# CONDER 18, 2022 SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY: ISAAC'S WELLS · GENESIS 26 1:-22; 26-31

As kids arrive, greet them by name and tell them you're glad they are at church today. While kids filter in, ask the below questions and get to know them!

- 1. Have you ever been to the circus? Do you like the circus?
- 2. Have you ever tried walking on a tight rope? Are you good at balancing?

### **ACTIVITY #1 - EARLY ARRIVER**

### What You Need: "Tightrope" of tape or rope

- 1. Use the tape or rope to create a "tightrope" on the floor. It can be whatever pattern works best. 2. Ask kids to gather next to the "tightrope" and challenge kids to take turns walking the tightrope without stepping off the line.
- 3. Use a variety of ways for them to walk such as:
- FORWARD
- HEEL-TO-TOE
- WITH ARMS OUTSTRETCHED TO THE SIDE
- HANDS ON HIPS
- WALKING SIDEWAYS
- WALKING BACKWARDS
- HOPPING ON ONE FOOT
- WITH EYES CLOSED



### ACTIVITY #2 - WELL, WELL, WELL

What You Need: "Well, Well, Well" Activity Page

Read the summary of today's Bible story on the "Well, Well, Well" Activity Page, inviting kids to do the actions described in parentheses.

SAY TO THE GROUP: "Trusting God shows up in a lot of different ways. Sometimes, it means keeping peace by letting others have their way, even if it's not fair. When Isaac trusted God and didn't put up a fight over the wells, he did something that wasn't easy to do. He chose peace and walked away from a fight. Trust can show up in other ways, too, like when you try really hard at soccer or playing the piano. You can trust God that all your hard work matters. Maybe your family has to move, and you're nervous about your new school and finding new friends. You can show trust by remembering that you are loved by God and you will be okay. Ask God to help you not fight to get your way or worry about hard things. One of the best reasons to trust is because God sent Jesus to give His life for you and me. Putting your faith in Jesus shows that you believe you can trust God no matter what."



# SMALL GROUP TIME (POST LARGE GROUP) ACTIVITY #3 - ANGRY TIGER

### What You Need: No supplies needed

- 1. Choose a child to be the guesser.
- 2. Choose an object in the room to be the "Angry Tiger," and tell everyone except the guesser what it is. The object must be something visible.
- 3. Have the guesser stand in the middle of the room and walk slowly in any direction.
- 4. Explain that the other kids will help the guesser keep away from the Angry Tiger by giving the following two clues:

**WALK AWAY**—The guesser is getting close to the Angry Tiger and needs to move.

**OKAY**—This means the guesser is safely walking away from the Angry Tiger.

- 5. After three or four clues, let the guesser tell where they think the Angry Tiger is located.
- 6. Repeat, letting others take a turn as the guesser.



SAY TO THE GROUP: "One of the ways we show

we trust God no matter what is by doing what is right. We won't face any angry tigers this week, but we might feel like one. It's easy to get angry when things don't go our way or something isn't fair. When you want to trust God, but you don't know how, talk to an adult who cares about you. God wants you to trust more and more, so God will help you do that."

### **ACTIVITY #4 - HEARTS AND HEADS**

What You Need: "Hearts and Heads" Activity Page, Bible, and hula hoops

1. Read Proverbs 3:5 aloud to the kids and invite them to say it with you.

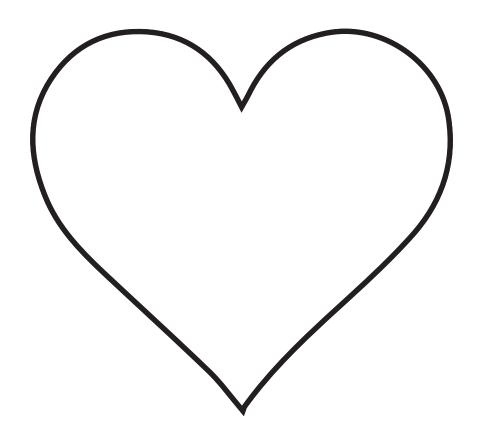
## Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding.

- 2. Form teams of two to three kids and give each group a hula hoop.
- 3. Assign each team one of the colors of the "Head and Heart" Activity Pages.
- 4. Randomly scatter the "Head and Heart" pictures around your space.
- 5. Ask the teams to step inside their hoop together and hold it waist high.
- 6. Explain that they must stay inside their hoops as they move around the room to collect the two "Head and Heart" cards in their team's color.
- 7. When they have found both cards, tell them to bring the cards to you and say Proverbs 3:5 together as a team.

SAY TO THE GROUP: "When things happen that we don't like or are hard for us to understand, it's okay. We won't always get what we want, but we can still trust that God will always do what is good and right. Sometimes that means we don't get to go first or have a gift we hoped for or that plans change. It's okay if we don't understand WHY stuff happens the way it does. We are learning to trust God with all our heart and not depend on our understanding. That's one of the most important lessons we can ever learn."

### **ACTIVITY #5 - PRAYER**

**PRAY WITH THE GROUP:** "Thank You God, that we can trust You when we're happy or sad or disappointed or excited. We can trust You when we make a mistake or when life feels confusing. We can trust You when others let us down or when they surprise us with a hug. We can trust You in any situation because You LOVE us. And we love You. Help us remember to trust God no matter what. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."





# Small Group Leader: Read aloud this summary of today's Bible story as you invite kids to do the actions described in parentheses.

Like his father, Abraham, Isaac owned many sheep and cattle. When the crops didn't grow because there was no rain—this is called a famine—he had to pack up his family and servants, tents, and animals and move to a new place where there was food to eat and water to drink. (Let the kids pretend to be sheep and cattle or members of Isaac's family as they pack up and move to another area of the room.)

His search for food brought Isaac to the land of the Philistines. Isaac and his family planted crops in the new land. The crops grew and grew and grew. They had a HUGE harvest and lots of food! (Let the children pretend to dig, plant, pick, and eat.)

God blessed Isaac, and he became richer and more powerful. He owned a lot of animals and had many servants. He was so successful that the people living around him became jealous of what he had. The king of the land, King Abimelech, told Isaac to leave. Isaac had become so powerful, rich, and successful that the king was afraid Isaac might take over his land. Isaac wanted to keep the peace, so he showed that he trusted God by moving from the land that was his and going to a different place. He and his people chose to trust God and not fight with King Abimelech. They took their families, their animals, and all of their possessions and moved away. (Let the children pretend to be sheep and cattle or members of Isaac's family as they pack up and move again to another area of the room.)

They set up their tents, planted more crops, and dug new wells for water. (Let the kids pretend to dig.)

One day, as Isaac's servants were digging for more water in the valley, they came upon a well of clean, fresh, spring water. The Philistine shepherds in the valley claimed that the wells they had dug belonged to them! They ordered Isaac and his people to move on again! (Let the children pretend to be sheep and cattle or members of Isaac's family as they pack up and move again to another area of the room.)

They set up their tents, planted more crops, and dug new wells for water. (Let the kids pretend to dig.)

Things were going well until one day, the mean Philistines showed up again. Once again, they ordered Isaac to move! Isaac could have stayed and fought for his land. He knew if there was a big battle, a lot of people might be hurt or even killed. So, for a third time, Isaac told his people to trust God and pack up, move, and dig more wells. (Let the children pretend to be sheep and cattle or members of Isaac's family as they pack up and move again to another area of the room.)

They set up their tents, planted more crops, and dug new wells for water. (Let the kids pretend to dig.)

One day, King Abimelech came to see Isaac. But instead of telling Isaac to move AGAIN, the king said, "We can tell that you trust in the Lord and He is with you. We should make an agreement and promise to not fight."

That evening, Isaac prepared a feast to celebrate the peace agreement. The next morning, Isaac and the Philistines confirmed their treaty, and Abimelech and his men left in peace. (Let everyone gather around an imaginary table and pretend to eat at a feast.)