

ACTIVITY PAGE

GRADE K-3

BIBLE REFERENCES: John 20:19-29, Romans 8:25-28

Parents or Carers Tips: Use the questions to kick start discussions.

1) Talk About God

Aim: To explore spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing.

What You Need: Paper, white crayons, watercolors, cups of water, paintbrushes

How:

- Draw a picture on a white piece of paper using a white crayon.
- Hold up the paper and ask the group to tell you what you drew.
- After several guesses, paint over the whole paper with watercolor paints.
- As you paint, have the kids watch carefully as your drawing is revealed.
- Pass out paper and a white crayon to each kid.
- Allow the kids to try drawing on their own paper.
- When they are finished drawing, hand out watercolors.
- Encourage kids to paint over their crayon drawing with watercolors to reveal their pictures.

Conversation tips:

Say, "Sometimes we have questions that we cannot see the answers to. It's always easier to understand and believe things when we see them with our own eyes. However, God asks us to believe in Him even when we can't see Him in physical form. **[Make It Personal] (Talk about the reasons you believe God is real.)** God knows it is hard for us to believe what we can't see, but whatever happens, trust God when things aren't going your way because God is bigger than our problems."

2) Discussion

Aim: Space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Paper

Do you ever feel like asking God a question?

Take some time and write down some questions that you have for God or draw a picture to explain your questions. Then, take some time to talk to Him and ask Him some of your questions. You probably won't be able to literally hear Him answer your questions, but look for the answers around you throughout the week! Your questions can be answered in the Bible, in other great books, or even by some smart people around you!

LOOK for the answers to your questions by talking to God and others who know about Him!

ACTIVITY PAGE

GRADE 4 - 6

BIBLE REFERENCES: John 20:19-29, Romans 8:25-28

Parents or Carers Tips: Use the questions to kick start discussions.

1) Talk about God

Aim: Promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and re-enactment.

What You Need: Bible, pens.

How:

- If you have a large family, have the conversations in a small groups of 2 or 3.
- **Give** each kid a pen and a Bible to each set of partners
- **Assign** each group a portion of John 20:19-29 to look up and read
- **Ask** the first reader to write a question about their passage on the palm of the second person
- **Ask** the second person to write the answer to the question on the palm of the first reader
- **Review** the story by inviting groups to take turns holding out their palms and asking their questions to the others.
- **Check** the answers with what's written on the palms of the other's hands. Let them refer to their Bible passage to clarify any answers.
- **Ask** kids to wash their hands
- **After the review**, ask kids if they think it was right for the disciple to worry during the storm. Ask the why question - challenge them to give reasons.
- **Encourage** students with the fact that, like the disciple, we all have faith questions or worries at some point. We should look for answers to our questions and know that God wants to help us trust Him when we have doubts or feeling worry.
- **Ask** kids to suggest questions people might have for God in the following situations:
 - The Bible doesn't make sense.
 - My friends don't believe the Bible is true. They say it's just an outdated book that doesn't apply to today.
 - Mean people get away with being bad.

- Bad things happen to people who don't deserve it.
- Someone you love has disappointed you.

Tip: Provide a safe atmosphere for kids to freely share any faith questions they struggle with. Give answers when you are able to and continue to follow up in the weeks ahead. Encourage questions even if you don't always know the answer. It's likely that some of your kids will ask questions that there aren't answers to! Encourage conversation around these questions and help kids understand that it's okay to have big questions.

2) 4 Days Journal

Aim: Talk about God

What You Need: Bible, coloured pencils. Bible verses is provided at the end of this Activity Page.

Day 1 - Read Romans 8:24-25

- Scripture

Start by making a note board or paper poster in your room to put the journals after you finished. Then, grab some coloured pencils and find a quiet place to think. Draw a box around the word "hope" every time it appears in these verses in your Bible. Remember hope is believing something good can come out of something bad.

- Observe

Answer the following the questions:

Hope that can be seen is what? _____

We hope for what? _____

- Application

In order to wait, what do we need? _____

- Prayer

We can have hope, even when we don't know what will happen, because of what Jesus did for us on the cross. No matter what happens to us here on earth, we have the promise of a relationship with Jesus forever when we put our faith in Him. We may not know how a certain situation will turn out but we DO

know that in the end, we will be with God forever when we trust Jesus as our Savior. Copy the words of today's verse and hang them inside your fort.

THANK God for sending Jesus to bring you hope, even when you don't know what will happen tomorrow.

Day 2 - Read Romans 8:26

- Scripture

Find the coloured pencils from yesterday. Pick a different colour than one you've already used and underline the words "helps," "weak," "pray" and "Spirit" in Romans 8:26.

- Observe

According to Romans 8:26, what happens when we are weak?

- Application

What will God's Spirit do when we aren't sure how to pray?

- Prayer

When something bad happens, you might have some questions about how it will turn out. Maybe you aren't even sure what to pray for. The good news is, when you trust in Jesus, the Holy Spirit will help you know how to pray. We can always have hope because God has all the answers. Write out today's verse and hang it in your fort!

ASK God to help you remember that He is bigger than your questions.

Day 3 - Read Romans 8:27

- Scripture

In your Bible, use a different coloured pencil to underline the words: "looks," and "knows." Use a red pencil to draw a heart over the word "hearts."

Sometimes it's hard to have hope, to believe that something good will come out of something bad, when we don't know what will happen. That's when we have to remember that God is with us and He is in control. He sees our hearts. He knows the things we're worried about better than anyone else. He knows what we need to pray even when we aren't sure how to pray. Remember whatever happens, God is bigger than your problems, questions and worry.

- Pray

Write out today's verse on a card or piece of paper and post it in your fort.

LISTEN to the truths you read to in God's word and trust God with your questions.

Day 4 - Read Romans 8:28

- Scripture

Use your coloured pencils to put a box around the words "all things" and draw a heart over the word "love."

Do you have questions that you just can't answer? Asking questions is a good thing. God gave you the ability to think and learn and grow. No question or problem is too big for Him. You can always pray and ask for His help because your questions are important to Him. Even if you don't get the answer you're looking for right away, you can trust God when He says that He will work all things together for good in His way and in His timing.

Write out the words of today's verse and post them in your poster. Then take a minute to read through all the promises you've written down this month.

- Pray

KNOW that God can handle anything you might ask because He is bigger than your questions.

Romans 8 : 25-28

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God. And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.