

WEEK 6

GOING

Theme

GOING like Jesus

Memory Verse

Acts 1:8a:

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses."

Bible Verses

Acts 1:7-8: He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Big Idea

Why is GOING with Jesus important?

Goals

- ➡ Give examples of different ways of GOING with Jesus. How did Jesus model this? Have an opportunity for the kids to actually GO with Jesus.]

WARM-UP

Freeze Tag

What you need

Nothing

What you do

Play freeze tag in an open space or area. After they have played for a while, regroup on a circle on the floor to talk.

What you say

Raise your hand if you got frozen? What did that feel like? Was it hard for anyone to stay frozen in one position? I saw a lot of crazy frozen positions! With Jesus, we don't have to remain frozen in fear. He wants us to go and trust that He is always with us.

OBSERVATION

**In this skit Red will not want to GO and leave all the new friends he made.*

Teacher: Boys and girls, we have arrived at our very last week of Red Letter Challenge! It has been so fun learning all about the different things Jesus said and what He did and also how to put them into practice! Sometimes we had fun, sometimes it was hard, and sometimes we weren't able to complete the challenge: but we all tried and that's the important part! Before we get into our last week: let's review those five themes of the Red Letter Challenge: I bet you could do this with our eyes closed! Let's try it! Everyone close your eyes...OK everyone spread out so you don't hit your neighbor...are you ready?

Review the themes of the RLC. They should know all the motions by now.

Teacher: Great job! That was a lot of fun! Now everyone take a seat. Who would like to share about a challenge they did this last week...

Sharing Time: Would anyone like to come up and share with the group a challenge that they completed this last week? What you did or how you did it?

Teacher: Wow! Those were so awesome. Thanks for sharing! Now since this is our last week: we are ending with... (Teacher is interrupted by Red upset.)

Teacher: Red! What's up??? You are crying! What happened?

Red: I don't want the Red Letter Challenge to end. I know what the last week is all about: GOING. That means me LEAVING. I will have to leave all my new friends that I've made these last 5 weeks and I don't want to gooooo... (Red trails off in sobs).

Teacher: Oh Red. We are leaving and that will be sad, but when God sends us to GO, He never sends us alone. He promises to go with us. He will send people to go with us too.

Red: So we all have to go?

Teacher: Yep.

Red: How can we go? We are kids. We can't leave our families or our cities and schools. Going is for adults. Kids can't do that.

Teacher: I think kids are the best at going.

Red: What?!?! My mom and dad can drive anywhere they want whenever they want.

Teacher: Well Red, it doesn't have to be far away...

Red: Then what does it mean?

Teacher: Red, GOING doesn't always mean moving from one place to another. Going is about meeting people where they are at to show them Jesus.

Red: But where could that be for me?

Teacher: Anywhere outside the walls of our church and going into shops, parks, schools and neighborhoods to share Jesus in many ways.

Red: I go to school every day, and I love going to the park!

Teacher: Exactly, Red, and those are places where you can GO and show the love of Jesus.

Red: But what if someone asks me a question about Jesus and I don't know what to say?

Teacher: You don't need to have all the answers. The best way to tell someone about Jesus is telling them who Jesus is and what He has done in your life.

Red starts to run away.

Teacher: Teacher: Red! Where are you going?

Red: Oh, I thought it as obvious...I'm GOING!

Teacher: Go get 'em Red! Tell them about Jesus!

Red Exits. Kids dismissed.

INTERPRETATION / APPLICATION

Activity 1: To All the World

Ages: younger ages

What you need

Paper plates, glue, hole punch, ribbon, green and blue tissue paper cut into 1 inch squares, crayons and markers

What you do

Write the Bible memory verse at the top of the paper plate. Use a hole puncher to make a hole at the top of the plate. Have them draw a picture of their neighborhood on one side of the plate then turn it over and cover the back with glue. Have the kids use the green and blue tissue paper to make a picture of the earth or a globe. Tie a ribbon to the top of the plate so that the kids can take it home and hang it up like a mobile.

What you say

Jesus has commanded us to share the good news with everyone in the world. Our craft today reminds us that we can tell the people that live near to us, but we also want to tell those that live far away from us.

Activity 2: Greatest Story Ever (tackling the who Jesus is piece of your testimony)

Ages: older ages

What you need

Whiteboard

What you say

To talk about Jesus to others means we that we need to know the story of whop Jesus is. Let's spend some time as a group talking about what Jesus did on earth here and let's see if we can make a timeline and put things in order.

What you do

Make a timeline of Jesus' activities: beginning with Jesus' birth and ending with the Ascension. See if the kids can put in any stories that they remember about Jesus and fill in the timeline. It's OK if you as the teacher don't know where everything goes. Use your Bible! Look it up!

Activity 2: Map of Your Neighborhood

Ages: older ages

What you need

Paper, Markers

What you do

Prompt the kids to draw their house in the center of the paper. Have them draw a map on the paper of what neighborhoods look like. Then take turns sharing with each other their drawings and even who lives in the various houses.

What you say

Everyone has such different neighborhoods! Jesus sends us into our neighborhoods to share Jesus and be a light. I want to see what your neighborhoods look like. Jesus had put you in that specific neighborhood to be a light! That is no accident! He has a plan for you there!

Activity 4: He Has Risen!

Ages: all ages

What you need

Helium balloon, bible

Optional: Get a helium tank and give each child a balloon to take home!

What you do

Use a helium balloon to give an illustration of Jesus' ascension into Heaven. Read Acts 1:6-11.

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

What you say

The Bible says that when Jesus left the earth, He simply floated right up into the sky and into heaven. We are going to watch a balloon float up into the sky now. Are you ready? Let's see if we can watch it the entire time it is leaving. Does this mean that Jesus is far away from us? No! Jesus is with us! The Bible says that God sends his Holy Spirit to come on each one of us. We are never alone even as we go and be witnesses of Jesus in our schools, homes, neighborhoods and activities.

Activity 5: Who Else Has God Sent?

Ages: older ages

Jesus	Moses	Joshua	Gideon	Peter
Ezekiel	Paul	Jeremiah	Angels	Elijah
Samuel	Jonah	Abraham	Elisha	Shepherds

What you need

A bible for every child

What you do

Divide up the names so that everyone is looking up one or two of the names above. Have them write down how God sent each one of these individuals and what they were sent to do. Go around the room and share what they found to the group.

What you say

Being sent is always part of Jesus' plan. He loves us and wants us to be with Him, but he also wants there to be motion! Not everyone's "GO" looks the same. Your "GO" will look different than these men in the Bible.

Activity 6: Great Commission (Play Red Light and Red Light)

Ages: older ages

What you need

Nothing

What you do

One person plays the "stop light" and the rest try to touch him/her. At the start, all the children form a line about 15 feet away from the stoplight. The stop light faces away from the line of kids and says "green light". At this point the kids are allowed to move towards the stoplight. At any point, the stoplight may say "red light!" and turn around. If any of the kids are caught moving after this has occurred, they are out. Play resumes when the stop light turns back around and says "green light". The stop light wins if all the kids are out before anyone is able to touch him/her. Otherwise, the first player to touch the stoplight wins the game and earns the right to be "stoplight" for the next game.

What you say

As we have learned in the Red Letter Challenge, there are times to go, and there are times to stop! It takes a listening ear to know when you have to go and when you should stop. But when Jesus says "GO", we are to confidently and joyfully go!

PRAYER

Dear Lord,

We want to know exactly where you want us to go. Sometimes it feels like we are stuck doing what we are told to do and we don't know how we can go. But Jesus, we know that your command to go is for everyone of every age. It's for kids as well as grownups. You call us to go, but you also promise that you will always be with us no matter what. We are so thankful for you and ask you to give us strength and help us keep learning about you and what it means to follow you and GO!

Amen

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KIDS TAKE HOME SHEET

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Big Idea

Why is GOING with Jesus important?

Dear Parents:

As we wrap up this Red Letter Challenge, we don't end with an easy task! Going is sometimes hard for kids to understand because they are always told "go brush your teeth", "go clean your room", "go to school". Going to kids just feels like a command to obey, rather than an invitation to adventure! We want to instill in our children the understanding that GOING with Jesus is not a task to be completed, but an adventure to embark on! It should be thrilling and intriguing.

And it doesn't matter how young they are, they are called on a great commission to be a witness. They have the Holy Spirit with them at all times, and they never go alone.

Challenge: ways your child can GO this week:

- ➡ *Have dinner with your family sometime this week. Maybe you do this every day and this is a super easy challenge for you. If it is, I want you to lead the family in prayer before dinner.*
- ➡ *Say hello to neighbors you haven't met yet. Make them some bread or warm cookies or bring them flowers.*
- ➡ *Or, say hello to someone you don't know at school or at practice or at church. Offer to help them or sit with them. Ask them what their name is and tell them yours. The first step in making a new friend is as simple as "hello!"*