

# JANUARY WEEK 3

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY:** ANTS MARCHING (ANT AND SLUGGARD) • PROVERBS 6:6-8

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE:** WORK HARD.

**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE:** SUPPOSE YOU CAN BE TRUSTED WITH SOMETHING VERY LITTLE. THEN YOU CAN ALSO BE TRUSTED WITH SOMETHING VERY LARGE. LUKE 16:10A (NIRV)

**MONTHLY LIFE APP:** RESPONSIBILITY—SHOWING YOU CAN BE TRUSTED WITH WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU

**BASIC TRUTH:** I NEED TO MAKE THE WISE CHOICE.

## ACTIVITY

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "GAME OF LIFE" ACTIVITY PAGES, MARKERS, GLUE STICKS, PLASTIC SANDWICH BAGS, AND SCISSORS

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- HAND OUT "GAME OF LIFE" GAMEBOARD AND BLUE SQUARES PAGE TO EVERY KID.
- ENCOURAGE KIDS TO CHOOSE FOUR BLUE SQUARES TO FILL THEIR BLUE SPACES ON THEIR GAMEBOARD. THEY CUT THOSE SQUARES OUT AND GLUE THEM TO THE BLUE SPACES ON THE GAMEBOARD.
- INSTRUCT THE KIDS TO WRITE DOWN WAYS THEY CAN WORK HARD THIS WEEK IN THE GREEN SQUARES ON THEIR GAMEBOARD. GIVE THEM EXAMPLES OF PLACES WHERE THEY CAN WORK HARD (THE PARK, HOME, SCHOOL, NEIGHBORHOOD, AT A FRIEND'S HOUSE).
- INSTRUCT THEM TO LEAVE THE ORANGE SPACES FREE TO USE LATER.
- ONCE THE KIDS HAVE COMPLETED THEIR GAMEBOARDS, HAND OUT A NUMBERED SQUARES PAGE TO EVERY KID.
- GIVE A PAIR OF SCISSORS TO EACH KID AND INSTRUCT THEM TO CUT OUT THE NUMBERS AND PLACE THEM IN A PLASTIC SANDWICH BAG.
- EXPLAIN THAT EVERY DAY THEY CAN PULL OUT A NUMBER AND MOVE THAT MANY PLACES ON THEIR GAMEBOARD. WHATEVER SPACE THEY LAND ON IS THEIR "WORK HARD" CHALLENGE FOR THAT DAY!
- LET KIDS PRACTICE PULLING OUT A NUMBER TO SEE WHERE THEY LAND.
- ENGAGE KIDS IN A CONVERSATION ABOUT A WAY THEY CAN WORK HARD BASED ON THE GAMEBOARD SPACE THEY LANDED ON.
- IF THEY LAND ON AN ORANGE SPACE, EXPLAIN THAT YOU WILL FILL THOSE SPACES IN LATER.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

- "THESE ARE PROBABLY THE COOLEST LOOKING GAMEBOARDS I'VE EVER SEEN! AS OUR AMAZING GAME SHOWS, THERE ARE SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO [BOTTOM LINE] WORK HARD AND USE WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN US. GOD DIDN'T MAKE US TO STAND STILL IN THE GAME OF LIFE. HE CREATED US STRONG, UNIQUE, AND FULL OF PASSION TO DO BIG THINGS IN THIS WORLD! LET'S GO OUT AND [BOTTOM LINE] WORK HARD THIS WEEK!"

## DISCUSSION

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**ASK:**

- DESCRIBE A TIME WHEN YOU HAD TO WORK HARD. WHAT DID YOU ENJOY ABOUT THAT EXPERIENCE? WHAT DID YOU NOT ENJOY?
- WHY DO YOU THINK SOME PEOPLE ARE HARDER WORKERS THAN OTHERS?
- IF SOMEONE IS SUPER SMART, DOES THAT MEAN THEY DON'T HAVE TO WORK AS HARD AS OTHERS?
- DO YOU THINK IT'S POSSIBLE TO WORK TOO HARD? EXPLAIN WHY OR WHY NOT.
- WHAT SHOULD BE OUR MOTIVATION FOR WORKING HARD AND NOT BEING LAZY?
- WHEN YOU'RE FEELING LAZY, WHAT HELPS YOU TO GET GOING AGAIN?

# PRAYER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** GAMEBOARDS FROM “GAME OF LIFE” ACTIVITY AND MARKERS

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- ASK KIDS TO GET THEIR GAMEBOARDS AND A MARKER.
- EXPLAIN THAT ONE OF THE WAYS WE CAN WORK HARD IS TO PRAY BIG AND BOLD PRAYERS FOR PEOPLE! BIG PRAYERS DON'T HAVE TO BE LONG, THOUGH! EVEN SHORT PRAYERS CAN ASK GOD FOR BIG THINGS, LIKE PEACE FOR A TOUGH FAMILY SITUATION OR HELP LEARNING A CHALLENGING SUBJECT AT SCHOOL.
- ENCOURAGE KIDS TO WRITE SOME BIG PRAYERS FOR THEIR FAMILY, FRIENDS, CITY, OR OUR WORLD IN THE ORANGE SQUARES ON THEIR BOARD.
- INVITE KIDS TO SHARE ONE OF THEIR PRAYER IDEAS FROM THEIR ORANGE SQUARES.
- CLOSE YOUR GROUP TIME IN PRAYER.

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

“DEAR JESUS, THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO [BOTTOM LINE] WORK HARD. WE KNOW THAT EVERY SMALL THING WE DO EACH DAY CAN BE USED TO SHOW YOUR LOVE TO OTHERS. WE ASK THAT YOU HELP US SEE WAYS WE CAN [BOTTOM LINE] WORK HARD THIS WEEK AND THAT WE WOULD BE EXCITED TO BE A PART OF A PURPOSE THAT IS BIGGER THAN OURSELVES! WE LOVE YOU! IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.”

- AS ADULTS ARRIVE TO PICK UP, INVITE KIDS TO SHOW OFF THEIR GAMEBOARDS. ASK THEM TO TALK ABOUT ONE OF THE WAYS THEY CAN [BOTTOM LINE] WORK HARD THIS WEEK. ENCOURAGE ADULTS TO CHECK IN WITH KIDS THROUGHOUT THE WEEK TO SEE THE PROGRESS THEY MAKE!