

## LESSON SNAPSHOT

**BOTTOM LINE:**

Share Jesus with everyone!

**OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that God asks us to move and share Jesus' love with everyone.

**KEY PASSAGE:**

Matthew 28:16-20, The Great Commission

**MEMORY VERSE:**

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)*

**SUMMARY:**

Before returning to heaven, Jesus commanded his followers to go and share the Good News with all the world. Kids will play Octopus Tag (<http://ziggityzoom.com/octopus-tag-outdoor-family-game/>) as a reminder that our mission continues until every person knows Jesus.

**SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Motivate us to go out and share Jesus with the world.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

## MEMORY VERSE

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding. In all your ways remember him. Then he will make your paths smooth and straight.”*

*- Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)*

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.” - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)*

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.” - Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)*

*“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.” - Proverbs 3:5-6 (KJV)*

### **LARGE GROUP:**

Choose three kids from the audience. Have each one “sing” the memory verse in a different musical style - country, hip-hop, oldies, opera, etc.

### **SMALL GROUP:**

Read the memory verse aloud for each kid. Each time you do, leave out one word. See if the kids can tell you what word you left out.

## SKIT

### MOVING WITH MR. SIMMONS: OCTOPUS TAG!!

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

A toy octopus

#### CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

2M

#### CHARACTERS:

Mr. Simmons - A fitness guru

Ernest - A lazy, out of shape man

*Mr. Simmons enters alone.*

SIMMONS: Hey, kids, Umm, okay, I have to apologize to you all because I messed up on something this week.

*Ernest screams off stage.*

SIMMONS: You see, I didn't learn my lesson last week. You know about following directions?

*Ernest screams again.*

SIMMONS: You see, I saw that this week's theme game is Octopus Tag.

ERNEST: *(off)* Get it off me! Get it off me!

SIMMONS: It's this really cool game of tag where some people play fish, and one person becomes an octopus.

ERNEST: Somebody help me, please!

SIMMONS: If you get tagged, you turn into a crab, and you stay a crab until the end of the game. And it doesn't end until everyone becomes a crab.

ERNEST: Why did you do this to me, Simmons? Why?

# SKIT

SIMMONS: It's a really fun game that reminds us we need to keep sharing the gospel until the whole world hears the good news of Jesus.

ERNEST: Why won't it let go of me?

SIMMONS: Unfortunately, silly me, silly Mr. Simmons didn't look up the game until it was too late.

*Ernest screams again.*

SIMMONS: Instead of playing the game of Octopus Tag the way it's supposed to be played, I bought an octopus.

*Ernest runs on stage. He has an octopus stuck to his back. He is screaming and panicking.*

ERNEST: Get it off me, Simmons! Get it off me!

*Ernest runs off stage screaming.*

SIMMONS: The game is called Octopus Tag! It sounded like fun to me.

*Ernest screams again.*

SIMMONS: Well, listen, I better help poor Ernest. But I hope all of you will feel inspired today to go out and tag your friends for Jesus.

ERNEST: It's grabbing my face with its tentacles!

SIMMONS: Let's grow the family of God!

ERNEST: It's sliding another one inside my ear!

SIMMONS: Let's keep on reaching until we reach the whole world for Jesus!

ERNEST: He's reaching into my brain!

SIMMONS: I'm coming Ernest! Try not to panic and keep your mouth closed!

*Simmons runs off as Ernest screams and gurgles.*

## OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

### ITEMS NEEDED:

A bottle of shampoo

Back in the 1970s, there was a shampoo commercial that predicted the future. The commercial started with one person talking about their favorite shampoo.

*Pick a child and have them come up and hold the shampoo bottle.*

The commercial said that when someone tried this shampoo they would share it by telling two friends.

*Have the child pick two people to come on stage.*

Then those friends would tell two more friends.

*Have the two new kids pick two more kids each.*

Then those friends would tell two more friends.

*Have the four kids pick two more friends each to come on stage.*

And so on, and so on, and so on. I think you can see where this was going. Long before there were viral videos, this commercial showed us how they would work. One person sees a funny video. They tell their friends. Then those friends tells more friends, and so on, and so on, and so on.

This is what we want all of you to do as you share your love of Jesus. We need to be so excited about spreading the gospel that when our friends receive Jesus, they will share it also. If we tell a friend, and they tell two friends, and so on, and so on, and so on, we can spread the love of Jesus to everyone. It all starts with us telling that first friend, and we want to challenge you to do that this week. Let's reach out to our buddies, our neighbors, our teammates, and invite someone to church or to know Jesus. Let's keep on sharing Him until the whole world has heard the good news.

## LARGE GROUP GAME

### OCTOPUS TAG

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

A hat with eight steamers on it for the octopus (optional)

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

This is a game everyone can play. Pick one person to be the octopus. Have everyone line up on one wall of the room. All the other players are fish. When the octopus yells, "Here, Fishy Fishy!" The fish must run from one wall to the other without getting tagged. Anyone who is tagged becomes a crab. They must sit on the "ocean" floor until the game is over. The game continues until the octopus has tagged everyone and turned them all into crabs.

#### VARIATION:

For a large group, choose multiple kids to be octopi.

#### WHAT'S THE POINT?

We must keep sharing Jesus until everyone has heard the good news!

## LARGE GROUP LESSON

### **BOTTOM LINE:**

Share Jesus with everyone!

### **OBJECTIVE:**

Kids will learn that God asks us to move and share Jesus' love with everyone.

### **KEY PASSAGE:**

Matthew 28:16-20, The Great Commission

### **INTRO:**

You know what's awesome about a game like Octopus Tag? There's no limit to how many people can play. When you play football, the maximum number of players at any time is 22, with 11 on offense and 11 on defense. Baseball it's 18. Ice hockey and Volleyball are both 12. Basketball is 10. Tennis you can only have four or two. Most video games are capped at 2-4 players, and even most board games are limited to 4 players.

There are no limits to Octopus Tag. It's one of those games like regular tag, laser tag, hide and seek, camouflage, and capture the flag that actually gets better and better with more players. A game of octopus tag lasts longer with 30 kids than it does with six, and it's more fun for everyone. No one has to be excluded. If you want to get in the game, you just get in the game and run!

It's no fun to be the eleventh kid, sitting on the sidelines watching a basketball game. We all want to play, and no one wants to sit out. A game like Octopus Tag lets everyone join in at any time, and the game doesn't end until every fish in the sea is turned into a crab.

There's a reason we picked a game that everyone could play today. Every week, we open the Bible and learn about a man that everyone in the world needs to know. God sent His only Son Jesus to be our Savior. When Jesus died on the cross, He paid for the sins of the whole world, every man, woman, and child. Jesus then sent His followers into all the world to spread the good news so that everyone can know that Jesus is Lord.

**READ MATTHEW 28:16-20**

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

## **MAIN POINT:**

The good news of Jesus is for everyone. There's no limit to the number of people who can accept Jesus as their Savior because He died for the sins of everyone. It is our choice whether we will accept His gift of salvation. Jesus gave us this command, known as the Great Commission, so that we will all take responsibility for sharing that good news with the world.

God is counting on us, as the church, to go out and share this good news with everyone. We cannot force people to accept Jesus, but at the same time, people cannot receive this good news if they never hear about it. God wants us to tell our friends, our neighbors, everyone we can that Jesus is Lord. He gave us the Great Commission so we would keep on talking and keep on sharing until everyone has had a chance to tag in and join the family of God.

## **DRIVE IT HOME:**

I want to go back and re-read this passage, because it ties right back in with our game this week.

## **READ MATTHEW 28:16-20**

Jesus wants us to invite our friends to join His family just like we invite all our friends into a game of Octopus Tag. Anyone can join, and everyone is welcome. When someone new receives Jesus, they are made into a new creation, just as the fish become crabs in Octopus Tag. As the game goes on, the number of crabs on the ocean floor grows. So does the church when we are bold enough to share Jesus with everyone.

The game doesn't end until the octopus has tagged everyone. The octopus won't stop until the whole sea of fish has been changed into crabs. That should be our goal as well. We should be a church that shares the love of Jesus non-stop. We want to serve, to teach, and to share God's love until everyone in our community and even our world has had a chance to hear the good news and receive it.

The Bible tells us that God is preparing a place for everyone who receives Jesus. Unlike a game of football, Heaven is not locked into a certain number. God will make space for anyone and everyone who believes. It's up to us to make sure everyone knows they are invited so they can have their life transformed by Jesus.

I know you all have friends you can invite to church. I know you have friends who may have never heard about Jesus. I want to end with a silent moment of prayer so we can pray for these special friends. Let's ask God to prepare their hearts to hear the good news, and let's ask God for the opportunity and the courage to share Jesus with them this week. You can tell them who Jesus is. You can invite them to church.

# LARGE GROUP LESSON

The one thing you should not do is stay silent. God wants us to seek out our friends like the octopus and reach out to them. Let's obey the Great Commission so that Jesus can transform our world!

## **CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:**

*Dear God,*

*Motivate us to go out and share Jesus with the world.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

### ICEBREAKER:

Have you ever eaten squid, octopus, or any other icky sea creatures?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

#### Proverbs 3:5-6

Read the memory verse aloud for each kid. Each time you do, leave out one word. See if the kids can tell you what word you left out.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Have everyone stand up, do some jumping jacks, touch their toes, and reach to the sky.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

#### Read Matthew 28:16-20

What did Jesus do to save us from sin?

What is the Great Commission?

Who did Jesus say we needed to share this good news with?

Why is it important that we tell everyone about Jesus?

What are some things you can do to share Jesus with people this week?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Use us to spread the good news of Jesus to everyone.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

### ICEBREAKER:

Have you ever eaten squid, octopus, or any other icky sea creatures?

### MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

#### Proverbs 3:5-6

Read the memory verse aloud for each kid. Each time you do, leave out one word. See if the kids can tell you what word you left out.

### SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Have everyone stand up, do some jumping jacks, touch their toes, and reach to the sky.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

#### Read Matthew 28:16-20

What is the Great Commission?

Why did Jesus tell his followers to tell others about Him?

Who did Jesus say we needed to share this good news with?

Why is it important that we tell everyone about Jesus?

What are some things you can do to share Jesus with people this week?

### SIMPLE PRAYER:

*Dear God,*

*Use us to spread the good news of Jesus to everyone.*

*In Jesus' name,*

*Amen*

## POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

### YES OR NO

Today, mark a dividing line in the room. One side will be Yes, and one side will be No. When you ask the questions, have the kids move to the side they think is the correct answer - yes or no.

Did Jesus die for the sins of the whole world?

YES

Does Jesus want us to tell everyone about Him?

YES

Did Jesus give this job only to pastors?

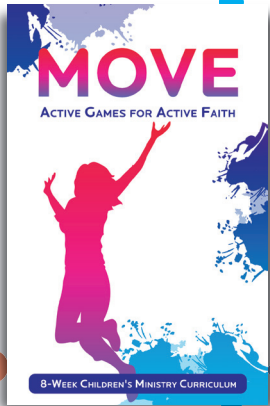
NO

Can Jesus forgive anyone for their sins?

YES

Can we ever do enough to tell others about Jesus?

NO



# MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

## Move Lesson 6

### THIS WEEK'S LESSON: OCTOPUS TAG



#### IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Before returning to heaven, Jesus commanded his followers to go and share the Good News with all the world. Octopus Tag reminds us that our mission continues until every person knows Jesus. Matthew 28:16-20, The Great Commission



#### HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Look at the billboards you see while driving, and listen to the commercials on the radio. Ask your kids how these advertisers are spreading the message they want to share. Then ask them how they, as kids, can share the message of Jesus.



#### AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- What is the Great Commission?
- Why is it important for us to share Jesus with others?
- What are some simple things we can do to share our faith?



#### AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)*



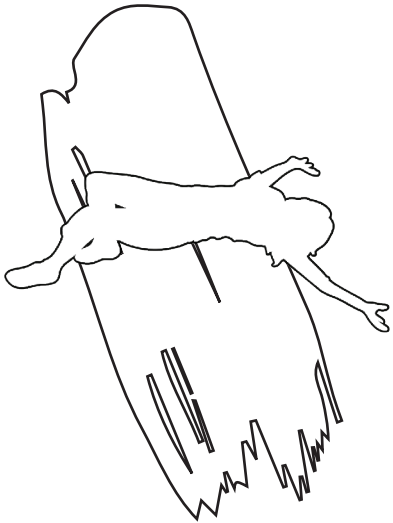
#### PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

Your kids have been encouraged to share Jesus with others this week. Encourage them to invite a friend or two to church so they can hear the good news next week.

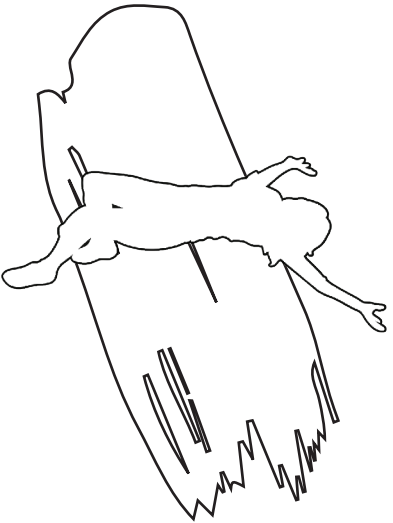
## CRAFT ACTIVITY

Have each child cut out an octopus from construction paper. On each of its eight legs, encourage them to write down the name of someone they will pray for, asking God to help them share Jesus with those people this week.



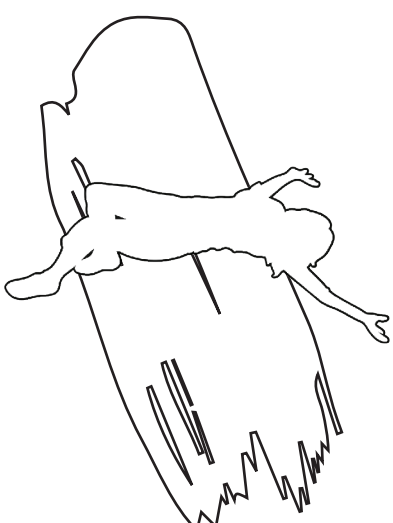
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- Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)



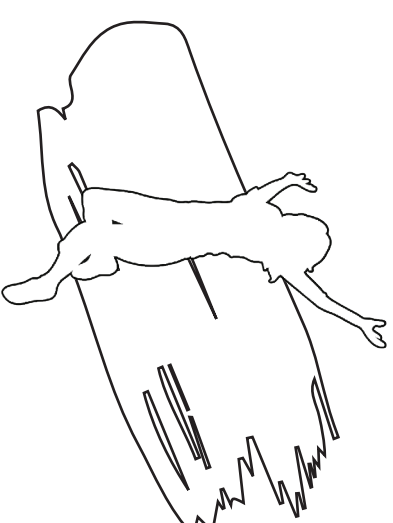
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