

## **\*BOWLING FOR BROCCOLI (PEAS, CARROTS AND CORN ...)** *(memory verse activity)*

**What You Need:** Print the “Bowling for Broccoli” Activity Page and cut apart; disposable cups; tape; Potato; Bible

### **What You Do:**

- 1) First you need to tape each Activity Page card to a cup, open side up.
- 2) From your bible read 2 Thessalonians 3:13 aloud, or point to the verse and invite your child to read.
- 3) Guide child/ kids to repeat the verse after it's read.
  - Set the cups on the floor 10-pin bowling-style, open side up. *(Cups set further apart will make it more challenging to knock down all the pins.)*
  - Designate a starting line 5-10 feet from the pins and guide the kids to line up behind it.
  - Give the first child in line a potato and guide them to roll it toward the pins, attempting to knock down as many as possible. Be sure the potato is rolled and not tossed. *(To increase accuracy, lay the potato on the floor, place both hands behind it, and push.)*
  - Continue until every cup is knocked over.
  - Once all the cups are knocked over, have child/kids put the verse in order.
  - Read the verse aloud together, pointing at each word or cup as you read.

### **What You Say:**

Daniel knew that God wanted him to follow the rules about the food he ate. So, Daniel bravely spoke up and asked permission not to eat the food that came from the king. What did Daniel and his friends eat and drink instead? *(Pause.)* Yes, they ate vegetables and water! How long did Daniel and his friends eat and drink only vegetables and water? *(First for 10 days and then for three years!)* Would you get tired of eating and drinking only vegetables and water for three years?

Daniel and his friends had conviction. They knew which things God said were right and wrong, and they chose to stand for what was right day after day and year after year. **When you know what God says, it can help you stand for what's right. So, when you need to do the right thing again and again, remember Daniel and his friends. But most of all, remember what God said in 2 Thessalonians 3:13:**

**‘Don’t ever get tired of doing the right thing.’**

## **\*SUPER STOP AND GO** *(memory verse activity)*

### **What You Do:**

Gather the Kids at one end of your room/hall and say the verse together a few times. Leave kids there and move to the other side of the room/hall and explain that when you face them and say the beginning of the verse, “Don’t ever get tired,” kids must lie down and freeze. When you turn your back and say, “Of doing the right thing!” they can crawl quickly towards you. Turn back and forth saying the verse several times. Vary the speed at which you alternate the phrases so that kids are stuck lying in place a few times. Whoever tags you when your back is turned wins.

### **What You Say:**

Nice playing! You really didn’t get tired of doing the right thing, and you all listened to what was said! When you heard me say the right phrases, you were able to play the game the right way. When Daniel did what God said, he was able to stand for what was right. We can do the same thing when we know what God’s Word says.

**“When you know what God says, you can stand for what's right.”**

## **\*Count Your Words (Memory Verse – older kids)**

### **What You Do:**

Give everyone a Bible. Review 2 Thessalonians 3:13 by having the kids find the verse in their Bibles and read it a few times.

After saying the verse together, let those who are willing quote 2 Thessalonians 3:13 from memory.

Next, ask the kids to answer the following questions using exactly the number of words in the parenthesis.

- When do you get tired of doing good? (4 words)
- What can you do to become a stronger follower of Jesus? (3 words)
- Name something important that God would want us to stand up for this week. (6 words)

### **What You Say:**

“Aren’t you glad that you don’t have to count out the number of words you can say every time you speak? That would be extremely tiring and a waste of time. God knows that people get tired of doing certain things—like counting out words or taking out the trash. When it comes to doing good, God wants to give us all the strength we need to keep going. He doesn’t want us to give up. Thankfully, we don’t have to guess at what God says is right. It’s not a secret. He makes His ways clear to us. How? It’s all in the Bible.

**“When you know what God says, it can help you stand for what’s right. “**

Everything you need to know and do in order to stand up for what’s right is all wrapped up in His Word. That’s why it’s so important to read the Bible and discover what God has to say. It’s like a super power instruction manual for your life!”

## **\*SUPER POTATO HERO (review the Bible story)**

**What You Need:** Potatoes, “Super Potato Hero” Activity Page, “Script” Activity page, markers, crayons, scissors, tape, halved toothpicks

### **What You Do:**

- Let each child to choose a potato, including yourself.
- Give each person a “Super Potato Hero” page.
- Set out the markers & crayons, so kids, and yourself, can color and decorate the super hero accessories they choose.
- Finally, have everyone cut out their accessories and tape or toothpick them to their potatoes to transform them into Super Potato Heroes!
- When everyone is finished, use your Super Potato Heroes to reenact the Bible story. You can use the script provided, retell the story in your own words or let the kids tell it using the Super Potato Heroes just made.

### **What You Say:**

Fantastic job to all our actors and potatoes! You did a great job making your potatoes super. But, you know, no matter how super those potatoes are, they could never have told us the story of Daniel all by themselves. They needed you, telling the story, telling them what to do.

If Daniel had kept quiet and eaten the same food that everyone else ate, would the king have noticed that there was something different about Daniel and his friends? Maybe ... or maybe not. But because Daniel and his friends chose to stand for what’s right and not eat the king’s food, God gave them special understanding and wisdom. He gave them SO MUCH special understanding and wisdom that the king took notice and gave Daniel and his friends very important jobs.

How did Daniel know what was right and what was wrong? Yes, Daniel knew what God said.

**“When you know what God says, it can help you stand for what’s right.”**

How can you know what God says? (*I can read my Bible, I can go to church and learn what God says, I can listen to Bible stories, I can memorize Bible verses, etc.*) Great ideas! When you read the Bible, hear the Bible, and remember what the Bible says, you’ll know what God says is right and what God says is wrong. And

**“when you know what God says, it can help you stand for what’s right.”**

## **\*HERO LOGO** (*application activity*)

**What You Need:** “Hero Logo” Activity Pages, markers, crayons, Bibles

### **What You Do:**

Remind the kids of today’s Bottom Line: **“When you know what God says, it can help you stand for what’s right.”**

Set out markers. Give each child a Bible and a copy of the “Hero Logo” Activity Page. Assign each of them one of the verses below to look up and read to themselves. If you have non-readers, read a verse to them. Explain that each verse gives us some help in knowing what God says is right and important and worth standing up for.

Ephesians 4:29, NIV

“Don’t let any evil talk come out of your mouths. Say only what will help to build up others.”

Matthew 22:37-39, NIV

“‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and most important commandment. And the second is like it. ‘Love your neighbor as you love yourself.’”

Proverbs 17:17, NIV

“A friend loves at all times. He is there to help when trouble comes.”

Luke 6:31, NIV

“Do to others as you want them to do to you.”

John 3:16, NIV

“God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son. Anyone who believes in him will not die but will have eternal life.”

Psalms 56:3, NIV

“When I’m afraid, I will trust in you.”

Ephesians 2:8, NIV

“God’s grace has saved you because of your faith in Christ. Your salvation doesn’t come from anything you do. It is God’s gift.”

1 Peter 2:17a, NIV

“Show proper respect to everyone.”

Proverbs 21:3, NIV

“Do what is right and fair. The Lord accepts that more than sacrifices.”

Ephesians 6:1 NIV

“Children obey your parents as believers in the Lord; Obey them because it is the right thing to do.”

Next, have the kids write or draw something in the center of the “Hero Logo” page that conveys an important thought about their verse. It can be a single word, a catch phrase, a symbol, a picture, or any other ideas they come up with. Extra shapes are provided if they want to color, cut out and use on their emblem.

When finished, have kids to read their verse aloud (or read for them) and then share their “Hero Logos” they made. Ask them what their verse means by way of something that is important to God.

### **What You Say:**

God has given us the information we need in order to know what is right. He’s also given us the ability to stand up and do it. Usually, when we choose not to do the right thing, it’s because we didn’t want to, not because we didn’t know any better. The better we know the character and mind of God, the better equipped we are to stand up for the things that matter most. **It’s not enough to just know what the Bible says. You have to APPLY it to your life every single day. That’s when your convictions change from something you know in your head to something you stand up for and believe.”**