

CITY LG – May 2nd- 3rd, 2026

Bible Story: Peter and John Are Taken to the Sanhedrin • Acts 3–4:22

Bottom Line: Keep going because of what God has done.

Memory Verse: *Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up.* • Galatians 6:9 NIV

LG Supplies:

2 backpacks

6 different items for the backpacks

Floor tape

WORSHIP

Hands Toward Heaven

Look to You

SLIDE: Theme

Hi, friends! Welcome to The City! I'm so glad you're here today. After all, there are some days when it's just not fun to wake up and get out of bed. But you did it. You came to be here with all of us and learn what God is up to because good things are worth some work!

It's kind of like hiking up a tall mountain. You might get SO TIRED along the way, but when you get to the top and see the incredible view, it's SO WORTH IT! That's why this month, our theme is 'TREK: Don't Stop, Don't Give Up—God's with You!'

To get us all warmed up and ready to hike, we're going to play a game called 'Backpack Adventure Relay!'

SLIDE: Backpack Adventure Relay!

(Host picks up the two backpacks.)

Okay, I need some volunteers who would like to help me fill these backpacks for our epic hike. Who's in? Raise your hand if you'd like to volunteer!

(Choose 12 volunteers. (Split them into two teams of 6 and line them up in two single-file lines at the start line. Set a backpack on the start line by each team.)

All right! We've got Team Everest over here (*point*) and Team Kilimanjaro over here (*point*). Those are two of the highest mountains in the world! When I say, 'Hike!' the first person in each line will run to the table, pick an item for your backpack, and run back to put it in your team's backpack. The second person can't start until the item is INSIDE the backpack! The first team to finish putting all the items in their backpack wins our mountain climbing race. Everyone ready?

Oh, wait! There's one more thing. See, this mountain is tough and rocky. Sometimes you might have to

crawl. Sometimes you might have to go backward. Maybe you'll have to wobble back and forth in the wind! I'll shout out instructions as you race—and if I change the movement, you have to change how you run! Since it's a mountain, our first racers are going to do mountain climber legs, like this!

(Demonstrate mountain climber legs.)

Okay, everybody ready? On your mark ... get set ... HIKE!

AUDIO: Upbeat music

(Direct and encourage kids as they run the relay. Make sure each hiking item is placed inside the team's backpack before the next kid in line starts the relay.)

(Shout out a new movement style for approximately each runner, but some kids will need to change movement in the middle of their turn. Some suggestions are below.)

("Hop over a stream!")

("Bear crawl on your hands and knees over some rocks!")

("Sway back and forth in the wind!")

("Run backward away from a snake!")

("Tiptoe so you don't wake the bear!")

("Spin in circles in a whirlwind!")

(Play until one of the teams has placed all the items in their backpack.)

Wow! You all did an incredible job of climbing that mountain and facing all those challenges while filling your backpacks! It looks like our winner is [Team Name]! Let's give them a big round of applause!

(Send volunteers back to their seats.)

We have a new Memory Verse this month! It's found in Galatians 6:9.

SLIDE: Memory Verse

Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up. — Galatians 6:9 NIV

SLIDE: Theme Background

This whole month, we're talking about how we can do hard things and keep going because God is with us. Our theme this month is 'TREK: Don't Stop, Don't Give Up—God's with You!'

We all face tough situations, from difficult classes at school to conflict with siblings to doctors' appointments and so much more. But God knows every single challenge we face and has equipped us

to persevere and not give up. He moved inside of us through His very Spirit, the Holy Spirit, so He goes through everything we go through!

Today we're going to look at the story of two men in the Bible who had the Holy Spirit living in them, and they faced a hard, hard situation where it would have been easy for them to give up.

But before we get into our true story from the Bible today, let me tell you about something amazing that we've done all year! In fact, this is the last month we are going to do it!

We've been going through the Bible cover to cover! We're going to go through God's Big Story in the Bible together so we can learn about God! *(Gesture to slide.)*

SLIDE: God's Big Story

Today we're going to continue our journey through the Bible. God had come to live inside believers through His Holy Spirit. And after the arrival of the Holy Spirit, the new church was, well ... practically on fire! Three thousand people became believers on the day of Pentecost, and many more followed. The believers gathered together every day, shared meals, and prayed in the temple courts.

But just because the Holy Spirit was with the friends of Jesus didn't mean things would be easy. In fact, Jesus Himself told His followers that we will face trouble in this world ... but we can be encouraged because He has overcome the world! Let's check it out.

VIDEO: Bible Story

Peter and John faced a lot of pressure. But they didn't cave in. They didn't give up. They kept going because they remembered what God had done. They remembered that Jesus was with them through the Holy Spirit. And that gave them the courage to keep going.

Jesus has done great things for you too! God made a way for us to be close friends with Him again! And then He moved in closer than close through His Holy Spirit. We can be bold and brave and strong because of all of the awesome things that God has done!

Let's take a look at our Bottom Line.

SLIDE: Bottom Line

Keep going because of what God has done!

You'll face many things that make you want to give up. But when that happens, remember how much God loves you and all that God has done for you. Ask the Holy Spirit inside you for help. And trust that God is working in and through you so you can keep going!

Let's talk to the God who loves us so much and ask Him to help us keep going!

Jesus, thank You for loving us so much. Thank You that You never leave us alone, and thank You that God has sent the Holy Spirit to live inside every single person who believes in and follows You. When we face difficult times, remind us of everything You have done. Please give us power through the Holy Spirit to be bold and keep going, no matter what happens. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

OFFERING

Do you remember what we are raising money for this year? Yep, Clean water wells in Malawi, which is a country in Africa. Having a well with clean water right in their village means women and children don't have to travel far away to other villages to get clean water, and then they don't have to walk back with heavy containers. Let's watch a video that will show women filling their bins with clean water from a brand new well that was just installed in their village!

Missions video 1

Amazing right? Can't wait to see how these wells impact the villages in Malawi!