GO AND TELL BOUNCING BALL CHALLENGE

The children will perform a height experiment to learn about God's limitless power.

TOPICS:

Jesus' ascension

MATERIALS:

Various balls that bounce: basketball, tennis ball, soccer ball, ping pong ball, kickball, etc.



DURATION: Approximately 10-15 minutes

PREPARATION:

Choose an outside area (preferably on a sidewalk) where it will be safe to perform the activity.

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Explain to the class that you will work together to bounce each ball as high as possible. Ask the children to hypothesize (make an educated guess) which ball will bounce the highest. Encourage the class to think about the size, weight, and composition of each ball when considering the possibilities. Allow each child to voice his or her guess. Then take turns bouncing the balls to see which one(s) bounce the highest.

Application: What keeps the balls from bouncing higher (gravity, force, speed of the bounce, etc.)? Why do you think [the winning ball] bounced higher (smaller size, lighter weight, better composition, etc.)? Why do you think [the losing balls] couldn't bounce as high (larger size, heavier weight, heavier composition, etc.)? These balls can only go as high as they were created to go. When we compare this experience to Jesus' ascension into Heaven, we know that He was ultimately created to be with God and therefore has no limits. It's important to remember that while created things have limits, God's does not. And, because Jesus was God's Son, Jesus shares His limitless power, and His ascension proved His status.

POWER UP!

The Holy Spirit gives us power.

TOPICS: Holy Spirit

MATERIALS:

Game board handout [ATTACHED] Trivia cards handout [ATTACHED] Card stock paper, Scissors Playing pieces (such as Legos or coins) Dice Small prize (optional)



DURATION:

Approximately 10-15 minutes

PREPARATION:

Print the game and trivia cards on card stock paper. Cut out the trivia cards and stack them face down on a table (if desired, you may create additional Bible trivia cards as they relate to the story).

WHAT YOU WILL DO:

Read Acts 1:1-11 and Luke 24:50-53 to the class. Then explain that the class will play a trivia game to see who remembers the most from the Bible passage. Invite each child to choose a game piece. Next, read the instructions.

1. Everyone will roll the dice to see who goes first. Then players will take turns in a clockwise circle.

2. Each person will attempt to answer a trivia card on his or her turn. If the answer is correct, the player will roll the dice and move his or her piece. If incorrect, the player will remain on the space until the next round.

3. Continue the game until someone reaches the final spot. If desired, give a prize to the winner.

Application: Jesus promised His disciples that a Helper, the Holy Spirit, would come and give them power. Today the Holy Spirit gives power to those who believe in Jesus and have freely accepted the gift of salvation. If you've never trusted in Jesus and asked God to forgive you for your sins, then today can be the day you believe! Without Jesus, we can't know God or go to Heaven because Jesus died on the cross to pay for our sins. And, because Jesus came back to life, we know that only He is able to save us!

POWER UP! Trivia Cards

Who did Jesus promise would come? (A Helper/ Holy Spirit)	Where was Jesus going? (To Heaven)	What hid Jesus from their sight? (A cloud)	Where were the disciples told to wait? (Jerusalem)
How did Jesus convince them that He was alive? (By giving convincing proofs)	How long was Jesus with the disciples after his resurrection? (Forty days)	What did Jesus speak about? (<i>The Kingdom</i> of God)	What would the Holy Spirit give the disciples? (Power)
How did John baptize? (With water)	What would happen after the Holy Spirit came? (<i>The disciples</i> would be witnesses)	Where would the disciples witness, or tell others, about Jesus? (Everywhere – to the ends of the earth)	What did the disciples want Jesus to do? (<i>Restore the</i> kingdom to Israel)
Who told the disciples that Jesus would return? (Two angels)	How would the disciples be baptized? (Through the Holy Spirit)	Who did Jesus say has the authority to restore Israel? (God)	How did the disciples respond to Jesus' ascension? (They continually praised God)

POWER UP!

