

Busted Stuff

Bible: Busted Stuff (City with Broken Walls) • *Proverbs 25:28*

Bottom Line: Doing what you should can keep you safe.

Memory Verse: “His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life.” *2 Peter 1:3a (NIV)*

Life App: Self-control—Choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Bible: Communicating God’s Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 25 minutes)

GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host

2. Bible Truth

What You Need:

- Historyteller
- Bible
- Table
- Cups
- Pre-cut “Self-control” tape strips

3. Worship

What You Need:

- “Enough for Us”
- “Every Move I Make”
- “I Can Do All Things”

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Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible Truth, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

CG: Theme Loop Video

Host enters with a laptop as a prop.)

CG: Countdown Video

CG: Theme Video

Opener

HOST: “Hello, everyone! This month is all about updating your operating system.

“You see, every computer has this thing called an operating system. It's what makes the computer work properly. An operating system can't just stay the same, though. It has to be updated. That's what it means when you get those pop-ups on your computer saying, ‘Update now!’

“You and I have an operating system, too. Every day, we get to choose the way we act and how we REact. When something happens to us, we need to update the way we react. We need to choose to have self-control.

CG: Life App Video

“Self-control is choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to.

CG: Theme TransBack Video

“Self-control helps you think before you act. For example, you might have a disagreement with a friend, and you might FEEL like getting really mad and losing your temper, but instead, you update the way you react. You choose to let it go. You choose to forgive your friend. Self-control is kind of like a wall that keeps you from trouble, which brings me to today's game. I call it ‘Virus Warning.’

CG: “Virus Warning” Slide

“Let's see what [Historyteller's Name] has to tell us about self-control today.”

Historyteller enters as Host exits.

SETTING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: “That was a fun game for sure. So, all month long we’ll be hanging out in one particular book of the Bible called Proverbs. (*Hold up Bible.*) Proverbs is a collection of wise sayings that were mostly written by King Solomon—one of the wisest people who ever lived. Throughout the book, King Solomon shares wisdom from God on how to live our lives. Today we’re looking at Proverbs 25:28.

Open the Bible to Proverbs 25:28 (NIRV) and read.

CG: Proverbs 25:28 Slide

“A person without self-control is like a city whose walls are broken through.”

CITY WALLS

HISTORYTELLER: “Let’s focus on the second part of that verse first: ‘A city whose walls are broken through.’

As you talk through this point, build the wall the kids knocked down during the Opener. This time turn the cups around so the kids can see the words written.

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

“Most cities don’t have walls around them anymore, but that wasn’t always the case. Most ancient cities had walls. Why do you think a city would need walls?”

Allow the kids to respond. If they can’t come up with answers, prompt them with things like: walls keep the people safe; walls give privacy; you could build towers on them to see enemies coming.

“Great answers, everyone. A city had walls to keep the people safe inside.”

OUR WALLS

HISTORYTELLER: “Why do you think WE need walls? I don’t mean that we need walls made of brick or stone, like a city. I’m talking about a different kind of wall.

Continue building the wall as kids answer.

“You’re right! We need walls for the same reason one of those cities needed a wall: to keep ourselves safe.

“Have you noticed the writing on these cups? I’m rebuilding this wall with things like obedience, respect, cooperation . . . what else? (*Pause for response.*) Yep. (*Continue naming the Life Apps from the cups.*) This is the way we need to live if we want to follow God.

“Of course, you know that. You know that God wants us to live this way. (*Point to the wall of cups.*) But let me ask you something. Is it always easy to actually DO that? What if you don’t want to? Have you

ever been in a mood where the last thing you wanted to do was show respect to your mom or dad? Have you ever had a tough time being honest when you knew that the truth would get you into big-time trouble? Have you ever been in a situation where you knew what you SHOULD do, but you had a hard time doing it? What are you supposed to do then?"

SELF-CONTROL

HISTORYTELLER: "That's where self-control comes in.

CG: Self-control Slide

"Remember, **self-control is choosing to do what you should even when you don't want to.**

*Get the long, pre-cut strips of "SELF-CONTROL" tape.
Begin applying the tape to the cups to secure the wall.*

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

"When we practice self-control, we can live out things like honesty and respect and trust, even when we don't always want to. We can show compassion when we feel like being selfish. We can cooperate and work together even if we think OUR idea is best. We can forgive someone when we feel like doing something to get them back.

"Self-control helps you make a strong, secure wall in your life—a wall that will keep you safe and that will help you live the way God wants you to."

WRAPPING UP THE BIBLE TRUTH

HISTORYTELLER: "Remember what we read earlier.

CG: Proverbs 25:28 Slide

"A person without self-control is like a city whose walls are broken through.

"We need to put up walls of self-control to protect ourselves. That keeps us from just doing whatever pops into our head first. Self-control allows us to slow down and choose what God would want us to do.

"Here's the really good news. Since God wants us to have self-control, He has given us all we need to have it—including the Holy Spirit. When we put our trust in Jesus, we receive the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit can give us the self-control we need to keep ourselves safe and protected.

"Our memory verse this month is 2 Peter 1:3a. It says this.

CG: Blank Memory Verse Slide

CG: Memory Verse Slide

"His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life." (NIV)

"We can **[Basic Truth] trust God no matter what.** We can trust Him to give us everything we need to live a godly life. All we have to do is ask.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“Remember, **[Bottom Line]** doing what you should can keep you safe.

“When we do what we should—when we ask God for the self-control to live His way—it’s like we’re building a strong wall that can keep us safe. Let’s pray and ask God to help us build those walls of self-control now.”

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide**Pray**

HISTORYTELLER: “Dear God, thank You for giving us everything we need to live Your way. We know that if we do what we should, we can build walls in our lives that will keep us safe. Please help us to choose self-control so we can **[Basic Truth] make wise choices**—even when we don’t always want to. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

“If you have an offering with you today, you can bring that on up now.”

“Please get up on your feet so we can share praise and worship!”

Historyteller exits as Host enters.

Worship

HOST: “Psalm 16:5 says: *LORD, you alone are everything I need. You make my life secure (NirV).* It’s true that God is all we need. Let’s sing about His love that’s always enough for us.

CG: “Enough for Us”

“It’s hard to do everything “right” all of the time. I know. But you know what? The neat thing is that God doesn’t expect us to be able to do that. He wants us to try. He wants us to be better tomorrow than we are today. Not just because it will make Him proud or even because it will bring you joy. He wants us to do better because it’s when we do the right, good, and obedient things that other people get to see God too. Every move that we make has the potential to be the move that will let God be seen by people who might not know Him yet.”

CG: “Every Move I Make”

“I told you that it’s hard sometimes to always do the right thing. Cool part is that we don’t have to do it on our own power. Nope. It’s God’s power that will help us to live more like Jesus every day. It’s through Him that we can do all things, even choose self-control when all we want to do it blow up. Sing this new song with me.”

CG: “I Can Do All Things”**Closer**

HOST: “Walls serve a very important purpose. They keep us safe. Imagine if your house didn’t have any walls. You’d be burning up in the summertime, and you’d be freezing in the winter. Every time it rained, you’d get soaking wet. Thieves would be able to just walk in and take your stuff. You’d be in

danger from every direction.

“According to Proverbs 25:28, King Solomon said it’s the same way for someone who doesn’t have self-control.

CG: Proverbs 25:28 Slide

“A person without self-control is like a city whose walls are broken through.

“You’re in danger when you don’t control your temper or when you don’t control your words. When you eat too much candy or watch too much TV, you’re opening yourself up to some not-so-good consequences. That’s why self-control is so important.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Doing what you should can keep you safe. Say that with me.”

HOST and KIDS: [Bottom Line] “Doing what you should can keep you safe.”

HOST: “The truth is, you know what you should do most of the time. But how do you take what you know and put it into action? Self-control. And how do you get self-control? You ask God for it. If you believe in Jesus, the Holy Spirit can give you the self-control to avoid all kinds of danger.

Grab one of the “snowballs.” Toss it up in the air and catch it.

“After all, not every attack that comes at you is going to be a snowball fight, so you’d better be prepared. Let’s head to Small Group now and see how else we can update our operating systems so we can be prepared for whatever comes our way!”

Dismiss children to their Small Groups.

CG: Small Group Slide