Mud Run: Make it through the mayhem

WEEK
ONE
MAY 2019

GRADES
2 – 3
SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE | SOCIAL | STORY | WORSHIP | GROUPS | HOME

252 KIDS

TEAM

CEO
Reggie Joiner

DIRECTOR OF MESSAGING
Kristen Ivy

DIRECTOR OF CHILDRENS STRATEGY
Mike Clear

CREATIVE TEAM
Molly Bell
Elloa Davis
Elizabeth Hansen
Brandon O'Dell
Greg Payne
Phil Pierce
Dan Scott
Mike Tiemann
Jon Williams

WRITERS
Jodi Blackwell
Bill Hughes
Becky Jarrett
Rachael Macaluso
Erin Mashaw
Julie Tiemann
Dana Wilkerson

EDITORS
Molly Bell
Dana Wilkerson

ORANGE SPECIALIST
Abbey Carr
Amy Fenton
Leslie Galema
Amy Grisham
Barbara Graves
Terri Jones
Misty Phillips
Stephanie Porter
Annette Stickney
Courtney Templeton
Gay Tucciarone

USER AGREEMENT

Orange gladly grants permission to churches, schools, and other licensees to tailor 252 Kids® materials to fit their unique leadership requirements, locale and format preferences, and physical environment needs. However, if you wish to edit the content substantively, including Bible stories, learning activities, scripts, and any other content in which biblical principles and concepts are presented, you are obligated to do so within the doctrinal guidelines we've expressed in our Statement of Faith. These resources are intended to be downloaded and printed for use by the subscribing entity only and may not be electronically transferred to or duplicated by other non-subscribing entities. Any unauthorized reproduction of this material or incorporation into a new work is a direct violation of US copyright laws. ©2019 The reThink Group. All rights reserved. 252 Kids® and the 252 Kids® logo are trademarks of Orange and the reThink Group.

Scripture marked "NIrV" is taken from the NEW INTERNATIONAL READER'S VERSION®. Copyright © 1996, 1998 Biblica. All rights reserved throughout the world. Used by permission of Biblica.

Scripture marked "NIV" is taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.® Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

252 KIDS

WEEK
ONE
MAY 2019

GRADES
2 – 3
SMALL GROUP

PRELUDE | SOCIAL | STORY | WORSHIP | GROUPS | HOME

BIBLE STORY

Runnin' Down a Dream
Great Commission and
Spread of the Gospel
Matthew 28:16-20,
Acts 1–2

MEMORY VERSE

**But those who trust in the
Lord will receive new strength.
They will fly as high as eagles.
They will run and not get tired.
They will walk and not grow weak.**
Isaiah 40:31, NIrV

LIFE APP

**Perseverance—Refusing to
give up when life gets hard**

BOTTOM LINE

**Keep going because
God is with you.**

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience
For Leaders Only
Create the Environment
Monthly Overview

15 MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction
Early Arrivers
Many Languages

25 MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways
Opener
Bible Story
Worship
Prayer
Closer

10 MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God
"Everywhere I Go" from *Every Beat*
"Our God Is Stronger" from *Every Beat*

25 MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect
Spreading Marker
Keep Going Game
Many Languages Verse
Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience
GodTime
Parent Cue

©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com

GETTING READY

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

CHOOSE ONE OR BOTH OF THESE ACTIVITIES.

EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

Made to Explore: *an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- An offering container
- A world map or globe; or a tablet or computer with access to the internet

MANY LANGUAGES

Made to Play: *an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Print the "Many Languages" Activity Page; one for each kid
- *Optional:* Device(s) with language translation app

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

CHOOSE AS MANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES AS YOU LIKE.

** If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #1.*

* 1. SPREADING MARKER

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Explore: *an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paper towels (needs to be household variety, not the industrial type)
- Clear containers (such as clear plastic glasses or baby food jars)
- Felt-tip water-based markers in multiple colors (permanent markers will not work); non-primary colors will make the experiment more interesting
- A container of water

2. KEEP GOING GAME

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Move: *an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Slips of paper; two or three for each kid
- Pens
- 20-30 sheets of paper
- Floor tape
- Dice or spinner
- Print the "Keep Going Cards" Activity Page on cardstock and cut apart; one set for each small group

3. MANY LANGUAGES VERSE

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Play: *an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- "Many Languages" Activity Pages from Social
- Bibles

PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: *an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Make copies on cardstock or email this week's GodTime and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app.**

©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com

BIBLE STORY

Runnin' Down a Dream
Great Commission and Spread of the Gospel
Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1–2

MEMORY VERSE

But those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.
Isaiah 40:31, NIrV

LIFE APP

Perseverance—Refusing to give up when life gets hard

BOTTOM LINE

Keep going because God is with you.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Ask God to bring the abstract concept of perseverance into your kids' concrete world. Pray that kids would be able to recognize the areas of their lives where they tend to get overwhelmed and want to quit or give up. Ask God to provide them strength to push through.

1. EARLY ARRIVER IDEA

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container, world map or globe (or tablet or computer)

WHAT YOU DO:

- Collect kids' offerings as they arrive.
- Spread out the world map or set out the globe. Or launch Google maps on a tablet or computer.
- Encourage kids to talk about different countries they've visited, would like to visit someday, and/or know a lot about.

©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com

BIBLE STORY

Runnin' Down a Dream
Great Commission and Spread of the Gospel
Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1–2

MEMORY VERSE

But those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.
Isaiah 40:31, NIrV

LIFE APP

Perseverance—Refusing to give up when life gets hard

BOTTOM LINE

Keep going because God is with you.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

2. MANY LANGUAGES

WHAT YOU NEED: "Many Languages" Activity Pages, device(s) with translation app *(optional)*

WHAT YOU DO:

- Ask if any kids know another language. If so, encourage them to teach the group a few words.
- Hand out the Activity Page.
- Say a few of the words with the kids.
- Pair kids up and let them each say sentences in English while substituting words from the chart.
- Encourage the partners to not look at their papers, and guess what the foreign word was.
- *Optional:* Let kids look up other words using an app.
- Collect the Activity Pages to use again later.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"I always think it's fun to learn words in different languages. Wouldn't it be cool if we just automatically knew other languages without having to learn them? ***[Transition]* Let's go to Large Group, where we'll hear about a time that actually happened!"**

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com

TALK ABOUT GOD

BIBLE STORY REVIEW

BIBLE STORY

Runnin' Down a Dream
Great Commission and Spread of the Gospel
Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1–2

MEMORY VERSE

But those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.
Isaiah 40:31, NIrV

LIFE APP

Perseverance—Refusing to give up when life gets hard

BOTTOM LINE

Keep going because God is with you.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

* 1. SPREADING MARKER

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper towels, clear containers, water, felt-tip water-based markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a paper towel.
- Instruct the kids to fold the towel in half from side to side multiple times until the towel is about one inch wide.
- The kids will use a marker to draw a squiggly line along the paper towel, starting about an inch and a half from one end.
- Give each kid a clear plastic cup with about an inch of water in it.
- Instruct the kids to stick the blank end of their paper towel into the cup and observe.
- Ask kids to talk about what's happening with the marker: it spreads, the colors separate, etc.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"In our Bible story today, the gospel—the good news about Jesus—spread to many people because the disciples shared it. Just like our marker spread out and changed when we put the paper towel in the water, our words about Jesus can spread out and change the people around us. ***[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time when you told someone about Jesus and it changed their life.)*** It's not always easy to tell people about Jesus, because we might not know the person well, and we might be afraid that they'll make fun of us or say that what we're saying isn't true. But we know it is true and it's the most important thing anyone can hear. You can tell people about Jesus and **keep going because God is with you."**

©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com

LIVE FOR GOD

APPLICATION ACTIVITY

BIBLE STORY

Runnin' Down a Dream
Great Commission and Spread of the Gospel
Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1–2

MEMORY VERSE

But those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.
Isaiah 40:31, NIrV

LIFE APP

Perseverance—Refusing to give up when life gets hard

BOTTOM LINE

Keep going because God is with you.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

2. KEEP GOING GAME

WHAT YOU NEED: "Keep Going Cards" Activity Page, slips of paper, pens; 20-30 sheets of paper, floor tape, dice or spinner

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tape the sheets of paper on the floor in a winding path. This will be your game board.
- Give each kid two or three slips of paper.
- Tell them to write down things they or other kids their age do or face that might be overwhelming and require perseverance.
- Provide a few examples, if necessary, such as learning a new sport or musical instrument, succeeding in a difficult school subject, adjusting to a move or parents' divorce, etc.
- Collect the slips of paper.
- Instruct the kids to line up at one end of the game board.
- Tell the first kid to roll the dice or spin the spinner.
- Then read aloud one of the perseverance situations written by the group (from the slips of paper they turned in to you).
- Let the kid draw a "Keep Going Card," and tell him to read it aloud and follow the instructions.
- Continue playing until someone makes it all the way through the board or you run out of time.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"We all have jobs to do, some of which feel completely overwhelming and make us want to give up, like all the situations we just read about in our game. But through the Holy Spirit—God with us—God can give us the strength we need to keep going and finish what we started. You can **keep going because God is with you."**

©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com

HEAR FROM GOD

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

BIBLE STORY

Runnin' Down a Dream
Great Commission and Spread of the Gospel
Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1–2

MEMORY VERSE

But those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.
Isaiah 40:31, NIrV

LIFE APP

Perseverance—Refusing to give up when life gets hard

BOTTOM LINE

Keep going because God is with you.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

3. MANY LANGUAGES VERSE

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, "Many Languages" Activity Pages

WHAT YOU DO:

- Guide kids to look up Isaiah 40:31 using the following tips.

  Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. *(Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.)* When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Isaiah in the list under "Old Testament." When the kids find Isaiah, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Isaiah. Help the kids find the page. When they find Isaiah, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 40. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 31 in chapter 40.

- Say the verse together several times.
- Hand out the "Many Languages" Activity Pages.
- Choose a language from the page, and say the verse while substituting the words from that language. *(Note: The verbs will not all be conjugated correctly, but that's okay.)*
- Then choose another language, and ask a kid to say the verse while substituting the words from that language.
- Choose yet another language.
- This time, point to a kid when you come to a word that's on the page. He will jump up and say the word. Point to a different kid for the next word, and so on.
- Continue in a similar way with the other languages.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"In today's Bible story, some of the disciples were able to share the gospel with people in languages they didn't even know. That's so cool! It's not likely that will ever happen to any of us, but we could all definitely learn other languages. It's not an easy thing to do, but when you do, remember to **keep going because God is with you.** Then, after you learn another language, you could tell people about Jesus in that language, just like the disciples did."

©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com

PRAY TO GOD

PRAYER ACTIVITY

BIBLE STORY

Runnin' Down a Dream
Great Commission and Spread of the Gospel
Matthew 28:16-20, Acts 1–2

MEMORY VERSE

But those who trust in the Lord will receive new strength. They will fly as high as eagles. They will run and not get tired. They will walk and not grow weak.
Isaiah 40:31, NIrV

LIFE APP

Perseverance—Refusing to give up when life gets hard

BOTTOM LINE

Keep going because God is with you.

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

MADE TO REFLECT

REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

PRAY AND DISMISS

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Tell kids to think about one of the things they wrote on a slip of paper earlier.
- Encourage them to silently pray and ask God to help them trust Him when they face that situation so that they can persevere.
- Close with a prayer similar to the one below.

WHAT YOU SAY:
"Dear God, thank You for loving us and for giving us the Holy Spirit to be with us so that we can keep going when we need to persevere. Remind us to rely upon You for help and strength when we need it. In Jesus' name, amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, tell them to ask kids about the spreading marker activity.

©2019 The reThink Group, Inc. All rights reserved. www.ThinkOrange.com