



COMMITMENT | WEEK 1 | MAY 1-2, 2021

Virtual K-3 Lesson

Over and Over

Life App: Commitment—Making a plan and putting it into practice.

Bible Story: Over and Over (Training to Win the Prize) • *1 Corinthians 9:24-25*
(supporting: *Matthew 22:36-40*)

Bottom Line: Keep practicing what matters most.

Basic Truth: I am loved by God no matter what so I can love God, love others, and love life.

Memory Verse: Training the body has some value. But being godly has value in every way. It promises help for the life you are now living and the life to come." *1 Timothy 4:8, NIRV*

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

Growing in faith is not something that happens by merely cramming more information about the Bible into a child's brain. All of that knowledge in their head means nothing if we don't help kids experience what that knowledge can do in their hearts. To fully experience faith, we want kids to practice their faith. And that takes commitment.

God keeps all His promises and puts His plans into action. Because God has followed through on those plans, we get the chance to be with God forever. We reflect God's commitment to us when we can make a plan and stick to it. This month, we'll help kids discover that one of the best plans they can make is to commit to an ongoing relationship with Jesus. Commit to practicing faith by reading God's Word, praying to Him consistently, talking about Him with friends, and living out that faith every day.

We kick off the month with something Paul wrote in **1 Corinthians 9:24-25**. *So run in a way that will get you the prize. All who take part in the games train hard, (NIRV)*. Paul used running in a race as a way to talk about our relationship with God. A growing relationship with God isn't something that happens overnight; we need to practice it. The verse sets up the rest of the month for how we can practice our faith.

Bottom Line: **Keep practicing what matters most.** What matters most? We think it's a growing relationship with Jesus. When it comes to getting things done, more often than not, you need a plan. The same is true in your relationship with Jesus. We hope kids learn some practical steps to make a plan to prioritize growing an everyday faith in Jesus. m with friends, and living out that faith every day.

SMALL GROUP

SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY AND DISCUSSION

(No Supplies)

What You Do:

- As kids join the meeting and get settled, engage them in conversation about the past week.
- If you choose, consider doing some ice breaker questions with your group (how was your week, would you rather..., etc.)
- Practice saying the memory verse together.
- If you've chosen to watch the Bible story video presentation as a group (Find video at theparenthub.net), get that started once you've given latecomers a chance to join the meeting, and once the group feels settled.

What You Do:

- Ask everyone to stand up and place their device in a position where they can be seen.
- Instruct them to make sure they have room to jump around without knocking something over.
- Tell the kids you'll read the verses from the video today and when they hear the key words, they should jump up in the air.
- When you read 1 Corinthians 9:24-25, kids can take ONE jump up when they hear the key words "race, run, runner, or prize."
- When you read Matthew 22:36-40, they take TWO jumps up when they hear the key word "love."
- Repeat at least three times.
- During the first round, shout the key words to help them remember what they are.
- During the second and third rounds, read the verses in a normal voice and see who remembers the key words.

What You Say:

"Sometimes it was really hard to remember our key words to jump on. You really had to LISTEN and HEAR what I said. I also had to TALK in order for you to move. That reminds me of what we're learning about and practicing all month long: Hear, Pray, Talk, and Live. That's our plan to help us practice our faith in Jesus. I can't wait to continue to learn alongside each of you as we [Bottom Line] keep practicing what matters most."

DISCUSSION

Ask the following questions and lead the group to discuss:

- What makes us feel like quitting something even though we know it's important to keep practicing and get better at it?
- What can you do or remember when you want to quit practicing something important?
- How does practice help you?
- What are the benefits of staying committed to the things that are important and matter most? What are some consequences of not sticking with something important?
- How would you define COMMITMENT?

Close your group in prayer:

"God, we ask that You help us **[Bottom Line] keep practicing what matters most, even when it's hard**. I can't wait to see each of these kids grow in their relationship with You as they continue to practice hearing from You, praying to You, talking about You, and living for You. Help me do all these things every day, as well. Thank You for sending us Your Son, Jesus, and for loving us so much. It's in Jesus' name we pray, amen."