

PRESS PLAY

VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE

ELEMENTARY: WEDNESDAY

Bible Story: Zacchaeus • Luke 19:1-10

Bottom Line: I can have confidence because I am forgiven.

Memory Verse: “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.” John 15:12 (NIV)

CRAFT:

TRANSFORMING PUDDING SLIME

A soothing cross between slime and play dough, this edible pudding slime recipe smells almost good enough to eat! And it's taste-safe! Families will watch how very few simple ingredients can be transformed into something fun to play with and taste. As families play with the slime, they will discuss how they can be transformed by God's forgiveness.

What You Need:

- 1/4 cup instant pudding mix
- 1 cup corn starch
- 1/3 cup warm water
- Mixing bowl
- Mixing spoon

What You Do:

Step 1: Mix the instant pudding mix and half of your cornstarch.

Step 2: Add 1/3 cup water and stir until slime begins to form. (It will be very sticky at this point.)

Step 3: Knead the slime for 3 to 5 minutes until it becomes the consistency you like. Use leftover cornstarch to help the slime from sticking.

Step 4: Enjoy stretching and playing with your slime.

What You Say: “Can you believe you can make slime out of pudding? It's incredible how it transformed from something you can eat, into something you can play with. Jesus' forgiveness is just as transforming. In our lesson today, we saw how forgiveness transformed Zacchaeus. How can His forgiveness transform us? (allow for responses) Let's say today's **[Bottom Line]** together:

“I can have confidence because I am forgiven.”

GAME:

1. HARD OR EASY (INDOOR/SMALL SPACE GAME)

What You Need: Masking tape or some other way to make a line on the floor

What You Do:

Make a masking tape line in the middle of the playing area.

Encourage all members of the family to stand on the masking tape, facing the same side of the area.

Explain to the family that you are going to say a situation.

If a person thinks a situation is easy to do, have them take a step forward. If they think a situation is hard to do, have them take a step backwards.

Some situations are (and feel free to add more):

- o Reading a book to your little brother/sister
- o Telling a friend you can't play a certain video game
- o Completing your chores
- o Forgiving a family member when they break/lose your favorite toy
- o Going to get ice cream with your family
- o Riding in the car for 12 hours with your family
- o Singing as a family in a talent show
- o Welcoming a new kid at church

Both of the answers are acceptable, so encourage family members to make their own choices instead of stepping where they think they should.

Share other situations and allow family members to step forward (easy) or backward (hard).

What You Say: "In today's story, Zacchaeus had to do something that was pretty difficult. Sometimes one of the most difficult things we have to do is say, 'I'm sorry' when we hurt someone or do something that we know is wrong. *[Make it Personal] (Use this time to discuss, as a family, a time when you needed to ask for forgiveness. Be honest about how you felt.)*

"Zacchaeus knew he needed to see Jesus. That's why he climbed the tree. He didn't know what the outcome would be of his actions. Because we have God's Word, we get to know how the story ends. We know that we can be forgiven when we mess up. That's why we can have confidence! **[Bottom Line] I can have confidence because I am forgiven.**

2. ZACCHAEUS SAYS (OUTDOOR/LARGE SPACE GAME)

What You Need: no supplies needed

What You Do:

This directional game is similar to "Simon Says."

Demonstrate for your family several mimed activities (being stuck in a box, crying, etc.).

Call out directions and have each family member act out what is happening.

For example, if you say "climbing," each person should act as though they are climbing a tree. "Watching" could be shielding your eyes to look out for something.

Pick up the pace as you go and add challenges where the family must work together without talking. For example:

"Be a crowd of people shoving together to see Jesus." Or, "Be the crowd of people who are displeased that Jesus is going to Zacchaeus' home."

What You Say: "You did a great job acting out today's story. Zacchaeus didn't know what would happen when he climbed that tree and watched for Jesus, but we do. We know that Jesus saw him and talked to him. In the same way, we can talk to Jesus when we mess up and have confidence that He hears us and forgives us. **[Bottom Line] I can have confidence because I am forgiven.**"