

## ALLEY SG – August 26-28, 2023

**Today's Bible Story:** Pure Imagination (The Tabernacle) • *Exodus 25:8-9; 28:1, 3; 31:1-11, 35:21, 25, 34; 39:42-43*

**Today's Key Question:** What are creative ways to honor God?

**Today's Bottom Line:** Use your imagination to honor God.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)*

### 1. Bible Story Extension

**What You Need:** "Tabernacle Scramble" Pages (a set per bin)

**What You Do:**

- Ask kids to reflect on the variety of skills and creativity it took to build the tabernacle. Remind them that they did it all in a desert without electricity, power tools, or a Home Depot around the corner. No one brought a ladder with them from Egypt or a box of nails. God helped them use their imagination to follow the instructions to build this place of worship.
- Ask:
  - What are some of the skills and supplies it took to build the tabernacle?
  - In what ways did you see God's people honoring Him through the process of building the tabernacle?
  - If you or your family had been there when the tabernacle was built, how might you have shared the stuff you have and used the things you're good at to honor God in helping to build the tabernacle?
- Form two teams. (If your group is less than 10 kids, this activity might work best if kids do it all together.)
- Invite kids to play Tabernacle Scramble.
- Using the "Tabernacle Scramble" Activity Page explain that you will hold up a picture of something that was part of the tabernacle. Kids will use their imagination and work together to form the shape of that item within 15 seconds.
- Everyone must participate in some way. They must form their shapes using only their bodies, by lying on the floor, or by being upright if.
- After each round, ask kids to briefly review what it would have taken (supplies, skills, time, tools, etc.) to construct that part of the tabernacle.
- Repeat the "Tabernacle Scramble" if time allows but shorten the time kids have to do their Tabernacle Scramble.
- Wrap up with a few more questions to get kids thinking about ways they can honor God in creative ways.
  - Describe what honoring God means to you.
  - God wants each of us to use our imagination and gifts to honor God. What might that look like in your life right now? (With our family, at school, with friends, at church, etc.)
  - What might get in the way of you using your talents to honor God?
- Encourage kids to invite a family member or trusted adult who knows them to give them suggestions of ways they can honor God and develop the skills and imagination God has given them.

## 2. Take a Snapshot

**What You Need:** “Discover the Skill” Page (one per student) and pens

### What You Do:

- Give each of the kids a “Discover the Skill” Activity Page and a pen.
- Challenge kids to unscramble the letters to find a list of skills or occupations people might have.
- They can write their answers on the spaces provided. The first letter of each word is already given.
- When finished, have the kids look at the list and put a check in the box beside any areas of ability they think they might be good at.
- Come together and let kids share what they checked and how they think God might use their skills now and in the future.
- Remind kids that, like the people of Israel, they’re able to discover, develop, and share all the gifts God has created in them with ways that honor Him.

### Answers:

1. Leader
2. Teacher
3. Athlete
4. Missionary
5. Builder
6. Chef
7. Musician
8. Artist
9. Encourager
10. Writer
11. Problem Solver
12. Friend

## 3. Discussion Questions

### Ask:

- What do you think most people use their imaginations for? For good or for something else? Give me some examples: use imaginations to come up with phone apps, or play video games, or house plans, etc.
- What stops or gets in the way of kids and adults using their imaginations for good? (*Laziness, wanting the easy way out, scared or not paying attention, not wanting to take on something so big, don’t know how to.*)
- How can you honor God in creative, outside-the-box ways?

## 4. Memory Verse Roll

*\*We are teaching the NIV version of the verse this month, and the Bibles in the carts are NIV. If you are going to have kids use the Bible, the verse will read differently.*

**What You Need:** a ball (one per group)

**What You Do:**

- Guide kids to sit in a large circle.
- Invite a volunteer to recite the monthly memory verse, then say it a few times together.  
*"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do". Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)*
- Give one kid the ball.
- Lead kids to say the verse word by word (with help as needed) as they pass the ball to the person next to them. Play a few times, getting faster each time.
- Try it again, but instead of passing the ball, roll the ball to someone across the circle saying one word of the verse at a time.
- Play as time allows, encouraging kids to say the verse faster each round.

## 5. Pray

- "Dear God, we know that You created us to do good things. You have planned it all out and want to help us discover ways to use all you've given us to honor and worship You. Help us discover those plans and put them into motion at each opportunity we get. Help us use our imagination to do what we were made to do. In Jesus' name. Amen."