

May I?

Small Group Application Activity

Lesson 3 - I Will Pray!

PURPOSE:

This activity will demonstrate that we should pray, asking God what our next move is, and be willing to do whatever God asks of us.

DESCRIPTION:

In this activity, the children will ask to move toward the teacher in different ways and the teacher will tell the children whether they can move in that way, or not.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

For this activity, you will need this Help Sheet.

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. Many times in our lives we have to ask for things.
2. Who in your life do you ask for things? (*Mom. Dad. Brother. Sister. Friend. Teacher.*)
3. We also can ask God for things by praying to Him.
4. When we do, God may answer us by saying, "yes," "no," or He might say, "wait." Sometimes, God will tell us to do something completely different from what we asked Him for.
5. Today, we are going to play a game where you ask me what you can do and I will answer you.

For detailed instructions on how to lead the activity, watch the Training Video.

Note: Stand at the far end of the room. Have the children stand in the middle of the room, facing you.

DURING THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. One by one, you will ask me if you can move toward me. You can ask to hop, to step, or to flop, up to three times.
2. One hop means that you jump as far as you can with both feet together.
3. One step means that you step out with one foot as far as you can with the other foot still on the ground.
4. One flop means that you leave your feet in the same spot and lean over putting your hands on the ground. Walk your hands out as far as you can. Then you can leave your hands in that place and walk your feet up to where your hands are. But if any part of your body other than feet or hands touches the ground, you have to stop at that point.
5. I might say that you can do exactly what you ask. I might say that you can only do part of what you asked. I might tell you to do something completely different.
6. But, whatever I say, you have to do it.
7. Let's play.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. Who do you think won the game? (*The first one to get to you.*)
2. The kid who got to me first did not win. You might have thought those were the rules, but I never said that.
3. Everyone who did what they were told won the game.
4. The point of the game was to obey what I said. The point of prayer is to do what God tells us to do.
5. The point of prayer is not getting what we want from God. Prayer helps us find out what God wants us to do.

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6. When Jesus prayed, He asked God for what He wanted, but Jesus was willing to do what God wanted.
7. Sometimes God asks us to do things that are difficult, just like God asked Jesus to do something very difficult for us.
8. It seemed like a bad thing for Jesus to have to be arrested and killed, but it was part of God's plan to save us.
9. In this game, when I told you to do something that wasn't what you asked, it sometimes seemed bad, because you were not getting to do what you asked for. But obeying me led to you winning the game.
10. In this game, you asked me about your next move and you did what I told you to do. In life, we should ask God about our next moves and do what God tells us to do.
11. God might tell you that the kid sitting by himself really needs a friend. God might tell you to share or give away some of your things. God might tell you that it is more important for you to be in church every week, than to be at your sports games.

CLOSING STATEMENT:

Just like Jesus, we need to ask God for what we want, but be willing to do what God wants.