

GO DEEPER

Memory Verse: “Then he said to the crowd, “If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross daily, and follow me.” Luke 9:23 (NLT)

DAILY DEVOTIONS

DAY 1: NOT ALONE

READ - Acts 1:6-11

How do you feel when you are alone? The disciples of Jesus loved Him so much and they relied on Jesus to teach and lead them. But Jesus was returning to Heaven. This probably made them feel sad or worried about what to do. But Jesus gave them hope. He promised to send the Holy Spirit to be with them, so that they would not be alone. The Holy Spirit would continue to teach and guide them just like Jesus had!

Remember: Being a Disciple Means Relying on the Holy Spirit

DAY 2: STRONGER TOGETHER

READ - 1 Corinthians 12:21-26

Can you name some things that you need help with? Is it always easy to ask for help? God created us to do life with others. God has given each of us different things we can do really well to help encourage, care for, and strengthen others in the Church, or Body of Christ. Can you imagine what it would be like if you tried to do everything in life all by yourself? **Remember: Disciples Do Life Together**

DAY 3: STEPHEN TALKED ABOUT JESUS

READ - Isaiah 41:10, Psalm 118:6

Stephen was filled with the Spirit and the love of his Savior, so he loved sharing about Jesus. What's some good news about Jesus you can share with others? When can you tell people about Jesus? Anytime! Even when hard things happen, we can have joy because of Jesus' love for us. Let's practice saying loving things about Jesus. Use a bouncy ball to bounce back and forth. Every time someone bounces the ball they should say something loving about Jesus. Such as "Jesus loves everyone," or "Jesus can do anything." **Remember:**

Disciples Trust God Even When Hard Things Happen

DAY 4: OBEY RIGHT AWAY

READ - Acts 8:26-29

Play a game of "Red Light, Green Light." The angel of the Lord told Philip to "rise and go..." Did Philip get up and go? Yes! He obeyed God immediately! While he was traveling to Gaza, he met an important man who was not yet a follower of Jesus. If Philip had not left right away he might have missed out on sharing Jesus with the Ethiopian. When God asks you to "Go", obey right away! **Remember: Disciples Make Disciples**

DAY 5: GOD CAN USE YOU

READ - John 3:16, 1 John 1:9, Luke 9:23

God forgave Paul and used him to tell others about Jesus. Jesus lived a perfect life, died on the cross taking the punishment for our sins, and then He came back to life because He is God! God promises to forgive us when we tell Him we are sorry and ask for His forgiveness. It's God's forgiveness that cleans our hearts! God can use you to tell others about His love. Who will you tell today? **Remember: God Can Use Anyone as His Disciple**



SOCK FUN

Materials: socks, various art supplies

Create your own sock puppets. Use your puppets to retell the real life moments we have been learning about from the book of Acts in the Bible.

- Stephen the Martyr
- Philip & the Ethiopian
- Saul's Conversion
- Peter & Tabitha



Get creative! What other true Bible stories can you use your puppets to tell?



GROW THE CHURCH

Materials: barrel of monkeys game

Use your barrel of monkeys to complete a 60 second challenge where you must link ALL the monkeys together in 60 seconds or less.

Variation: If you have two players give each player a Barrel of Monkeys game. The players will be given 60 seconds to try and link as many monkeys as they can. The player with the most monkeys joined together when time runs out is the winner.

What's the point? Jesus wants you to follow Him. When you are following Jesus you can share about Him with others. Then, when you share about Jesus with someone, and they choose to make Jesus the leader and forgiver of their life, God just used you to make a disciple! Just like the group of monkeys grew as you added on more and more monkeys, the church grows as more people choose to follow Jesus with their lives and become His disciples!



CUDDLE CLOSE

Materials: none

Before bed pull your child close beside you and say, "Jesus wants me to be His disciple!" As you tuck them into bed, sing, "Go!" (www.tinyurl.com/yancygogogo). Then pray together, pausing after each phrase to let your child repeat after you:

Dear God,
Thank you for sending Jesus!
Help me to follow and obey.
Help me tell others about you.
Thank you for your great big love!
In Jesus' name, Amen.