
- Continue letting kids take turns holding the ends of one another's crepe paper until everyone has had a chance to say the verse and run through their finish line.

What You Sav:

[Bottom Line] "Live like you believe what God says is true. The Bible is full of true promises from God. Our memory verse this month, Philippians 1:6, is one of those promises. If you love Jesus, you can be joyful and thankful every day because you know that God will be with you all the way through your life. He has loved you even before the starting line of your life when you were born. And He will keep loving you all the way to the finish line when you die and go to heaven. If you believe that, let me see your biggest smile."

5. Prayer

What You Do:

- Ask your group how they plan to live like they believe what God says is true this week.
- Encourage them to follow through and act on those plans.
- Worship God through prayer in celebrating that His words are true!

What You Say:

"God we worship You and we praise You for Your words. I pray that this month has brought us closer to You and taught us more about what Your plans are for us. Help us to live bold lives so that everyone may know that we love You. I pray that we remember to live like we believe what You say is true. In Jesus' name, amen!"