Press Play: Get in the Mix

Elementary

Use this guide to help kids learn how God can help us live with confidence.

Activity

Four Corners

What You Need:

4 pieces of paper and a pencil/pen (optional)

What You Do:

Tell kids that you're going to play "four corners"—but in a different way than they may be used to.

Designate the corners of your room as corner one, two, three, and four. (Make sure kids are clear on which corner is assigned to which number. You could affix numbered pieces of paper to the floor at each corner.)

Say, "For each round, I'm going to list four characteristics that God has given people. Then, you choose which one applies to you the *most*. If it's option one, you'll go to corner one. If it's option three, you'll go to corner three. Got it?"

Then, read from the list below. After each round, ask kids to explain their choice. (Play along by running to the corner that best applies to you!)

Four Corners options:

Round 1: (1) Great singing voice, (2) the ability to make people laugh, (3) A math brain, (4) Good fashion sense

Round 2: (1) Artistic ability, (2) A love for sports,(3) Someone who can make people feel welcome,(4) Good at playing games

Round 3: (1) Good at writing, (2) Organized, (3) Loves to cook or loves food, (4) Likes to build things

Round 4: (1) Really good helper, (2) Strong, (3) Full of creative ideas, (4) Can run fast

Round 5: (1) Loves music, (2) Generous, (3) Thinks ice cream is the best thing ever, (4) Can remember lots of lines from movies

Talk About the Bible Story

In our story today, who were the Midianites? (People who took over the Israelites' land)

What did the Israelites do when they lost their land? (*They asked God for help.*)

Who did God use to save the Israelites? (Gideon)

How did God use Gideon? (With God's power and help, Gideon and 300 men conquered the Midianites.)

Do you ever feel like Gideon did—like you're not good enough for God to use you?

Can you think of some ways that God has used you in the past?

What are some qualities that God has given you as an individual? How could you use those qualities to make a difference in the lives of others?

Leader: Share about a time when you felt useless or like you weren't enough, but God changed your mind and gave you confidence.

Prayer

"God, thank You for this amazing story about Gideon. You used Gideon even though he didn't feel smart enough, good enough, or powerful enough to beat the Midianite army. The truth is, You are a big, great, LOVING God who wants to use us no matter what! Show us how we can make a difference and help the people around us. We love You. Amen."

Activity Time: Complete the activity page.

Extra Time? Refer to the "Extra Time and Conversation Starters" for more ideas.

First, watch this week's video!

Confidence: learning to see yourself the way God sees you

Memory Verse

"I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." Psalm 27:13, NIV

Bible Story

Gideon Judges 6–8

Key Question

How could God use you?