

Activity Name: Endurance

Objective: To learn that we cannot give up on God

Scriptural Foundation: You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. Hebrews 10:36

Warm-Up:

Host a Push up contest

Anyone who want to compete allow them to come to the front and do push-ups until there is only one student left. You should have some small prize for the student that wins.

Ask the winner a couple of questions. How does it feel to win? Are you tired? Does your tiredness take away from the win?

Lesson:

We have dreams for ourselves and God has plans for our lives. Sometimes we get really close to a win but because it got too hard or we got too tired, we quit.

The writer of Hebrews says that we are to persevere to receive what God has promised. The middle part of the scripture is often looked over. We have to do the will of God to receive the promise of the kingdom of God.

The same principles it takes to acquire the kingdom of God will help us acquire the earthly promises of an abundant life.

God honors hard work towards our dreams and goals. We cannot give up. Just like our push-up contestant was tired, we will be tired but that does not mean the win null and void. Hard work actually makes us appreciate the things God blesses us with even more.

Wrap-Up:

What dreams do you have?

Have you already given up on some of them?

What can you do to revive endurance in that area?

Activity Name: “Good” Christians

Objective: To have students think critically about what it means to be good. God does not judge us on our goodness, but rather on how much we look like Jesus.

Scriptural Foundation: As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one; there is no one who understands; there is no one who seeks God. All have turned away, they have together become worthless; there is no one who does good, not even one.” Romans 3:10-12

Warm-up:

What does it mean to be good? How do we know if someone is good? How do we know if someone is bad? Are Christians good? Can they do bad things?

Create note cards with every day events that students encounter. Write one event per side of the card.

Examples: (Add, subtract, edit according to your church context)

Sing in the choir	Cheating on a test	Listening to hip-hop
Make good grades	Attend church every Sunday	Listening to R&B
Cuss out parents	Attend bible study	Playing video games
Usher	Attend Sunday school	Listening to gospel music
Women wearing pants in church	Smoking weed/cigarettes	Praying
Going to church conventions	Having sex	Reading the bible
Playing sports	Underage drinking	Playing an instrument

Pass out the cards to the student have them get into group/pair and discuss the event. Is the event something “good” Christians do? Why or why not?

This activity can last as long as you want by having students switch partners and cards.

Lesson:

Take a few of the cards and ask the large group what they think about the event. Make sure to poke holes in their logic, the point is for them to think critically. This time can go as deep or be as shallow as you want it to.

Examples: *attending church*-what if I attend every Sunday but go home and never put into practice what the pastor says instructs us to do

Smoking weed – what if I smoke weed once a week but teach Sunday school and the kids learn from what I teach them

After some discussion read Romans 3:10-12. Verse 12 says, “There is no one who does good, not even one.” So what does that mean to us?

The book of Romans is all about the grace that comes from believing in and living for Jesus. We no longer live by the 600+ laws of the Old Testament. Those laws, written by God, were taken by the Israelites as way to feel “good.” We no longer have to follow those rules. Paul says if we live under the law that grace is irrelevant.

Does this mean we can do whatever we want? Absolutely not!

Paul also says the law informs the way we are to live today. Meaning what it means to look like Jesus. We will never be good because of sin but we are to look like Jesus in everything we do. We cannot judge whether a Christian is good by the acts they perform but rather by the fruit they produce.

“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. Matthew 7:15-20

Wrap-Up:

We all do things that we know Jesus would never do. What are those things? How can you stop those this week to look more like Jesus?