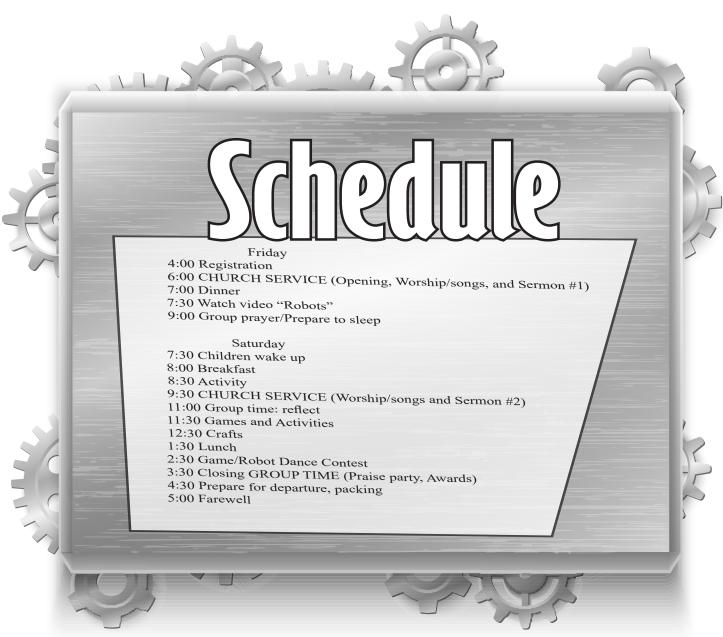
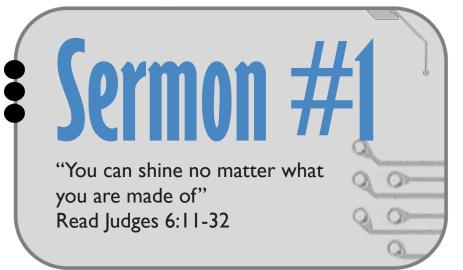




Are you willing to do a video camp focusing on self-esteem? You can teach the children that God is doing something very special with their lives just as He did with Gideon.

He really wants to use them to do great things!





God loves you and knows you! YES, that means each of you. (Psalms 117:2; John 15:12; Romans 5:8)

Each one of us is important and created by God. Today we will learn about Gideon in the Bible and how he struggled to understand that God loved him even though he felt weak and wanted to use him.

The thing is, in today's world people care what color your skin is, how much money you have, or what country or area you're from. It seems to me that people are constantly judging others and deciding who is more important. But God doesn't see us the

way people here on earth see us. "Man looks at the outward appearance, but God looks at the heart." God sees each of us as special and important.

Just like today, people in Biblical times judged others based on what family they came from, how good looking they were and whether they had a lot of money.

Tonight, we are going to see the video "Robots", where Rodney Copperbottom learns from his hero, Bigweld that:

"You can shine, no matter what you're made of."



God appeared to Gideon one day and called him a mighty warrior. Gideon said, "But my family is poor, and I am the smallest in my family." (v.15)

The interesting thing about God is that He regularly calls the little ones to act for Him instead of the mighty. I think it's because God wants to show that He is the only one doing the miracle and not us humans who are acting for Him. Gideon had trouble realizing that God really wanted to use him, because no one thought he was special and that he could lead all the soldiers into battle.

It does not matter that you do not come from the best family or have a lot of influence or money. God still wants to use you and me to do extraordinary things. God wants to change the world through us! Rodney Copperbottom realized the same thing. He wanted to be an inventor, but he was just a bunch of used parts, and the son of a dishwasher! God knows that you are not perfect, and that you are not "the best for the job". That is why He has chosen you! God likes to use people who are not perfect to show His glory and love to the world!

It is important to leave our fears and obey God. It is easy to be afraid to go out and do something great for God. It's scary to take risks and have people laugh at you for what you're doing. In our Bible story, God asks Gideon to tear down an idol in the street and build an altar to the one true God. Gideon obeys, tearing down the idol in the street, but he does it at night because he is afraid of his family and of all the men in the city. (v.27)

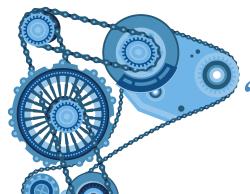
In the video "Robots", Rodney decides to go after his dream. He makes the journey to Robot City in hopes of finding his hero "Bigweld" and becoming an inventor. But he is rejected and ends up on the street with all the rusty robots.

The first step to becoming something great for God is to go out and take some risks. At first the results do not matter. The important part is doing something. This gives God the opportunity to act in our place and do something miraculous. God wants us to leave our fears and obey him.

Today we have learned that God loves us and wants to do something very special in our lives. It doesn't matter if we're not important or rich, or if we look great. God likes to use humble people to do great things. We have also learned that it is important to begin by simply obeying God, even when we are afraid,

and trust God to take care of the results.





Activity "Do it like a robot"

In a bag, keep ready pieces of paper with different actions written on each (see examples below). Children take turns to take a paper from the bag and have to act out the action as if they were a robot.

Examples: brush your teeth, put on a sweater, open your notebook and write, paint a wall, sweep the floor, eat a banana, walk the dog, hit a 6 in cricket, etc.

Crafts

Materials:

I and ½ paper plates per child
Colored paper (red, green, blue)
Glue
Pair of scissors
Pipe cleaner
Aluminum foil
Moving eyes (large size)
Different coloured craft sticky tapes
A black marker
Hole-punch

Ribbon piece (30cm) per child



Robot Craft Instructions:

- I. Glue the circular edge of the $\frac{1}{2}$ plate to the full-size plate, right-sides facing.
- Cut squares of coloured paper and smaller squares of aluminum foil, and glue in place for eyes. Glue moving eyes in the center of each aluminum square.
 - 3. Make a nose using a ball of aluminum foil.
- 4. Use strips of red paper to make lips and use markers to draw big robot teeth.
- 5. Use hole-punch to make holes and make antenna out of the pipe cleaners.
 - 6. Use different lengths of coloured tape to decorate the neck area of the face.
 - 5. Make holes with hole punch and thread ribbon through and tie in a knot.

Game

"Extreme Follow the Leader"

Like the classic game "Follow the

Leader", but a bit more difficult.
The leader will strike a pose that the rest of the class must follow. The challenge is to see which player can stay frozen in that pose the longest. If a player moves once he or she has been frozen, that person will be out of the game. The player who lasts the longest in the pose will be the next leader.

Examples of some challenging poses:

- * Dancer. Stand on your toes with your arms above your head.
- *Letter T (in English): Keep both arms out horizontally at the height of your shoulders.
- *The Bird. Stand on one leg and raise the other extended leg to 90 degrees.
- * Strong man. Extended pushup position.
- * Superman. Lie on your stomach with your head, legs and arms lifted off the ground.
- * Stomachache. Lie on your back with both legs extended and raised, your feet 6 inches off the ground.



God sees the world differently than we do. He doesn't forget about eternity, and the fact that we won't be on this planet for very long. God knows that our spiritual life is MUCH more important than our physical being. He tells us about this in the Bible, but it's hard for us to remember since things in our world are so visible.

God calls Gideon to go into battle, but then He tells him to send away those who are afraid! God told Gideon:There are too many men, so Israel cannot boast that they won the battle by their own strength. God will do

the same with us. He wants to perform miracles in our lives, but He wants to show His glory, and not allow us to boast that we did it in our own strength.

The best place for us is to be where we are doing something impossible, because then it is really God who does it!



For Gideon, God chose to use the fewest and weakest people to show the world that they had not won the battle by their own strength. God reduced the number of soldiers from 32,000 to 300!

In the video, Rodney was scared when he went to Robot City, but he chose not to turn back and go home, even though he ended up on the street with the Rusties.

Where does God have you? Are you afraid? Do you want to turn back?

In Gideon's battle, some people left out of fear and others left because of a small deed they did. God had them drink water from the river, and those who knelt and put their mouths in the water were sent home, but those who kept alert by lifting water and drinking from their hands got to stay. You can choose to stay with God even today, deciding not to back down because of fear.

Finally, we see the victory of Gideon and his men, and they didn't even carry swords! God gave them victory with only 300 men who covered their torches with pitchers. Then they shouted and smashed the pitchers so that the enemy would see their burning torches and think they were surrounded by a great army. But in reality, they were surrounded by only 300 men with torches! God confused the enemy, and they won the battle!

Rodney had similar success in the video "Robots". He was just a little guy who everyone disliked because he always had used parts. But he started a movement and eventually did something miraculous! Rodney saved everyone from Bigweld. And the best part was that in the end, Bigweld chooses Rodney to be his successor. He ended up with much more success than he could have ever dreamed!

Now, we all know that Robots is just a video, and those things didn't really happen, but we can learn from this video and from the true story of Gideon.

We can learn that each of us is important to God, and it doesn't matter what color our skin is, what language we speak, if we're wearing second-hand clothes, or if our parents aren't that wealthy. Just like the video, we know that "You can shine no matter what you're made of." It is important to remember that God ALWAYS uses humble people so that the glory goes to Him. He does not need flashy people to do His work. He needs willing people who will stay in battle, even when they are afraid.

So, what do you say? Would you like to do miraculous things in your life and win great battles? Be humble and don't be afraid!

Stay with God and watch him do amazing things!





Torches

What you will need:

A white sheet of paper or cardboard, clear tape.

 $12" \times 12"$ squares of red, yellow and orange tissue paper, one of each color.

White glue.

Instructions:

Roll the cardboard or paper in the shape of a cone, close it with the adhesive tape.

Cover it with the squares of tissue paper, red at the bottom, orange and yellow at the upper part.

Join the paper squares in the center and hold them like a bouquet of flowers.

Put some glue on the sides of the cone opening.

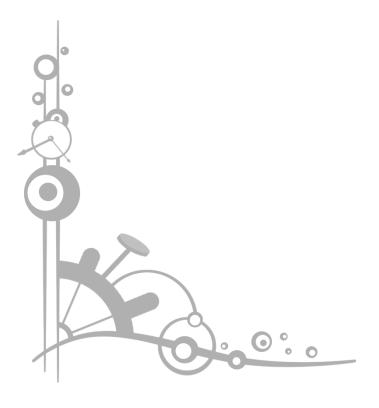
Place the tissue paper on the cone and let the glue dry completely.



Celebrate with the children that God gives us victory with a fun praise party. The children can wave the torches they made earlier and march around the room, cheering with joy, and singing along with the music! Choose songs that support the theme of the camp – chosen by God, He has plans and purposes for each one of us, God has victory, etc. Some suggestion of songs with fun actions:

"My God is a great big God" - action video on YouTube

Songs by Dougie Doug (The Incredible Song; Nothings too big; Okey Dokey; I'm not just here..... and many more). All available on YouTube.







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What will you do:

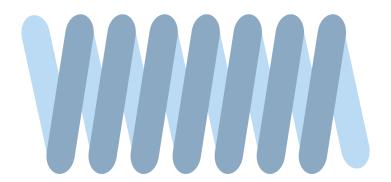
Form two teams and use a blackboard or whiteboard to keep score.

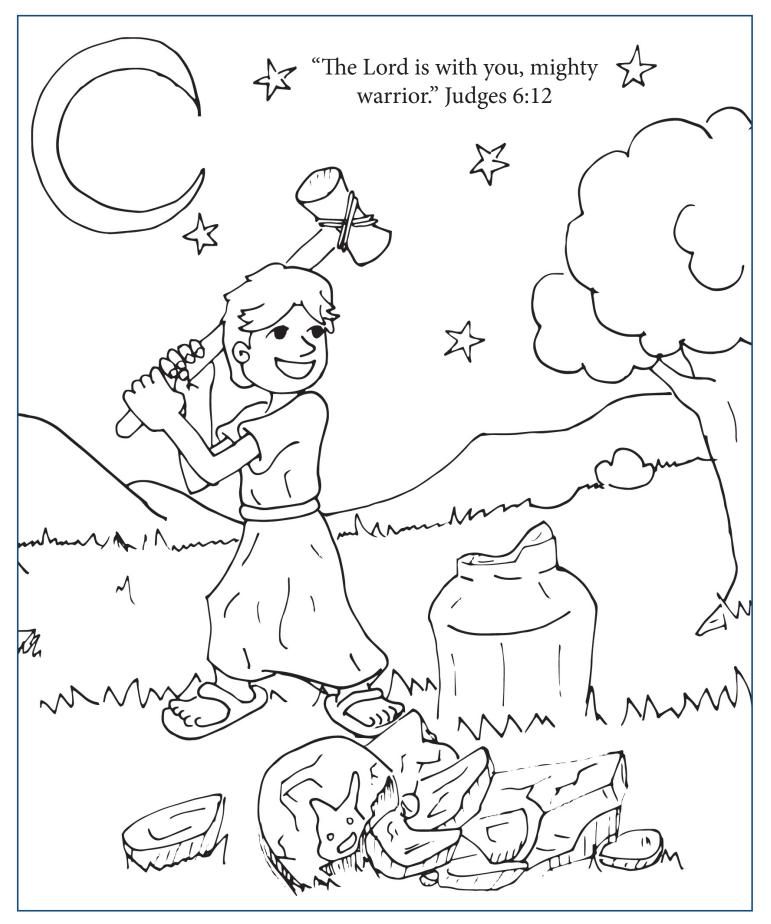
Read the first situation and ask the "A" team to come up with one way they could live for Jesus in that situation. If their answer is convincing, give team "A" 100 points. Then let team "B" try to come up with a different response to the same situation. If it is convincing and different from the one given by team "A", then team "B" will also get 100 points.

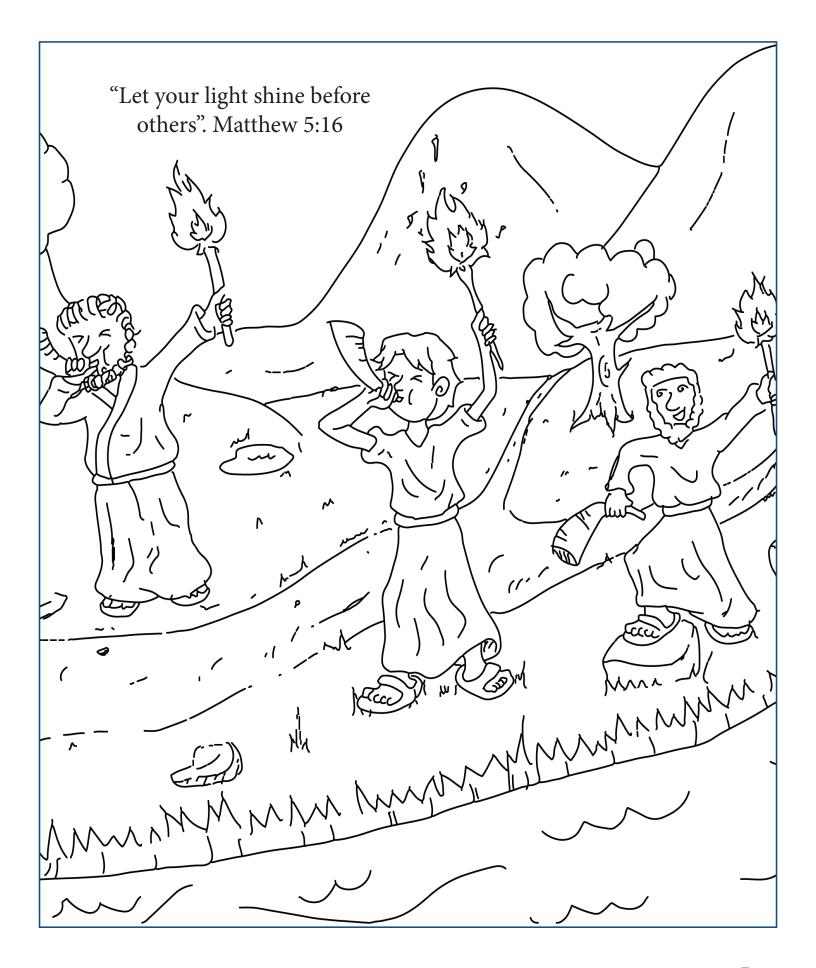
Next, read the second situation and ask team "B" to give an answer. If they give a convincing answer, give team "B" 100 points. Then let team "A" try to come up with an answer to that situation to earn 100 points. Continue in this way with each situation you read. The team with the most points wins. In most cases, and with a little creativity, the game can end in a tie.

Situations:

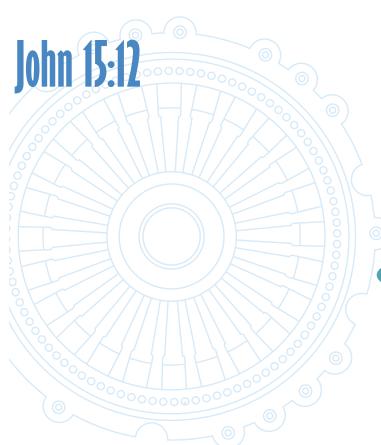
- I. There is an elderly person who lives near you. You realize that she has been sick and unable to move for several days. How can you live to serve Jesus in this situation? (Bring food, clean the house)
- 2. You have a classmate at school who is not very popular. Other children always make fun of him. How can you live to serve Jesus in this situation? (Being friends, playing with him, eating lunch with him)
- 3. Your church is having a program to support missionaries in other parts of the world. How can you live to serve Jesus in this situation? (Giving money, praying for workers, writing letters)
- 4.A new family is moving into your neighborhood; you realize they have a child your own age. How can you live to serve Jesus in this situation? (Visiting, welcoming them to the neighborhood, being a friend)
- 5.A boy used to attend your Sunday school every week. However, he has missed the last three weeks. You realize it's because he has no one to drive him to church. How can you live to serve Jesus in this situation? (Giving him a ride, encouraging him to come, taking him the materials)
- 6. Your friend has been sick for a few days. His mom tells you that he is not well, and that he will not be able to play outside for a few weeks. How can you live to serve Jesus in this situation? (Sending him a card, visiting, praying)
- 7. Your classmates are telling bad jokes during recess. They make fun of you for not wanting to listen. How can you live to serve Jesus in this situation? (Not giving in, sharing Jesus with them)
- 8. There was a big storm, a lot of trees were downed in your neighborhood, and now a lot of people are without power. How can you live to serve Jesus in this situation? (Offering them a place to stay until the power comes back, checking if they are okay, clearing tree branches)
- 9. A neighbor sees you carrying a Bible and asks why. How can you live to serve Jesus in this situation? (Share with him about Jesus, invite him to church)







My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you





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