

Gifts of the Spirit

Kids Church - Lesson 11

Date:

Lesson 11: What is the gift of faith?

Learning Objective/s:

Children will learn that:

1. Faith is a gift of the spirit
2. Faith can look small but it is powerful
3. God can make the impossible possible when we believe in Him

Equipment:

- Weekly overview board and lesson timetable board (*see series overview for more info*)
- Speaker and device to play the songs
- Blindfold and objects for an obstacle course
- Musical instruments (optional)
- A range of seeds and some mustard seeds
- Thread/wool/string for necklace, prelaminated pictures of mustard seeds, letters and mountains, a selection of beads
- Mountain (A3) and post it notes
- Parent cards

Parent Card:

At the end of the lesson, hand out the **parent cards** to the children so that they can continue reflecting on this week's lesson at home.

Welcome Time:

Before starting the lesson, sit the children down and ask each one about their week, not forgetting to share about yours too. This is a great chance to build relationship with each other and to teach the children important skills like communication and listening.

Ice Breaker: Blindfold Obstacle Course

Collect together a range of items that you can use to create an obstacle course (chairs, football, cones, etc...). Children will be blindfolded and guided by a partner around the obstacle course.

Ask the children to get into pairs and decide who will be blindfolded first. Tell them that whoever is not blindfolded will lead their partner around the obstacle course by giving left/right/forward/backwards instructions. After completing the course once, have the children switch so that their partner is now blindfolded and led around the course.

Ice Breaker: Blindfold Obstacle Course continued...

Learning point question: Was it easy or difficult to trust the person leading you around the obstacle course?

Listen to their answers and then tell the children that today they are learning about the gift of faith. Ask them what faith is and then say that having faith is trusting in something that you cannot see.

Learning point question: How did you use faith when going around the obstacle course blindfolded?

Listen to their answers and then say that God gives everyone the faith to believe in Him if they choose to do so, but the Holy Spirit gives some people the gift of extreme faith, giving them the ability to trust God for the impossible even when they can't see it.

Song: *Gifts of the Spirit*, whispering Hope

This is the last time the children will sing the song! Perhaps give them an opportunity to have some musical instruments to play along with the song instead of doing the actions.

Object Lesson: Mustard Seeds

Show the children a collection of different seeds on a tray - making sure the mustard seed is the smallest one on the tray. Ask the children to pick the one they think represents having the gift of faith (i.e. trusting in God for the impossible even when they can't see it) and then ask why they picked that particular seed.

Listen to their answers and then tell them that in the Bible Jesus tells us faith is like a mustard seed - **pick up the mustard seed and show the children.** Ask them why they think Jesus used this seed to explain about faith.

Listen to their answers and then **show them the picture of the mountain.** Say to the children that Jesus said a small mustard seed can move a mountain. Ask them if this is possible? And why they think Jesus said it was possible?

Listen to their answers and then say, Jesus said a little mustard seed could move a big mountain because he wanted to show how our faith can be extremely powerful! When God gives us faith to believe that he will heal, or do a miracle, or speak to us, or give us special languages, or make us wise, or reveal mysteries to us, he takes our faith and does something that is impossible! Tell the children to never underestimate how powerful their faith can be and that if God gives them the gift of extreme faith, just imagine what could happen.

Optional Memory Verse: Faith

'If you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.' Matthew 17:20

Ask one of the older youth to read out the memory verse from the Bible, then tell the children they are going to create some actions for a song which will help them remember what the verse tells us.

Play the song "Faith as Small as a Mustard Seed" by Doug Horley as many times as it takes for the children to create and learn some simple actions.

Series memory verse: 1 Corinthians 14:7

'Something from the Spirit can be seen in each person, to help everyone.'
(ICB) 1 Corinthians 12:7

For the final time, ask the children who can remember the memory verse and any of the actions!

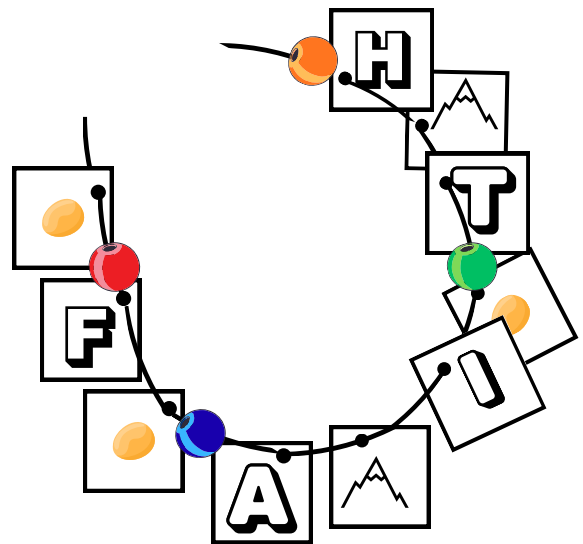
Craft: Mustard Seed Necklace

The children are going to make Mustard Seed Necklaces.

Pre-laminate the pictures of the mustard seeds, letters and mountains before giving them to the children, cut them out and punch a hole in them.

Give the children a piece of string/wool/thread to form the necklace. They need to thread on the letters to spell out faith, interspersing between them mustard seeds, mountains and a selection of beads.

Once the children have made their necklaces tie the two ends together and knot to secure.



Optional Prayer:

Give each child a post it note and ask them to write or draw something that they need faith for this week, something that looks impossible to them, but that God can make possible. Once all the children have written or drawn something ask them to place the post it note on the mountain.

Then say the following prayer, asking the children to say AMEN at the end:

Father God, thank you for the gift of faith. We are facing some things this week that look impossible. Please give us faith so powerful that through you these things become possible. Amen.

Thinking Time:

Get the children to sit down. Tell them this is a time for them to think about what they have been taught today.

Question: How is having faith in God like going round an obstacle course blindfolded?

Tell the children that earlier on they were taught that the gift of faith is believing even when we can't see. We need to trust and have faith that God will do what He says.

Question: Why did Jesus use a mustard seed to explain faith?

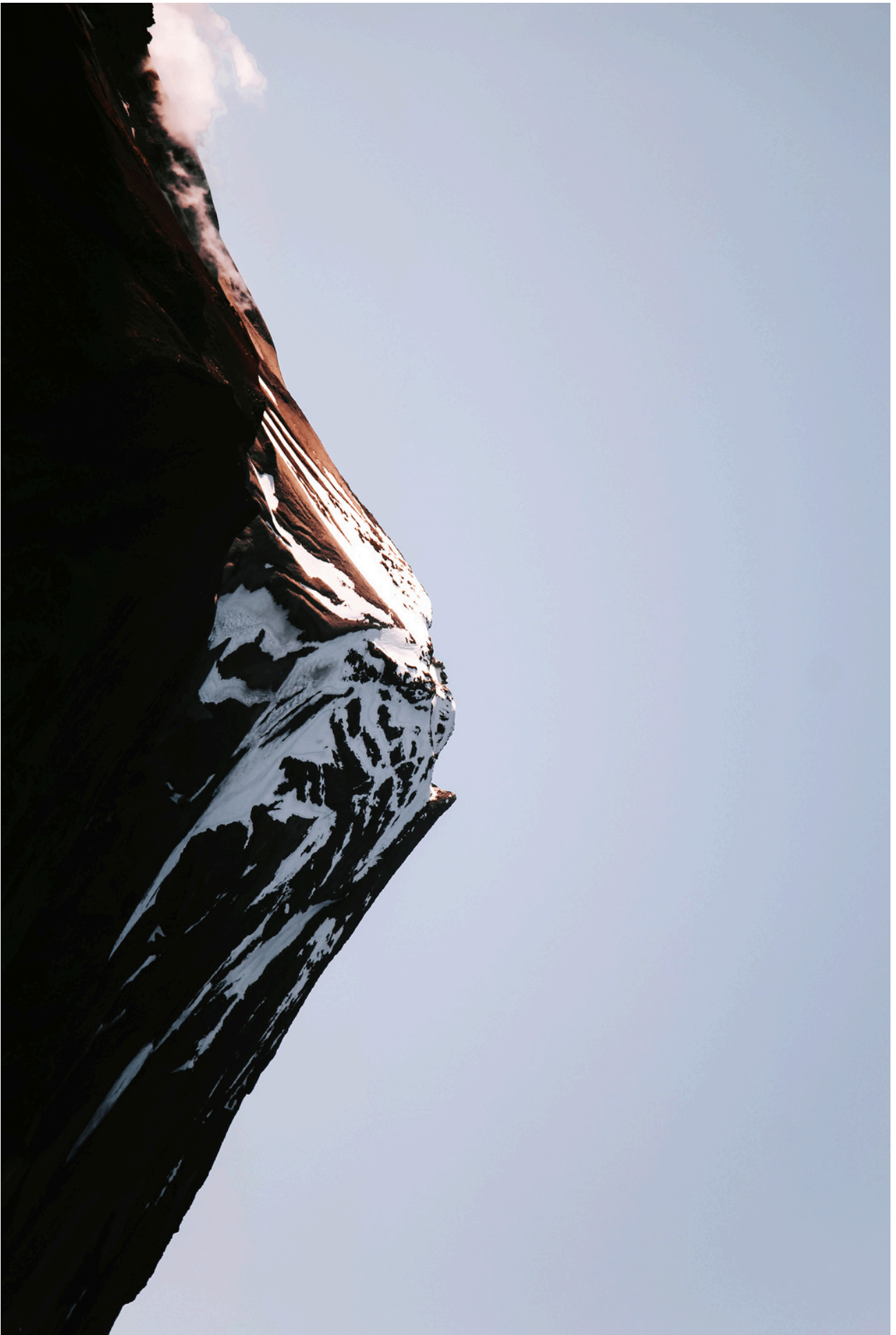
Tell the children that our faith can look small but it's powerful in God's hands. People who have the gift of extreme faith believe in God to do the impossible and see miracles happen, people healed, heavenly languages spoken, mysteries revealed and wisdom given.

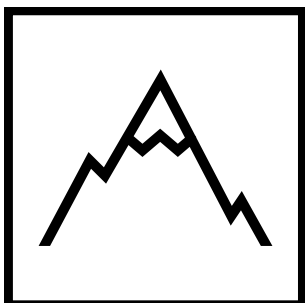
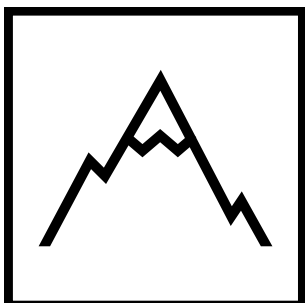
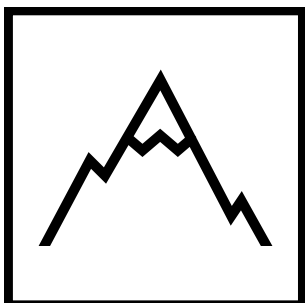
Optional Game: Traffic Lights

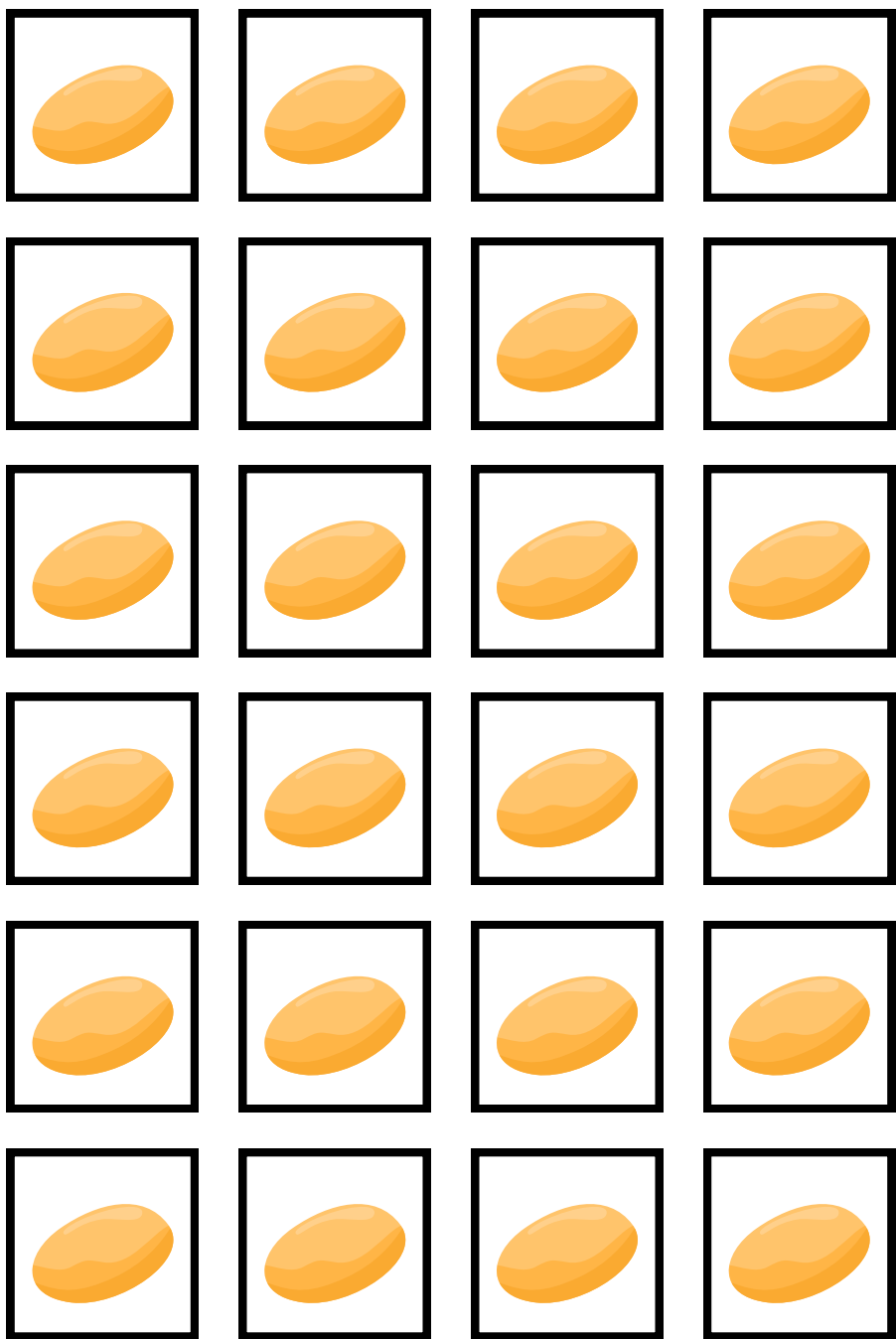
Line the children up at one end of the room. Set up three markers equal distances apart. Tell the children that the first marker is the "green light", the second marker is the "amber light" and the third marker is the "red light".

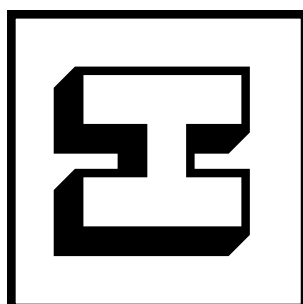
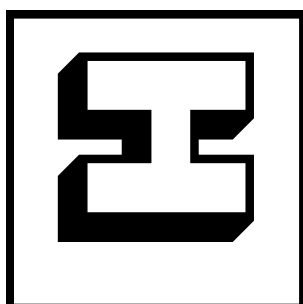
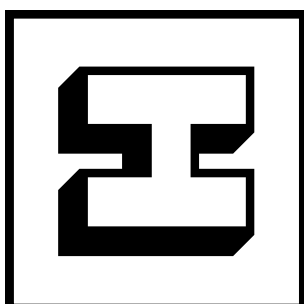
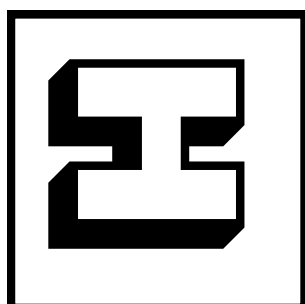
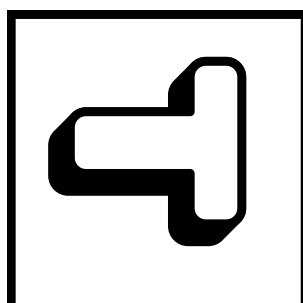
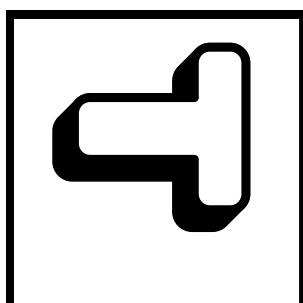
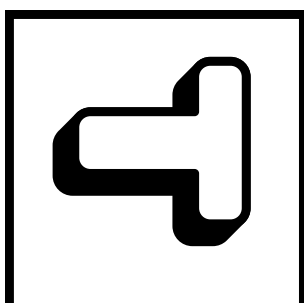
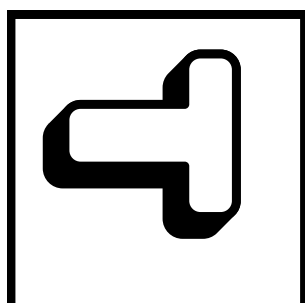
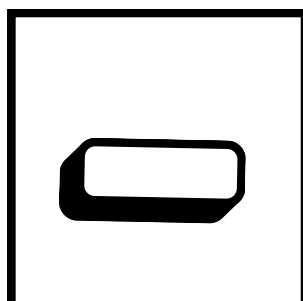
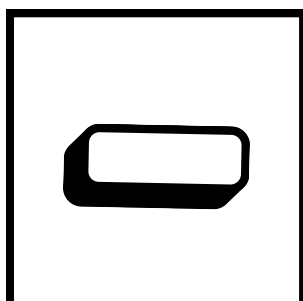
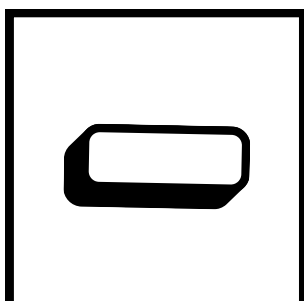
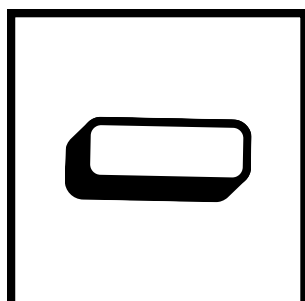
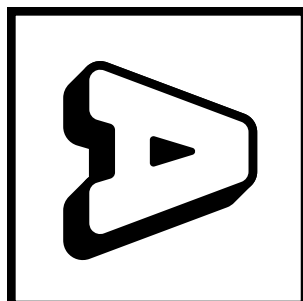
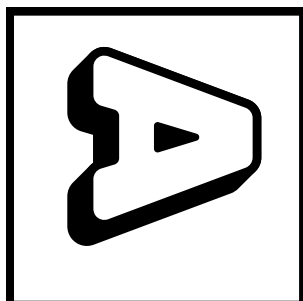
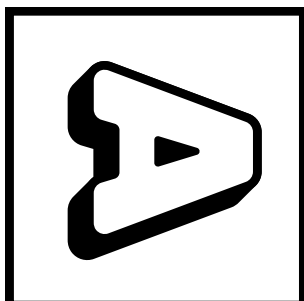
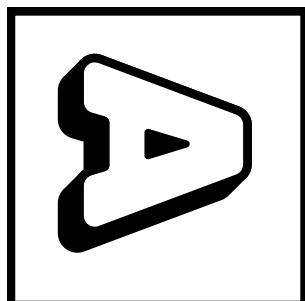
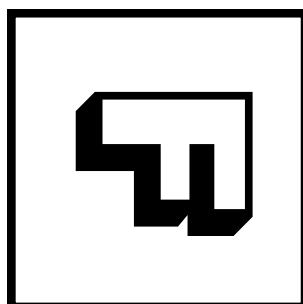
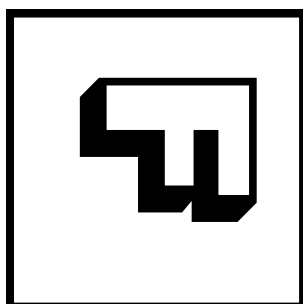
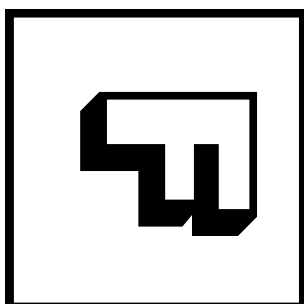
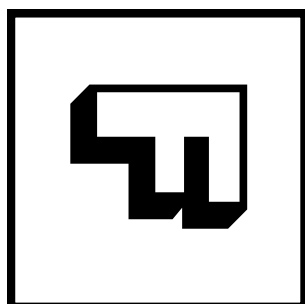
When you shout "green light" all the children run to the marker that represents the green light. When you shout "amber light", all the children run to the marker that represents the amber light. When you shout "red light", all the children run to the marker that represents the red light. Continue shouting out the different colours in whatever order you choose.

You could get some of the children to call out the lights, or you could make it more of a competition so that the last one to reach the light is out.











Parent Card

What I've learned in Kids Church today

Date:

Lesson 11: What is the gift of faith?

We're so glad your child has joined us today!

During our session we learned about the gift of faith. Faith is trusting in something that you cannot see. God gives everyone the faith to believe in Him if they choose to do so, but the Holy Spirit gives some people the gift of extreme faith, giving them the ability to trust God for the impossible even when they can't see it.

Key phrase for your child to know:

Faith is believing God for the impossible.

The song we are practicing:

Gifts of the Spirit, by whispering Hope

The memory verse we are learning:

'Something from the Spirit can be seen in each person, to help everyone.'
(ICB) 1 Corinthians 12:7

We also looked at:

'If you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it would move. Nothing would be impossible.' Matthew 17:20

Talk together:

This is our final week learning about the gifts of the spirit.

Why not make an indoor obstacle course for your family to do, making sure you blindfold them and direct them around the course. Then talk about faith and how we can trust God even when we can't see him!

Pray together:

Father God,

Thank you for the gift of faith. I am facing some things this week that look impossible. Please give me faith so powerful that through you these things become possible.

AMEN

See you next time!