

Bible Story: Peter and John Are Taken to the Sanhedrin • Acts 3–4:22

Bottom Line: Keep going because of what God has done.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up.* • Galatians 6:9 NIV

1. Opening Activity

What You Need:

- Offering container
- Timer (or smartphone or watch)

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Greet each kid by name with a fist bump, high five, smile, or wave as they arrive.
- Invite any kids who brought an offering to place it in the offering container.
- Tell the kids you're going to have a "Praise Jump-Off"!
- Explain that in today's Bible Story, a man who couldn't walk was so excited after he was healed that he jumped for joy.
- Challenge the kids to see who can "jump for joy" the longest without stopping.
- Start the timer (or smartphone or watch) and encourage all the kids to start jumping in place.
- When a kid stops jumping, call out their time and have them sit down and cheer for the others.
- Play until there is only one kid left jumping. Celebrate that they were able to jump for that long!
- If time allows, play again so the kids can try and beat their time.

What You Say:

"Whew, that was a lot of jumping! You all have so much energy! It's fun to imagine how happy that man must have been the day he was healed and could walk again. Do you think he jumped for joy as long as we did? Today, in our true story from the Bible, we're going to hear who healed this man and what happened right after he was healed. We'll also hear how his friends had to be brave and keep going. Today, we're going to learn that we can **[Bottom Line] keep going because of what God has done.** Let's go!"

[Lead kids to do worship and watch today's video lesson]

2. Leap for Joy

What You Need:

- “Leap for Joy” Activity Page
- “Healed Man” Activity Page
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Glue sticks
- Coloring supplies

What You Do:

Before the Activity:

- Print “Leap for Joy” on cardstock, one per kid.
- Copy “Healed Man” on cardstock and cut one cutout per kid.
- Fold each kid’s “Leap for Joy” Activity Page and cut along the dotted lines.

During the Activity:

- Give each kid a “Leap for Joy” Activity Page and a cutout from the “Healed Man” Activity Page.
- Instruct kids to color their “Leap for Joy” Activity Page and their cutout from the “Healed Man” Activity Page.
- Show kids where to glue the cutout on the tab.
- Demonstrate how to bend the top of the paper so the man leaps for joy.

What You Say:

“Flatten your paper and then fold the top up—see the man leap for joy? Now do it faster and watch him jump up and down! The man from our Bible Story is jumping for joy!

“You can take this home to help you retell the story of what God did for this man. It’s a great reminder that when we see the amazing things God does, it gives us courage to tell others about the good news of Jesus and excitement to keep going, just like Peter and John.

“God has done great things for you too! He has made a way for you to be His friend forever by sending Jesus to pay for sins! Then, once Jesus went back to heaven, God moved in so close through the Holy Spirit! God wants you to be His close friend, and He has done so much to make that happen!

“Knowing that God has made a way for us to be friends with Him forever can make us bold and courageous too. It can help us keep going when things get tough.

“There are a lot of ways that things can get tough. Maybe you feel like a coach is being totally unfair, and you want to quit the team. Maybe you find out your family is moving, and you have

to leave all your friends. Or maybe the doctor says you have to take a really yucky medicine every single day. That is so hard! But God loves you, and He is with you, so you can keep going!

“You’ll face many things that make you want to give up. But when that happens, remember how much God loves you and all that God has done for you. Ask the Holy Spirit inside you for help. Then you can keep going, no matter what. Remember, we can **[Bottom Line] keep going because of what God has done!**”

3. Boldly Follow the Leader

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

What You Do:

During the Activity:

- Tell the kids you are going to play a game of “Follow the Leader” but with a BOLD twist.
- Explain that whatever you do, they are to copy it in a big, bold, and brave way.
- Lead them around the room with bold actions:
 - “Let’s do BOLD marching!” (*Lift your knees up high.*)
 - “Let’s make BOLD arm muscles!” (*Flex your arm muscles.*)
 - “Let’s take BOLD giant steps!” (*Take the biggest steps you can.*)
 - “Let’s give a BOLD clap!” (*Clap loudly together.*)
- Let a few kids take turns being the bold leader.

What You Say:

“Great job being so bold! Peter and John were bold when they talked about Jesus. They weren’t scared because they knew God was with them. They didn’t give up speaking and acting for Jesus. They knew that they could keep going because of what God had done!

“And God has done so much for us too! We needed rescue from our sin, and we couldn’t be close to God anymore. But God loves us so much that He created a rescue plan spanning all of history so we could be close to Him again. For years and years and years, He was faithful to set the exact right time in history for Jesus to come! And through Jesus’ life and death, God rescued everyone who follows Jesus. Now, we can be friends with God forever! And then after Jesus went back to heaven, God sent His Holy Spirit, His very Spirit, so He can live inside of His followers! Now He is closer than close, and goes through all of life with us.

“Knowing all that God has done just so we can be His close friends can make US bold too. When we remember how much God loves us, it helps us keep going when things get tough and helps us **[Bottom Line] keep going because of what God has done!**”

EveryChild Pro-Tips

- *Select bold actions so all kids are able to participate.*

4. Pray

“Dear God, thank You for all the amazing things You’ve done for us. Thank You for sending Jesus to rescue us so we can be friends with You forever. Help us to be brave and keep telling people about You, just like Peter and John. Help us to always ***[Bottom Line]*** keep going because of **what God has done**. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”