

**Bible Story:** John 3:16

**Bottom Line:** MOVE

**Memory Verse:** "I move on toward the goal to win the prize. God has appointed me to win it. The heavenly prize is Christ Jesus himself." Philippians 3:14 NIV



**PLUG IN:** (prior to service 10-15 minutes) **Supplies: None**

1. What are some ways you learned to put your faith into action and MOVE?
2. Tell your group about the different activities today!

## Summer Kick-Off Centers

Today we have 4 different activities in which the kids will participate. Each activity will be 15 minutes long. Please rotate in number order (1 goes to 2, 2 goes to 3, 3 goes to 4, 4 goes to 1) The leaders from the grade will lead the activity in their respective classroom. Send one teacher to rotate with the kids. Start in your own classroom!

1. Baseball– 2nd grade classrooms
2. Bead Bracelets– 3rd grade classrooms
3. Obstacle Course– 4th grade classrooms
4. Jesus on the Go Bags– Garage

### **Baseball (2nd grade teachers) 2nd grade classrooms**

#### **Introduction (5 minutes)**

**Do:**

1. Open the Bible to John 3:16 and read it aloud to the group. Explain that this one verse tells us everything we need to know about how to have a relationship with God.
2. Using their best reasoning skills, ask the kids to read the first part of the verse and determine the two things we know about God from what we read. Kids can work together. Discuss the significance of the truth that God loved and God gave us His Son.
3. Now that you know these two super important things about God, ask the kids to dig into the rest of the verse to find out what we need to do in response.
4. This will be a bit harder for the kids so you may need to help them. First, they need to believe. Then they will have (or you could say *receive* so that it rhymes) eternal life.
5. So in review, the two things we know about God are that God loved and God gave. And the two things we need to do in response to what He's done: we believe and we receive eternal life.

#### **Play (10 minutes)**

1<sup>st</sup> Base – God Loved

2<sup>nd</sup> Base – God Gave

3<sup>rd</sup> Base – We Believe

Home Plate – We Receive

1. Split your group into two teams. Let the teams flip a coin to determine which team goes first
2. Explain that each child will take a turn "up at bat" by saying each word of sharing the gospel. So, the first child will say the first part and run to first base. The second child will say the second part and advance to first, meaning the first player would move to second base. Continue to play with each child, moving kids around the bases and back to home plate. But kids must listen because if they miss the next word, it counts as a strike. Three strikes and that team is out and the other team is up to bat.
3. Remind kids that God is ready to help them move around the bases on the field when they are ready. Be available to answer any questions they have about what it means to trust Jesus as their Savior and **BELIEVE**.

## **Bead Bracelet (3rd grade teachers)      3rd grade classrooms**

**Supplies: pony beads (white, green, red, yellow, black), hemp cord, small paper plates**

**Do:**

1. Show each child how to tie a knot about 1/4 of the way down their cord.
2. String the beads in the correct order and instruct children to do the same.
3. Tie a knot on the last 1/4 of the cord, securing the beads between the two knots.
4. Tie the bracelet on each child's wrist.

**Say:** "Each of these beads represents something. The black bead represents our sin— the things we do that are wrong. The red represents Jesus' sacrifice for you. It represents Him dying on a cross for those sins. The white bead represents Jesus forgiving us. His death on the cross means we are forgiven for all of our sin forever. The blue bead represents Jesus' promise that He will always be with us, every day, no matter where we are or what we do. The green bead represents eternal life. That means that if we believe in Jesus, we get to live with Him forever. And, finally, the yellow bead represents streets paved with gold. That's Heaven— what Jesus promises to everyone who puts their trust in Him."

## **Obstacle Course (4th grade teachers)      4th grade classrooms**

**Supplies: blindfold, inflatable obstacle course**

**Do:**

Choose one child to be blindfolded. Choose one person to give correct instructions and one person to give wrong instructions. Encourage the other kids to be loud during this activity.

**Say:**

"It can be hard to know who to listen to when there are so many loud voices shouting out instructions. Other people can give good help and advice, but we still have to make wise choices about who we **listen** to."

**Use the rest of the time for kids to go through the obstacle course.**

## **Jesus on the Go Bags (5th grade teachers)      Garage**

**Supplies: gallon ziplocks, granola bars, waters, Jesus on the Go bag papers, water bottle verse labels, glue, sharpies (to label papers that go in bags with kid's name)**

**Say:**

"Jesus came because He loves us! He chose a group of men, the Disciples, to help Him MOVE to share God's love. I'm so thankful that just like the Disciples, God has asked us to get in the game and share His love with others, too. You will do this today by creating a "Jesus on the Go" bag for people who may need God's love. These bags will remind them how much God loves them and how He will be with them no matter where they are. "

**Do:**

1. Explain that we will spend the next few minutes assembling a bag that they can take with them. At home, they can add 1 pair of socks and a toothbrush. If they are driving around and see someone who is in need, they can give this bag to that person.
2. Instruct the kids to take a gallon Ziplock and get one of each item into their bag.
3. Glue the label with verses onto the water bottle.
4. Once they have their bag filled, gather the kids to pray for the person who will receive the bag.

**Say:**

"All week we have been learning how to MOVE to show others who God is and how much He loves us. Thank you for getting these items into the bags! I'm sure each person who opens the bag will be excited about what is inside. Jesus showed love to everyone, let's make sure we MOVE to love everyone, too!"