



Age Group: Early Childhood (2 yrs.- 5 yrs. old)

Date: March 22, 2020

Big Idea: Our faith grows when we live for Jesus.

Scripture: Hebrews 12:1 (NIRV) *“A huge cloud of witnesses is all around us. So let us throw off everything that stands in our way. Let us throw off any sin that holds on to us so tightly. And let us keep on running the race marked out for us.”*

Activities:

- **Large Motor Activity:** Plan a race route that you can complete with your child. For younger children, this may be a run across the yard or down the driveway. For older children, you could run around the house or around the block or to a neighbor’s house and back. Invite your child to run the race with you. Be sure to run or walk* with your child, as this is part of the lesson. *If you’re unable to run or walk, point out a course for your child where you can see him or her the entire time and cheer for him as he runs and then celebrate together at the finish.
 - After you finish your race, say to your child: “Wow, that was a fun race! I’m so glad I got to run with you/cheer you on! Did you know that just like I ran with you/watched you and cheered for you the whole time, God is always with us? The Bible says our life is like running a race, and it might get hard, but we know that we can keep running because we have other believers who have gone before us and who have followed Jesus to the end. Jesus is the prize we can run to because he died for our sins. When we believe in Him, we can be with Him in Heaven one day!”
- **Fine Motor Activity:** Print off the Early Childhood Fine Motor activity page. For younger children, have them decorate the page with crayons, markers, and/or stickers celebrating that Jesus is our prize! For older children, help them work through the maze to reach Jesus. Then have them decorate their page however they would like to celebrate Jesus as our prize!
 - Read Hebrews 12:1 with your child. Tell him/her that our faith grows when we live for Jesus. Jesus helps us have faith and when we put our trust in Him, He will help our faith grow. Share an example from your life when God helped your faith grow, or share your story of how you came to follow Jesus.