

May 31st, 2020

Journey Kids at Home: Elementary

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

For the last lesson of the month, we will close out our theme of Determination and learning how to be “Unstuck”. Join us for a story from scripture about a man who had questions about the Bible and how God provided the answers through one of His followers.”



Parents: Here are some activity ideas and discussion questions you can use to continue learning from our elementary lesson today. Enjoy your time together and take some pictures and post on your local Facebook page if you are able to do some of these activities. Have fun!

Activity #1 - 20 Questions

- WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed
- WHAT YOU DO: (Play the classic “20 Questions” game)
 - One person thinks of any object, and the rest of the group may ask up to 20 yes-or-no questions to discover what it is.
 - The person who guesses correctly becomes the next to think of an object.
 - For younger kids, you might give them a specific subject: a type of food/toy/movie/place.
 - Older kids will probably be familiar with this game and might enjoy limitless options.
 - Be prepared to prompt the group with some leading yes-or-no questions:
 - Is it alive?
 - Can you use it at school?
 - Do you go there every day?
 - Is this person a celebrity?
 - Is this movie a cartoon?
- WHAT YOU SAY: “You all had a lot of questions! [Transition] This was a good place to ask questions, and today’s story from the Bible was about a man who had questions about God’s scripture. It is okay to ask questions and ask for help when reading the Bible!”

Activity #2 - Write Down or Draw Your Questions

- WHAT YOU NEED: Poster board, markers
- WHAT YOU DO :
 - Gather the family and pass out the markers.
 - Set a poster board, large sheet of paper, OR individual paper out
 - Invite kids to write or draw questions they might have about God or following Jesus. They can write as many questions as they want to.
 - While kids are writing, write or say the Bottom Line: “Keep going even when you have questions.”
 - When the board is full or kids start running out of questions, collect the markers and close in prayer.
- WHAT YOU SAY: “This shows us that we’re not alone in having questions. Everyone has questions about something big at some point in their lives. The important thing is to keep going even when you have questions. Let’s pray and ask God for His help.”

Activity #3 - Hopscotch Holdup

- WHAT YOU NEED: Construction paper, tape, & markers OR chalk; dice
- WHAT YOU DO:
 - Use the construction paper and tape to create a hopscotch path OR use chalk to draw hopscotch path outside
 - Draw question marks on a few of the spots you step on
 - Have your kids line up and give the first person in line a die.
 - The first person in line rolls the die, which will tell them how many spaces they should hop. (The spots with two squares next to each other count as two spaces.) Whenever kids land on a “?” spot, **ask them a story review question** (see below).
 - During each kid’s turn, they continue rolling the die until they reach the end of the hopscotch path.
 - Then it’s the next kid’s turn.
 - If you run out of questions, repeat the questions below or make up some of your own!
- WHAT YOU SAY: “Instead of letting his question hold him back, the man from Ethiopia let Philip help him learn more about who Jesus was. And you guys know the end of the story. His determination led to a pretty amazing outcome! I wonder what epic story could be on the other side of our determination? Let today’s story be a reminder that you can keep going even when you have questions.”

Activity #4 - Color Pages and Questions

- WHAT YOU NEED: [“What’s Happening?” Activity Pages](#), colored pencils (see link)
- WHAT YOU DO:
 - Set out the pictures on a hard surface, and gather the kids around it.
 - Encourage kids to find a person or a situation in the picture that they have questions about and circle it with a colored pencil. One at a time, let kids ask their questions. They and the other kids can speculate about the answers.
 - After letting kids ask as many questions as they want to, allow kids to color the pictures.
- WHAT YOU SAY: “You had lots of questions about this picture! And you know what? Questions are a good thing. They help us learn stuff! [Transition] Just like in our Bible Story today where the Ethiopian man got his question answered about the Bible!

Activity #5 - ReCreate The Story

- WHAT YOU NEED: anything you can find in your home to use as a prop to reenact the Bible story (EX: a laundry basket as the chariot or a piece of paper rolled up as the scroll. Be creative!).
- WHAT YOU DO:
 - Have kids go collect supplies from all over the house.
 - Give kids a set amount of time to make their props.
 - After the props have been collected and created, guide kids to take turns acting out the story.
 - Help them retell the story as one kid plays the horse, one plays Philip, one plays the Ethiopian, and one plays the chariot driver.
 - Repeat until each kid has gotten a turn to play a role.
- WHAT YOU SAY: “Just like in the story, God wants us to ask questions, and He wants to answer them! And how does He answer them? In His Word—the Bible. You might not always get a specific answer to your question in the Bible, but you can keep going even when you have questions. Keep going, keep learning about God, and keep asking those questions!”

Review Questions and Application Questions on the next page!!

Bible Story Review Questions:

- Who appeared to Philip in the middle of him telling people about Jesus? (an angel of the Lord)
- What did the angel tell him to do? (to leave and go to the desert road that led to Gaza)
- Who did Philip encounter while traveling on the desert road? (an Ethiopian official)
- What was the man doing? (he had traveled to worship God in the temple and was trying to read Scripture)
- What did God tell Philip to do? (go to the chariot)
- And what did Philip do after he realized the Ethiopian official needed help understanding the Scripture? (he told the man about Jesus)
- What big decision did the Ethiopian official make after learning all about Jesus? (he got baptized)
- What happened to Philip after the man was baptized? (God's Spirit took him away so he could continue telling people about Jesus)

Application Questions:

- Why is it important to ask questions? What happens if we don't understand and we don't ask questions? When is it hard to ask questions?
- Have you ever had questions about the Bible? What about other parts of following Jesus? Who can you talk to about these questions? Where could you find out more?
- What should we do if we get our questions answered, but we don't understand the answers?
- What does it mean to keep going even when you have questions?

Family Challenge: This week do a family challenge you've missed (or a favorite you'd like to do again).

- Build a Fort
- Build an Obstacle Course
- Sidewalk Chalk Challenge
- Go on a Scavenger Hunt
- UpCycled Craft Challenge
- Baking and Cooking Challenge
- Building Challenge