

EARLY CHILDHOOD RESOURCES FOR VIRTUAL CHURCH MARCH 21 & 22, 2020

The following are activities that can be done at home to have fun as a family. They go along with the Grace Kids virtual experience (Explore) offered on the Kids page of the Grace Church website (www.gracechurchco.com/kids). They require minimal supplies that can most likely be found around the house.

Another resource that is available:

- Parent Cue app (download for free from your phone's app store) or visit https://theparentcue.org
- Check out the Managing Fear and Anxiety During a Health Pandemic article

If we can support your family during this time of church being online, please feel free to contact me or any of the Family Ministries staff.

BLESSINGS.

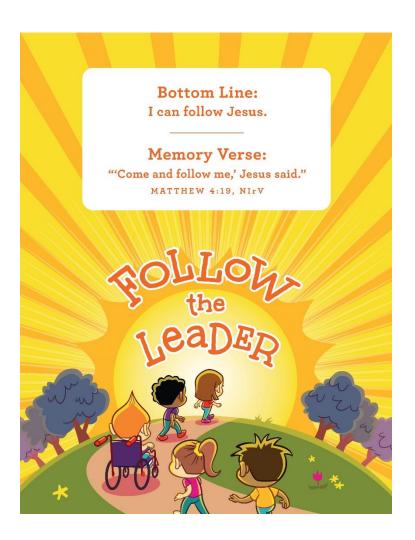
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Memory verse motions

"'Come, (Motion towards yourself with hand.)

and follow me,' (March.) Jesus said." (Hold hands to mouth like yelling.)

Matthew 4:19 (Open hands like a book.)

1. Counting Up to Twelve

What You Need: 12 individual pieces of paper (i.e., computer paper, sticky notes, note pad, etc.), black marker or pen, 12 small objects (i.e., Legos, crayons, pom-poms, cotton balls, etc.)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: On each piece of paper, number the pages 1-12. Then draw a dot on the cardstock of the corresponding number. Example, draw one dot in the "1" paper, two dots in the "2" paper, and so on. Place the papers in the activity area with the small objects.

During the Activity: Encourage your children to identify the number in each paper, count out that many objects, and set them in that paper. Instruct your children to take turns so that every child or parent has a chance to read the number and count out that number of objects. Once the paper is filled, you can brush the objects away and start counting again. Repeat as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "Do you see the numbers and dots on each paper? What number do you see right here? (Point to the first paper.) Yes! So we need to put one object in that paper. Let's do the same thing for each number! We will take turns so every friend has a chance to count and fill the spots."

After the Activity: "What number is this? (Point to the 12.) Yes, it's the number 12. Let's count to 12 together. (Pause to count.) Great job! In our Bible story today, we'll hear about 12 special friends who followed Jesus. Pay attention to see if you can name some of these friends!"

2. Dance Party

Application Activity

What You Need: Youtube link to "Follow On Music" (link on main Grace Kids KIDS ONLINE website page)

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Turn on the music on your device (iPad, computer, phone, etc.)

During the Activity: Play the music and encourage your children to dance in a line while playing following the leader. Repeat so that everyone gets a turn to be the leader.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's dance!"

During the Activity: "When you hear the music, start dancing while we play 'Follow the Leader.' Follow me!" (Do activity.)

After the Activity: "Great job! We can ALL follow Jesus! Who can you follow? [Bottom Line] I can follow Jesus!"

3. Follow Directions

What You Need: Painters tape or masking tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Using the tape, create a straight path on the floor about 6-12ft long.

During the Activity: Invite the children to walk the path. Encourage the children to walk the path in different ways (hopping, walking backwards, slow walking, etc.). Repeat several times as interest allows.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's FOLLOW the path!"

During the Activity: "Can we hop along the path? (Demonstrate.) Good! How about we walk backwards now? (Demonstrate.) So fun!"

After the Activity: "Great job FOLLOWING the path! Today we are going to hear a Bible story about how people followed Jesus."