

# 3RD, 4TH, & 5TH GRADE

WEEK 2 - APRIL 10, 2022

OKIDS

**KEY QUESTION: WHAT ARE YOU HOPING FOR?** We can trust God no matter what and hope that becomes real for kids this week. Next, we head to an incredible moment John recorded in **John 12:9-16**. God's people had waited for generations for God to send the Messiah. They were overwhelmed when Jesus made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem. God kept His promise. The mission to save the world was happening. Of course, this didn't happen exactly how they expected, but God was still working and up to something bigger than they could ever imagine!

## ACTIVITY #1 - VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

**What You Need:** Bibles, Wide tape, Plastic Easter eggs

1. Write John 16:33b on a 12-inch strip of wide tape and then attach it to the floor in the middle of your small group circle. Invite kids to read the verse on the tape.
2. Ask:
  - What's the not-so-great news in this verse? What's the super-great news in this verse?
  - Do you think the good news in this verse outweighs the bad? Explain why or why not.
3. Recite John 16:33b together a couple of times to help kids memorize it.
4. Write "Romans 8:28" on a second 12-inch strip of tape and then place it over the first piece of tape to create an "X" on the floor. Invite kids to look up and read Romans 8:28.
5. Ask:
  - If you were feeling really discouraged, how might this verse give you hope?
  - Which of the following would you say is the correct meaning of this verse?
    - a. God promises that all of our problems will go away.
    - b. God works everything out the way we want it to be.
    - c. Whatever happens, God is still in control and at work.
6. Direct kids to stand about ten feet away from the taped "X."
7. Choose one of the kids to stand in the middle of the circle with one foot on the "X."
8. Give each of the remaining kids two plastic eggs. At your signal, the kids in the circle can begin **ROLLING** the eggs (*no throwing*) as they aim for the feet of the kid in the middle, who will do their best to not get hit with an egg. The kid in the middle can turn and move in any direction as long as one foot remains on the X at all times.
9. Kids can pick up any eggs that miss the target and roll near them. If they walk into the circle to retrieve an egg, they must return to their spot before rolling it again. *If needed, adjust the size of the circle if the ten-foot distance is too far or too close to the kid-target. Also if needed, place some tape strips down so the kids don't continuously scoot forward toward the X.*
10. Switch players when an egg successfully hits the foot of the kid in the middle, and let someone else take a turn on the X. Play the game for several rounds. For variety, invite more than one kid to be the target in the middle or add more eggs to roll.
11. Wrap up by challenging kids to stay "anchored" to the promises they discovered in John 16:33b and Romans 8:28. Remind them that bad things can't get in the way of God's good plans for those who love and follow God—those who anchor their hope in God and not their situations.

**MORE ACTIVITIES ARE ON THE BACK OF THIS PAGE!**

## ACTIVITY #2 - DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### Ask the group:

- What are some hard situations you or other kids your age have gone through?
- What does it feel like when you're facing a tough situation and you can't see or understand what God is doing in it?
- What does it look like for a kid your age to trust God when going through a problem that feels hopeless?
- Why does it give us hope to know that God is ALWAYS working out God's plans and will NEVER stop?

## ACTIVITY #3 - MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

### What You Need: Bibles

1. Close by leading kids in a responsive prayer.
2. Read aloud Psalm 145:13.
3. Ask kids to respond by saying, "Hosanna" each time you pause.

### Prayer:

"Dear God, Your kingdom is a kingdom that will last forever, *(pause)*  
and your rule will continue for all time to come. *(pause)*  
The Lord will keep all his promises. *(pause)*  
He is faithful in everything he does. *(pause)*  
In Jesus, name, amen."

