



HOUSE PARTY

PARENT GUIDE
May 05

Life App Definition

Determination—deciding it's worth it to finish what you started

Main Idea

Jesus had given His followers what seemed to be an impossible job. He told them to share His story and His love in every country across the entire world! The mission—the HUGE job—Jesus gave His disciples is actually the same one we have today: to share God's love with others and to share the good news about Jesus. We can keep going—with determination—because we know God is with us.

Memory Verse

"Let us not become tired of doing good. At the right time we will gather a crop if we don't give up" (Galatians 6:9 NIRV).

Bottom Line

Keep going even when it seems impossible.

Small-Group Discussion

Review the story and use the following questions to reinforce the lesson learned from the story. How did Jesus put His enemies first?

1. Jesus gave the disciples a big job, to tell others about Him. The disciples were probably intimidated by the enormous calling ahead of them. Can you think of a time you thought, "I can never do that!" and then ended up doing it? Encourage kids to share examples.
2. What can we do when we are faced with something we think is impossible and we don't even know where to start? (Make it personal: Be prepared to share a time you faced something you thought was impossible. What did you do that showed determination?)
3. We know about Jesus because the disciples showed determination. What are ways we can show determination, like the disciples, and let others know about Jesus? Can you think of times you have told others about Jesus?
4. Are there times when talking to others about Jesus seems impossible? Encourage kids to give examples.

Object Lesson

Challenge kids to do some seemingly impossible tasks. You can use the suggestions listed below or come up with some of your own.

- Knotted bandanas: Kids will untie the knot in 20 seconds or less.
- Decks of cards: Kids will pick up an entire deck of scattered cards in 20 seconds or less.
- Small puzzles: Kids will put together a puzzle in 20 seconds or less.
- Sock Pile: Kids will sort and match socks in 20 seconds or less.(This one also knocks a chore off the list)
- Cotton Balls: Kids will pick up a pile of cotton balls into a bowl using tweezers in 20 seconds or less.
- Bubble Gum: Kids will blow a bubble in 20 seconds or less.
- If kids have trouble doing the tasks in 20 seconds, let them try again until they can accomplish it.
- If kids can easily do the tasks in 20 seconds, challenge them to do it in 15 seconds or even 10 seconds. The point is to make it seem impossible, though it's actually doable if they just keep going and trying.
- Talk about how those challenges might have seemed impossible, but when they kept going, they were able to get them done.
- Share that Sometimes there are things in life like that. Maybe you think you will NEVER be able to tie your shoes! Or read an entire chapter book! Or learn how to swim! Or get your driver's licenses! But you know what? If you keep trying, one of these days, you'll get it! The incredible news is that God can help you have determination and **keep going even when it seems impossible.**
- **Make It Personal**-Tell your kids about something you did that seemed impossible at the time, but you kept going, and God helped you do it.

Prayer

Read Mark 10:27 and then take a moment and prayer with your kids using this scripture as a guide.

Dear God,
we know we can trust You no matter what. You promise to be with us always!
When situations in our lives seem impossible, help us to remember Your promise
- You are with us always! Help us to remember that we may think things are impossible, but all things are possible for You! As we go through our week, give us strength to not grow tired of doing good, of being kind, of being patient and open our eyes to times we can tell other about Jesus. We love You! Amen!