

I Need to Know

Bible Story: I Need to Know (Philip and the Man from Ethiopia) • Acts 8:26-40

Bottom Line: Keep going even when you have questions.

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 (NIV)

Life App: Determination—Deciding it's worth it to finish what you started

Basic Truth: I need to make the wise choice

So Puzzled

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery

What You Need: Prepared puzzles

What You Do:

- Set out the puzzles that are missing pieces or have mixed-up pieces.
- Encourage your family to work together to put together all of the puzzles.
- Prompt them with questions such as:
 - Are any of puzzles missing a piece?
 - Do you think someone else in the room might have your missing piece by chance?
- Make sure to provide the missing puzzle pieces (or reveal the places where they are hidden) so everyone can complete the puzzles.

What You Say:

“Well, did anyone else feel like that was nearly impossible without the missing pieces? What were you thinking when you realized something wasn't quite right? (*Allow time for responses.*) You know, I've come to realize that sometimes life looks a bit questionable, just like these puzzles did without the right pieces! **[Transition] Today in our Bible story, we're going to learn about a man who had some of his own questions. Let's read to find out if he got answers to complete his picture!**”

Hopscotch Holdup

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: Bible, Construction paper, markers, painter's tape, dice

What You Do:

Read today's Bible story and/or watch it on www.stmarkbridgekids.com/clubhouse

- Enlist everyone's help in setting up the activity:
 - Use the construction paper and tape to create two hopscotch paths.
 - For both paths, draw a question mark on three different pages.
- Divide your family into two teams, and instruct them to line up behind the two hopscotch paths.
- Give the first person in each line a die.

- The first person in line rolls the die, which will tell them how many spaces they should hop. (The spots with two squares next to each other count as two spaces.)
- Whenever anyone land on a “?” spot, ask them a story review question (below).
- During each person’s turn, they continue rolling the die until they reach the end of the hopscotch path.
- Then it’s the next person’s turn.
- Whichever team gets all members through the path first wins!
- If you run out of questions, repeat the questions below or make up some of your own!

Review Questions:

1. Who appeared to Philip in the middle of him telling people about Jesus? (*an angel of the Lord*)
2. What did the angel tell him to do? (*to leave and go to the desert road that led to Gaza*)
3. Who did Philip encounter while traveling on the desert road? (*an Ethiopian official*)
4. What was the man doing? (*he had traveled to worship God in the temple and was trying to read Scripture*)
5. What did God tell Philip to do? (*go to the chariot*)
6. And what did Philip do after he realized the Ethiopian official needed help understanding the Scripture? (*he told the man about Jesus*)
7. What big decision did the Ethiopian official make after learning all about Jesus? (*he got baptized*)
8. What happened to Philip after the man was baptized? (*God’s Spirit took him away so he could continue telling people about Jesus*)

What You Say:

“Showing determination can be difficult when you have some questions holding you up, can’t it? The Ethiopian official could have easily gotten frustrated when he wasn’t understanding the words that were written about God. Have you ever had a question you just couldn’t seem to understand? What did you do? (*Allow time for responses.*)

“Instead of letting his question hold him back, the man from Ethiopia let Philip help him learn more about who Jesus was. And you guys know the end of the story. His determination led to a pretty amazing outcome! I wonder what epic story could be on the other side of our determination? Let today’s story be a reminder that you can **[Bottom Line] keep going even when you have questions.**”

Pray**[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]**

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: Puzzle pieces from the “So Puzzled” activity; pens or thin markers

What You Do:

- Give each kid one puzzle piece and a pen or thin marker.
- Ask them to write an encouraging phrase on the back of their puzzle piece—something that will help them stay determined this week.
- Prompt them with examples such as: “You’ve got this!” “Keep going!” “You seriously rock!” or “Don’t quit!”
- Encourage kids to keep their puzzle piece to remind them that they can stay determined even when they have questions or when they may not see the whole picture.

What You Say:

“God, we are so thankful that You welcome our questions! Thank You that no question is too big or too small for You and You enjoy having conversations with us. I know there are times when we can easily get discouraged when we don’t have the full picture that You see. We can get stuck on things we don’t understand. Help us remember this week that because You are a good God and have sent Your Holy Spirit to guide us, we can keep going even when we have questions.”