4 Super Bible Games

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**PERSISTENCE SPOONS**

Bible Story Suggestion: Jacob Wrestles an Angel

**Sometimes it’s not easy to persist. Sometimes we want to give up on something hard. But the person who persists gets the prize!**

Have children form two relay teams at one end of the room. If there is an odd number, the first child on the team with less people can go twice. Give the first two children on each team a large tablespoon or slotted spoon (that’s four big spoons in all). Put a piece of aluminum foil, rolled up like a baseball into one of the spoons on each time (that’s two aluminum baseballs).

Show the players how to toss the “ball” back and forth to each other, catching it on the spoon. Then, they have to start moving slowly to the other end of the room while tossing back and forth.

One catch without dropping the ball earns one step forward by both teammates. A dropped ball means they have to stay where they are and try again, until a caught ball earns them a step forward.

Once a team reaches the far wall, they can run back with the spoons and ball and deliver to the next set of players.

Which ever team finishes first wins.

Ask **Who should get the prize?** They should answer that the winning team should. However remind them:

**God is not as interested in how fast or how slow we are. He is interested in those who show persistence. Therefore, everyone gets a prize.**

Pass out cookies, licorice sticks, or other available prizes.
BREAK AWAY

Bible Story Suggestion: Elijah, God, and Baal

Have all the children form a circle.

Let’s talk for a few minutes about some things you could be tempted to do if the crowd of kids you were with was doing them.

Allow them to think of things. As each child says one thing, have him turn away so that his back is to the circle. Prompts:

• Cheat on tests
• Take drugs or smoke
• Laugh at somebody’s hard luck (spilling something all over himself)
• Gossip
• Take something not belonging to you
• Bully
• Lie to your parents
• Cover up for a friend who did something wrong

Once all children are facing away from the circle, pick one child to be Elijah, and bring that child to the center. Have all other children be Prophets of Baal. They should lock arms and align feet so that the outsides of their feet are touching the outsides of the people on either side.

Have all children shut their eyes except Elijah. Have all of them at once shout the example they used to face out of the circle. With shut eyes and distractions of each other’s shouting, they must try to keep Elijah inside their circle. They may not break their arm lock or move their feet.

Elijah’s job is to look for holes or unsuspecting people, and try to dive or sneak out. Others can try to block him with their hips and bodies if they don’t break their holds or move their feet to do it. If Elijah gets his body through to the outside, he wins.

Take turns until everyone has been Elijah.

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How were the Prophets of Baal sort of like bad influences among the people we know? They can make you feel “locked in” to something you don’t want to do.

There’s an old Biblical expression to describe people involved in wrong things and leading others to do them, too. It’s called “the blind leading the blind.” That’s why, in the game, the Prophets of Baal’s eyes were shut. How did the shut eyes help you? Let them answer, but you are working toward them understanding the following:

Because the prophets of Baal couldn’t see, they couldn’t see the “holes” in their “power.” It’s sort of like when people are acting blind to what’s right, they can’t see the bad things that can happen. But you saw the holes and managed to get out.
Nice Wall, Good Wall

Bible Story Suggestion: Judges 1-3

Have students stand in two lines, facing each other. Explain to the students in one line that every time they hear the word “Nice,” they move a step to the left (as they might not know left from right, point to the wall in which they take the step sideways.) When they hear the word “Good,” they step in the other direction.

The students in the line facing them should do the same, (right or left), but because they are facing the other students, they will be going in the opposite direction. Point out the correct walls to them.

Stand in front of them with your eyes shut. Say “Nice!” a couple of times, then “Good!” a couple of times. Then say “Nice!” very quickly three times. Say “Good!” very quickly twice. Mix it all up until you’re not sure how many times you’ve said “Nice!” and “Good!” The assistant can help them get to the right wall. When both teams have reached the wall, the game is over.

Did you get confused about which way to go? Life is confusing sometimes, especially when you are watching others who are going the opposite way.

If your friends went the wrong way accidentally, did that get you going the wrong way, too? In life, you have to be careful to listen to your conscience and your inner soul about which way to go. Looking at others can make you make wrong choices like the Israelites.

When your friends banged into you, did that get you going the wrong way? That’s like when friends put pressure on you if they’re doing the wrong thing. You want to keep your mind fixed on “good!” It takes practice!

Want to try it again??

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Lesson Suggestion: “Honor Thy Father & Mother”

One of the reasons God likes it when we listen to Mom and Dad is that it’s good training for us. Our parents love us more than anyone on earth. So they come closest to showing us how much God loves us, which is even more. That’s why we call God our Father in Heaven.

Bring out one index card for each child. Go around placing the index card on one of each child’s shoulders and telling them all to hold the card in place with their hand.

Let’s pretend this card is like a really good friend. Let’s see how well the friend stays with us. Everyone let go of the card, letting it balance on your shoulder.

Allow them to get the card balanced.

Now everyone take three big steps forward.

All should lose their cards. Go around with clothes pins (the pinching kind) and attach the card with the clothes pin to everyone’s shoulder.

God’s love, which is a lot like your parents’ love, doesn’t fall away at the first sign of trouble. Do not touch the clothes pin or the card. Jiggle yourselves around and try to get rid of “gods’ love.”

Give them a chance to wiggle and jiggle. Some will be able to dislodge the clothes pin, though most will not.

It is a lot harder to get rid of the love of God in your life than even a good friend, isn’t it? People give up on us sometimes and go find new friends, and that hurts. But God’s love is like a parents’ love. It stays.