BLAST OFF- PARENT GUIDE

BIG IDEA

People can help our faith grow.

BIBLE

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man: Mark 2:1-12; Galatians 6:2

WHAT?

MUSIC | Worship Time

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Spend some time singing together. You can select any songs you'd like, but for this lesson we like:

- "Chasing You" by Bethel Music Kids
- "Jesus You Care" by Hillsong Kids
- "My Help Comes from You" by North Point Kids

ACTIVITY | Spaceteam Says

• To remind us how important it is to have a team, let's play another game. Imagine we're all on a space ship in the middle of an asteroid belt. To survive, we have to dodge asteroids or destroy them with our laser blasters. But the only way we're going to make it is if we all work together, at the same time.

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play a game of Simon Says, but with a space theme. Instead of saying "Simon says . . . " before each command, say "Spaceteam Says . . . " Have each kid sit down when they miss a command, and only use space-themed commands, like . . .

- Throttle (arms out straight, head flung back).
- Laser blasters (two finger guns).
- Turn left (steering wheel to the left).
- Turn right (steering wheel to the right).

Zero gravity (slow motion walking in place).

• **PRETEEN HACK:** Add more complicated commands that require 2-3 people to work together, like "space walk" (link arms with two people and walk in slow motion) or "lightsaber battle" (sword fight with a partner).

• **SPECIAL NEEDS HACK:** Let your kids with special needs continue to play, even if they miss a command. Pair them with an adult or buddy who can make sure they see and can imitate each command.

VIDEO | A Clip from Star Wars: The Force Awakens

• Have you ever seen a *Star Wars* movie? *Star Wars* is a story about good defeating evil, and it takes place in another galaxy! (A galaxy is a place far, far away, with its own planets, suns, moons, and stars.)

• If you've ever seen a *Star Wars* movie, you know that our heroes must work together to face challenges, dangers, and enemies on their quest to save the galaxy from evil forces.

• In one scene, Rey, Finn, BB-8, Han Solo, and Chewbacca must escape a dangerous group of people, but their ship *The Millennium Falcon* is malfunctioning! Let's see how they escape.

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play <u>this clip</u> of Rey bypassing the compressor on the Millennium Falcon.

• Chewie was injured, Finn was trying to help, Han was piloting the ship, Rey was trying to fix it, and BB-8 – well, BB-8 didn't really do much except beep. But that's okay! Because they made it!

• Just like it took a whole team to get your balloons to their targets or to make it through that asteroid belt, and it took a whole team to help our friends from *Star Wars* escape from danger, today we're talking about how we need a team around us in real life too.

QUESTION | Let's Talk About Your Spaceteam

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Ask the following questions. You can have every kid shout their answer, but then ask a few kids to share their answers with everyone. Comment briefly on their answers — and have fun with this!

- If you were on a spaceship that was in danger, who is one person you'd want to have with you?
- What would that person do to help you?

• What would you do to help them?

• If you were in a spaceship, I bet you'd want to be surrounded with people you trust — people who could help you, and who you could help in return. But even if we never get on a spaceship, there are still so many ways that **we can help each other!**

SO WHAT?

VIDEO | Blast Off, Episode 2

• INSTRUCTIONS:

• Today, we're going to hear a story about a man who couldn't walk, his friends who wanted to help, and Jesus, who had the power to heal him. Watch the video with your child and use the discussion questions at the end to guide their learning.

• Play this week's teaching video.

QUESTION | How can we help each other grow closer to Jesus?

• You may never need to dig a hole in a roof and throw one of your friends through it, but what are some other ways we can help our friends get closer to Jesus?

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Have every kid shout their answer, but then ask a few kids to share their answers with everyone. When several kids have answered, list the ways we can spend time with God, like . . .

- Pray for them.
- Encourage them when they're sad.
- Tell them about Jesus.
- Invite them to church.
- Do kind things for them.

STORY | Talk about someone who helped you get closer to Jesus.

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Tell a story from your own life (or ask a volunteer to share a story) about someone who helped you get closer to Jesus. Be specific about who they are and what they did to help you grow, like . . .

- Prayed for you.
- Encouraged you.
- Taught you about Jesus.
- Invited you to church.
- Did kind things for you.
- Who's someone who helps you get closer to Jesus?

NOW WHAT?

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 119:105 (NIV)

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Introduce kids to this month's memory verse, teaching them the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) <u>we've provided</u>.

DISCUSSION TIME

DISCUSSION

- Why did the man in today's story want to get to Jesus?
- How did the man get to Jesus?
- What happened when the man met Jesus?
- We can't take our friends to see Jesus in person, but what are some ways we can help other people grow closer to God?
- Let's read Galatians 6:2. What do you think it means to carry each other's burdens?
- Who is someone you could thank for helping you grow closer to Jesus? What will you say to them?

• Who is someone you could help grow closer to Jesus? How will you do that?

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ACTIVITY | Good Friends

• **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give every kid an index card or white board, and ask them to write a list of qualities they look for in a friend. When you're done, ask, **"Now how can you be this kind of friend to others?"**

MEMORY VERSE | Psalm 119:105 (NIV)

INSTRUCTIONS: Introduce kids to this month's memory verse, teaching them the signs (a combination of SEE and ASL) <u>we've provided</u>.