

ALLEY SG August 17-18, 2024

Due to summer scheduling, these activities can be done in small groups or in one large group led by one leader.

1. Take a Snapshot

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Invite kids to share some of the things they like about their friends. If kids aren't sure what to say, prompt some ideas with a few of the following questions:
 - What do you enjoy doing with friends?
 - What's the nicest thing a friend has ever done for you?
 - What makes a good friend?
 - How do you choose your friends?
 - If you could have one quality in a friend, what would it be?
 - Would you rather have 20 friends that you don't know very well or one best friend?
- Invite kids to pair up. (It's okay if there's one group of three.)
- Explain that one kid will be the "mirror" and imitate the movements of the other kid without speaking as if looking in a mirror. (For groups of 3, there will be two "mirrors".)
 - Additionally, they must do their motions as if they were deep sea divers floating underwater.
- Lead each pair to decide who will lead the movements first. Give them a moment to think of something friends do together or something they do for one another. If any kids need prompting:
 - Playing baseball
 - Hiking
 - Reading or studying
 - Laughing
 - Watching a movie
 - Playing a video game
 - Listening to music
 - Talking
 - Praying
- Choose one team to begin their mirroring as the remaining kids try to guess what the divers are acting out.
 - If the group has not gotten it after 10 or so guesses, direct the pairs to stop and for the kid leading the movements to reveal the correct answer.
- Switch and repeat until all the partners have had at least one turn.
- In closing, encourage kids to think about the following questions:
 - Would you consider yourself to be a wise person that people would want to hang out with? Why or why not?
 - If not, in what ways might you need to change?
- Invite kids to share their thoughts or think about their answers silently.

2. Bible Story Extension

What You Need: Bibles, notecards (10 per group per service), pens

What You Do:

- Review the Bible story by inviting kids to share what they remember about Rehoboam from Large Group.
- If kids need a few prompts to spark their memory, ask some of the following review questions:
 - What was the important decision Rehoboam had to make?
 - Who did Rehoboam go to for advice?
 - What did the advisors tell Rehoboam to do?
 - What did his friends tell him to do?
 - What did Rehoboam decide to do after listening to the advice he was given?
- Split the group into pairs. (It's okay if there's one group of three)
- Give partners a Bible, two notecards, and pens.
- Help kids find 2 Chronicles 10 in their Bibles.
- Direct each pair of kids to write one fact or statement about the Bible story on each note card, using their Bibles if needed.
 - Assign each team a different portion of the story to avoid repeated statements.
- When kids are finished, collect the cards.
- Choose one kid to stand in front with their back turned away from the group.
- Explain that you'll give a kid in the group a note card to read aloud but in a disguised voice.
- Choose one kid to give the first notecard to.
- Prompt with voice ideas below, if needed:
 - Squeaky
 - Old man or lady
 - Robot
 - Opera singer
- Give the kid whose back is turned three tries to guess who is speaking.
- Choose a new kid to guess and continue until you've read through all the notecards.
- Ask:
 - Why do you think it's important to hang out with wise people?
 - Who is someone you think is wise? Why do you think they are wise?
 - What can you learn from Rehoboam's mistakes?
 - How can you figure out who is giving good advice and who is giving bad advice?
- Encourage kids to talk with parents and other trusted adults to get advice when they have a tough decision to make, or when they feel like they don't know what to do.
- Remind them that the more they hang out with wise friends and spend time with those who love and follow Jesus, the wiser they will become.

3. Discussion Questions

- Who are some wise people in your life?
- What could be an example of a choice that seems like "no big deal" at the time but later can become a *huge* deal? (*Remind kids of Rehoboam's decision that totally backfired.*)
- What can you do if you find yourself surrounded by people who make unwise choices and try to involve you in them?

4. Memory Verse Review

What You Need: Bibles, dry-erase board with dry-erase marker

What You Do:

- Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - *Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful! Philippians 4:4 (NIRV)*
- Write the Memory Verse on the dry-erase board.
- Say the Memory Verse together a few more times.
- Erase one word.
- Invite the group to read the verse, challenging them to fill in the missing word from memory.
- Continue with a second word and so on until the whole verse is erased.

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*”
- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below
“Dear God, thank You for all the people in our lives who show us what it looks like to make wise choices. Thank You for surrounding us with people who can show us how to live and how to love like Jesus. Guide us to make the wise choice. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”
- If there is still time, pass out the Parent Discussion Guide to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home and to bring back next week for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: Ask kids to explain what makes someone wise.