

Lower Elementary

WEEK 1- STARTER



Activity Name: Praise Jump Off

What You Need: Timer/phone/watch

What You Do:

- Tell the kids you're going to have a "Praise Jump-Off"!
- Explain that in today's Bible Story, a man who couldn't walk was so excited after he was healed that he jumped for joy.
- Challenge the kids to see who can "jump for joy" the longest without stopping.
- Start the timer (or smartphone or watch) and encourage all the kids to start jumping in place.
- When a kid stops jumping, call out their time and have them sit down and cheer for the others.
- Play until there is only one kid left jumping. Celebrate that they were able to jump for that long!
- If time allows, play again so the kids can try and beat their time.

What You Say:

Whew, that was a lot of jumping! You all have so much energy! It's fun to imagine how happy that man must have been the day he was healed and could walk again. Do you think he jumped for joy as long as we did? Today, in our true story from the Bible, we're going to hear who healed this man and what happened right after he was healed. We'll also hear how his friends had to be brave and keep going. Today, we're going to learn that we can [Bottom Line] keep going because of what God has done. Let's go!

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



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

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

Conversation Starter: What have you seen God do?

Monthly 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

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Peter and John were very brave, even when people tried to scare them. Why do you think they were so brave? How does God help us be brave too?
- The man who was healed jumped and praised God! What is something God has done for you that makes you feel really happy? Why is it sometimes hard to say “thank you” to God?
- Peter said, “We can’t stop talking about what we’ve seen and heard!” What is something you know about Jesus that you would want to tell someone else?
- When things feel hard, what helps you keep going? Can you think of a time when God helped you not give up?

Activity Name: Prayer Wheel

What You Need: Prayer wheel activity pages scissors coloring supplies brads

What You Do:

- Give each kid a prayer wheel base (the full circle) and a cover (the “Pac-Man” shape).
- Instruct kids to cut out each wheel on the dotted lines. Help as needed.
- Instruct the kids on what each of the parts means: a smiley face (something you’re thankful for), a house (your family), a picture of friends (your friends).
- Encourage the kids to color each section, and to draw whatever they’d like that they’re thankful for in the blank space.
- Help them attach the cover to the base using a metal brad fastener in the center.
- Show them how they can turn the wheel to show one prayer topic at a time.
- Ask everyone to turn their wheel to the smiley face.

What You Say:

These prayer wheels will help us remember that we can talk to God about anything and thank God for everything. When the man in our Bible Story was healed, he jumped for joy and praised God for what God had done! Turn your prayer wheel to the section that shows what you’re thankful for. Now let’s pray and praise God and tell Him what we’re thankful for. Let’s pray, friends.

Prayer: Dear God, thank You so much for all the good things You’ve done. We’re thankful for (mention a few things kids might be thankful for, like family, friends, church, sunny days, etc.). Help us to remember these good things, especially when life gets hard. Give us the courage to **[Bottom Line] keep going because of what God has done.** We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Invite kids to pray as well