

CITY SG – July 25th- 26th, 2026

Bible Story: The Story of the Widow Who Would Not Give Up • *Luke 18:1-8*

Bottom Line: God's kingdom grows when you pray and don't give up.

Monthly Memory Verse: *God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit.* • Romans 14:17 NIV

PRE- SERVICE ACTIVITY

What You Need: Nothing

What You Do:

- Great each kid by name and with a high five as they arrive!
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Play a game of Summer would you rather. Have the kids stand up for option 1 or stay seated for option 2
- Have the kids explain their choices
- Questions:
 - 🍦 Would you rather eat ice cream every day or popsicles every day?
 - 🏖️ Would you rather spend the day at the beach or the pool?
 - 🏕️ Would you rather go camping or stay in a cozy cabin?
 - 🚲 Would you rather ride a bike or ride a scooter?
 - 🏖️ Would you rather build a giant sandcastle or dig a huge hole in the sand?
 - 🍉 Would you rather eat watermelon or fresh strawberries?
 - ☀️ Would you rather have a sunny day or a rainy day to splash in puddles?
 - 🦋 Would you rather catch butterflies or look for frogs?
 - 🎣 Would you rather go fishing or fly a kite?
 - 🚣 Would you rather ride in a canoe or on a speedboat?
 - 🐬 Would you rather swim with dolphins or see sea turtles?
 - 🌈 Would you rather see a rainbow or watch fireworks?
 - 🍹 Would you rather have lemonade or fruit punch?
 - 🌿 Would you rather have a picnic at the park or a backyard barbecue?
 - 🌳 Would you rather climb a tree or swing on a swing?
 - 🐞 Would you rather find a ladybug or a four-leaf clover?
 - 🍉 Would you rather have a watermelon seed-spitting contest or a water balloon toss?
 - 💧 Would you rather play in sprinklers or have a water gun battle?
 - 🌙 Would you rather stay up late to watch the stars or wake up early to watch the sunrise?
 - 🚤 Would you rather spend the day on a boat or at an amusement park?

SMALL GROUP TIME

1. Persistent Prayers

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Bible, "My Persistent Prayer Calendar" Activity Page (one per kid), Coloring supplies

What You Do:

- Open your Bible to Luke 18:1-8 and show the kids where the Bible Story is.
- Review the Bible Story with the kids. Share the following points:
 - Jesus wanted to tell a story about how we should pray and never give up.
 - In His story, Jesus told about a widow who came over and over to an unfair judge and asked him to help her.
 - The judge didn't care about God or what other people thought, but he finally helped the widow because she came to him over and over for help.
 - Jesus told the story to teach us about God. Since an unfair, uncaring judge finally made things right, we can be absolutely sure that God, who loves us deeply, will help us when we ask.
- Give each kid a "My Persistent Prayer Calendar" and coloring supplies.
- Read the simple prayer prompts for each day.
 - Monday: Pray for a friend.
 - Tuesday: Pray for your family.
 - Wednesday: Pray for your school.
 - Thursday: Say, "Thank You" to God.
 - Friday: Pray for someone who is sick.
- Let them color a picture for the day/days with what they want to pray this week.

What You Say:

"This little calendar can help us remember to be like the woman in our Bible Story: to keep asking and not give up! Talking to God over and over strengthens your relationship with Him. God wants to hear your heart because He is your friend."

2. Yes, No, Not Yet*Application Activity***What You Need:** Floor tape**What You Do:**

- Create three tape lines on the floor parallel to each other, a few feet apart.
- Gather the kids near the tape lines.
- Point to the first line and say: "This is the 'Yes' line!"
- Point to the second line and say: "This is the 'No' line!"
- Point to the third line and say: "This is the 'Not Yet' line!"
- Explain that when we pray, God answers our prayers in one of these three ways.
- Tell the kids you are going to call out one of the answers, and they have to run to that line as fast as they can.
- Call out the answers in a random order: "Yes!", "No!", "Not Yet!", "Yes!"
- Keep the game moving quickly for a minute or two.

Say:

"Great job running! Sometimes when we pray, God says, 'Yes!' right away. Sometimes He says, 'No' because He knows what's best for us. And sometimes He says, 'Not yet,' and we have to wait. The

woman in our Bible Story had to wait! But did she give up? (*No!*) That's right! No matter how God answers, we can keep talking to Him.

"When you keep praying—when you keep talking to God, and talking to God, and talking to God—it helps your heart stay close to God. And even when things are slow or hard, God is working. He is listening. He loves you so much and will always answer what you ask Him in a way that's best for you."

3. Memory Verse Tower

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, Plastic cups (large stack per bin), ping pong balls (a few per bin)

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse to the group.
 - *God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit. • Romans 14:17*
- Give the kids a stack of plastic cups.
- Challenge them to work together to build a tall tower or castle.
- Once their tower is built, give them a ping-pong ball.
- Say: "Your challenge is to balance this ping-pong ball on the very top cup of your tower! Then, carefully move the cup with the ping-pong ball down to collect all the cups without the cups falling or the ping-pong ball falling off."
- This will take steady hands and patience. If the ping-pong ball or cups fall, encourage them to restack the cups and try again. Say: "Don't give up!"
- While they work, repeat the Memory Verse: "*God's kingdom is not about eating or drinking. It is about doing what is right and having peace and joy. All this comes through the Holy Spirit*" (*Romans 14:17 NIV*).

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*)"
- "Dear God, thank You that You are not a grumpy judge, but a loving Father who always wants to hear from us. Please help us to be persistent and to keep talking to You every day. Help us to never give up. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."
- Remind the kids that when they leave, their parents should get a text message on their phones telling them what we learned this week. AND they will get a link to an activity they can do at home and bring back for a PRIZE!

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to keep praying and not give up.