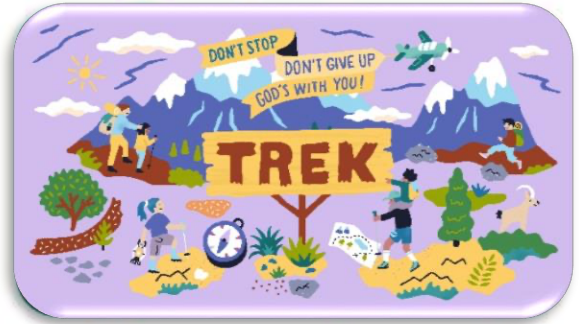


Lower Elementary

WEEK 2- STARTER



Activity Name: Cup Stack

What You Need: ☐ plastic cups

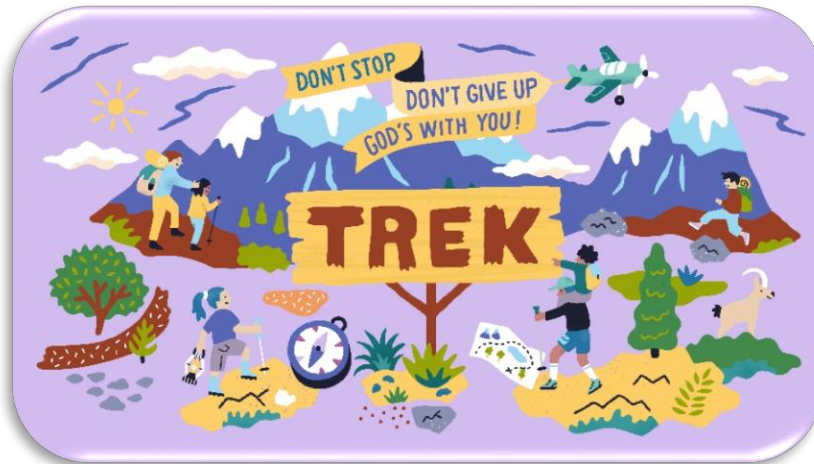
What You Do:

- Invite the kids to sit in a circle in the activity area, and you sit on the floor in the middle of the circle.
- Tell the kids you're going to play a fun stacking game, but you, the leader, are the base!
- Give the kids a stack of plastic cups.
- Challenge them: “How many cups can you stack on me without them falling off?”
- Let them get creative and stack cups on your head, your outstretched arms and hands, and your legs.
- If the cups fall, laugh together, pick them up, and encourage the kids to keep going and try again. Keep count of how many cups they’re able to stack on you.

What You Say:

You all did a great job! It was hard to balance the cups and keep them from falling, but you didn't give up! That's called perseverance. Today in our Bible Story, we're going to meet someone who had perseverance and kept going, even when he had some really big questions. Let's go hear the story!

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



Bible Story: Philip and the Man from Ethiopia • Acts 8:26-40

Bottom Line: Keep following God, even when you have questions.

Conversation Starter: What questions do you have about God?

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:

- When you have questions about God, who can you ask?
- What can you do if you don’t get an answer right away?
- What are some things you know are true about God? How can those things help you while you wait?
- What can you do when you have questions about God that are hard to answer?

Activity Name: Who Did It?

What You Need: Bible Character cards

What You Do:

- Open the Bible to Acts 8. Show the kids in the Bible where the story is. (Acts 8:26-40)
- Review the Bible Story by sharing these main points:
 - An angel told a follower of Jesus named Philip to go to a desert road.
 - On the desert road, there was a chariot.
 - The Holy Spirit told Philip: “Stay near that chariot!”
 - Philip ran up beside the chariot!
 - A man from Ethiopia was inside the chariot reading Scripture, but he didn’t understand what he was reading.
 - So Philip climbed into the chariot and explained what the Scriptures meant. The man was reading about Jesus!
 - The man from Ethiopia decided to become a follower of Jesus! He saw some water and wanted to be baptized right away!
 - Right after Philip baptized the man, God took Philip away to teach about Him in another town.
- Give every kid a picture of Philip and a picture of the Ethiopian official from the “Character Cards” Activity Page.
- Tell them you're going to read some things that happened in today’s Bible Story.
- They will listen carefully and hold up the picture of the person who did that action.
- Read the following statements:
 - “Who was traveling in a chariot?” (the Ethiopian official)
 - “Who did an angel tell to go to the desert road?” (Philip)
 - “Who was reading from a scroll of Scripture but didn’t understand it?” (the Ethiopian official)
 - “Who ran alongside the chariot to talk to the man?” (Philip)
 - “Who asked, ‘What can stop me from being baptized?’” (the Ethiopian official)
 - “Who helped the man understand the good news about Jesus?” (Philip)

What You Say:

You know this story! The man from Ethiopia had big questions, but he kept looking for answers. God sent Philip to help him. Philip was teaching people about Jesus in Samaria. Then an angel told him, “Go to the desert road” (Acts 8:26). Philip might have had questions, but he trusted God and went.

On that road, he saw the man from Ethiopia in a chariot. Then the Holy Spirit said, “Go to that chariot and stay near it” (Acts 8:29). God led Philip right to him! Philip helped the man understand his questions about God. God cared so much about him that He sent Philip just to help him. That reminds us: **keep following God, even when you have questions.**

****Close in prayer. Invite kids to pray as well****