

Use this guide to help your family learn how God can help us live with determination.

First, watch this video:

https://bit.ly/PreteenUnstuckWeek1

Then follow up with the activity below!

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, NIrV

LIFE APP

DETERMINATION:

Deciding

it's worth it to finish

what you started

BIBLE STORY

Jesus' Final Orders to His Disciples / Ascension (Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11)

KEY QUESTION

What seems impossible to you?

PARENT CUE

ACTIVITY: Candy Elevator

WHAT YOU NEED:

2 pencils of equal length, tape, string/yarn, Skittles or M&M's

WHAT YOU DO:

Challenge your kid to make a working "candy elevator." First, tape the two pencils together side by side, making sure the erasers are at opposite ends. Cut two pieces of string/yarn, 3-5 feet long. Use one string to tie the pencils together at one end. Then use the other string to tie the pencils together at the other end. Ideally the top of the knot should land in the middle between the pencils, so that when you lift the pencils with the string, they stay horizontally balanced. Then set the pencils on the floor, place a piece of candy on the pencils, stand up and bend over toward the pencils, and loop the end of the strings around each of your ears. Pull gently on each string at the same time and the pencils should raise up like a platform. The challenge is to be able to bring the candy to your mouth and eat it! Let your kid keep practicing until they get the hang of it. Encourage them to keep going until they succeed!

Note: For a visual reference, go to: http://bit.ly/37wyNwB or do an internet search for "candy elevator."

Talk about the Bible story:

- o Read today's Bible story passages: Matthew 28:16-20; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:1-11
- o What did Jesus ask the disciples to do? ((Tell others about Him.) Why would this seem impossible? (This is an opportunity to emphasize there were no TVs, no phones, no social media. Encourage kids to imagine what it was like for the disciples.) Note: technically it's "make disciples of all nations," but this is an easier way to explain it.
- o What promises did Jesus give to the disciples? (He would always be with them; He would give them the Holy Spirit to help them)
- o Can you think of a time when you thought, "I could never do that! That's impossible!"
- o What's one way you can push through thoughts like that in order to keep going?

PRAYER

Use this prayer as a guide, either after talking about the Bible story or sometime before bed tonight:

"Dear God, right now a lot of things seem impossible. But we know that we can trust You no matter what, and You promise that You're ALWAYS with us. Help us remember that You're there for us, especially when we can't feel Your presence and when everything feels really difficult. Help us to keep going, putting one foot in front of the other, with determination and strength. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen."