



Riddle Rangers

The Truth about God the Father

BIG IDEA: God the Father is all-present, all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-loving; so I can trust Him with my life.

BIBLE BASIS: Jeremiah 23:24; Psalm 147:5; Psalm 139:1-18

KEY VERSE: Psalm 25:1 "In you, LORD my God, I put my trust." (NirV)

SCHOOL AGE WILL GO INTO AUDITORIUM FOR WORSHIP. THEY WILL BE CALLED TO THE FRONT FOR PRAYER AND RELEASED TO NEXT GEN (FACTORY) OR SHED (WAREHOUSE) WITH THEIR LEADERS.

LARGE GROUP VIDEO

Kids will take a foam mat to sit on

Welcome / Introductions

*Hand out Riddles along with a clipboard and pencil for each child. Tell the kids they will be asked to solve the riddles during the video – pause the video at appropriate times to allow some time for the kids to solve the riddle

THE RIDDLE RANGERS ADVENTURE

Directions: There will be two times during the Large Group program that kids will be asked to turn to their groups to solve a riddle. Zack and Jada (aka the "Riddle Rangers") will send a copy of the riddle from a mysterious cave in Peru. Keep the riddles out of sight until they've been "sent." This will help to preserve the illusion that the riddles are actually coming from the Riddle Rangers. When directed, give each kid in your group a copy of the appropriate riddle along with a pen or pencil. Unless you choose to work together as a group, remind the kids to refrain from shouting out the answer as soon as they solve it so that other kids have the opportunity to solve it for themselves.

For Younger Kids: Each riddle has a version that is geared toward younger children. Nevertheless, many of the riddles are letter and word based. Begin by reading the riddle to your group, along with the instructions from Zack or Jada. If you have kids in your group who are still learning to read, you may want to work as a group on some of the riddles. Be prepared to assist the kids as needed. You may want to point the kids in the right direction, give them hints, and sometimes show them the answer. As the leader, you can determine the level of help to give your group.





GROUP ACTIVITIES

TRUSTING GOD PAPER TOSS (Application Activity)

Set up: Place a small, empty bucket in the middle of the small group. Using tape, create two lines on either side of the bucket. Place each line equidistant from the bucket and far enough away to make it challenging for the kids to throw a crumpled-up piece of paper into the bucket. Crumple each piece of paper into a ball so that you can't see what's written on it.

Say: Today we learned that God the Father is all-present, all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-loving. When you think about how amazing God is and how much He loves us, it makes it a lot easier to trust Him with your life. We're going to play a game right now that will help us think about different ways that we can trust God more.

Directions: Divide your group into two teams. Choose one kid from each team to stand behind the tape lines. The two kids should be facing each other with the bucket in-between them. Give one set of crumpled papers to each kid. The object of the game is to be the first to throw one crumpled piece of paper into the bucket. When you say "go," have the kids begin throwing. The first kid to make it in wins the round for their team. Pull out the piece of paper that landed in the bucket, un-crumple it, and read the "When I feel" statement. After reading the statement, ask the group these two questions:

Question: What kind of things make you feel that way?

Question: How can you trust God when those things happen?

Once a piece of paper has been un-crumpled, remove it from the game. When finished discussing, choose two more kids to throw paper and repeat the above instructions. Continue until one team has landed all five of their pieces of paper in the trash can first.

BIBLE BODY MOTIONS (Bible Memorization Activity)

Directions: Place the Bible verse sign in the middle of the group and read it carefully with your kids several times so they can begin to memorize it. Today's Bible verse says:

"In you, LORD my God, I put my trust." Psalm 25:1 (NIRV)

Tell your group they have to work together to come up with motions for the verse using their body. The activity will take place over three rounds. Each round will involve a different part of the body. For each round, call on kids one at a time and ask for their suggestions. When they're ready, flip the Bible verse card over and have the group repeat the verse several times using the motions. When finished, move on to the next round. See below for the list of rounds:

Round 1: Hand motions

Round 2: Foot motions

Round 3: Head motions

Question: What do you think it means to put your trust in God?





REFLECT AND RESPOND STATIONS

Prayer Station prompt: Write a prayer asking God the Father to help you trust Him with your life.

Journal Station prompt: Do you need to feel God's presence in your life? Do you need His power to help you do something? Do you need His knowledge or wisdom to help you through a situation? Write a letter telling Him about it.

Art Station prompt: Draw a picture of you and God holding hands. Below it, write the words, "In you, LORD my God, I put my trust." Psalm 25:1

ADDITIONAL TIME ACTIVITY—THUMBS UP, THUMBS DOWN

Simply ask the kids in your group to share one good thing that happened this week (thumbs up) and one not-so-good thing (thumbs down). This is a great way for your group to share celebrations and struggles with one another.