



3 OVERTIME IDEAS TO TRY IN YOUR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY!

COURTESY OF GROUP'S DIG IN CHILDREN'S CHURCH
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SOMEONE SPECIAL

IN THIS ACTIVITY, KIDS ASK QUESTIONS TO IDENTIFY A PERSON.

PLAY 20 QUESTIONS

Say: If you knew someone as important as God's own Son was coming to earth, you might expect God to tell the super-duper important people first. In our world today, that might mean the billionaires, the athletes, or the celebrities. At least, that's who *our* culture thinks is important.

Ask: Why do you think those people are considered more important?

Say: We know that in God's eyes, none of that matters. We're all important to God! Jesus came for us even when we feel like nobodies. That makes us somebodies!

Let's think of people our world might consider important—famous people.

- Kids form mixed-age groups of four.
- An older child thinks of a famous person.
- Everyone else asks "yes or no" questions to try to figure out the identity of the person.
- Older kids can help younger ones formulate questions.
- Let the game keep going as long as needed to fill time until parents begin to arrive.
- If a child gets picked up before someone guesses their answer, they can reveal the answer on their way out.

SNICKER-FREE STARE-DOWN

IN THIS ACTIVITY, KIDS HAVE A STARING CONTEST.

HAVE A STARING CONTEST

Say: We know that God brings us laughter. But right now, your goal will be not to laugh! And your other goal is to make other people laugh. In fact, that second goal is a great way to bring God's joy to people all the time!

- Kids form pairs and engage in a stare-down.
- A partner wins if he or she blinks last or can make the partner laugh by making funny faces—without breaking the stare.
- When each pair has a winner, they can form new pairs and keep playing.
- Let the game keep going as long as needed to fill time until parents begin to arrive.

CHEER-FULL

IN THIS ACTIVITY, KIDS CREATE CHEERS AND CHANTS TO CELEBRATE JESUS.

BE A CHEERING CROWD

Say: Have you ever been to a sporting event or maybe seen one on TV? Sometimes the crowd breaks into cheers like “Let’s go, Red Sox!” (clap, clap, clap-clap-clap) or maybe a specific chant for their team, like “Roll tide!” Some teams have a call-and-response cheer, like where one person shouts, “O-H!” and everyone responds, “I-O!” to spell Ohio. Sometimes there are even motions or claps to go with the cheer or chant.

Ask: What’s a sports cheer or chant you’ve heard?

Say: We’re going to be a cheering crowd for Jesus because Jesus appreciates our love.

- Form mixed-age groups of around four kids.
- Groups work together to make up a cheer or chant.
- Groups all do their cheers at the same time, then take turns so everyone can hear and learn a new cheer.
- Groups take turns leading everyone in their cheer.
- If you still have more time before parents begin to arrive, kids can form new groups and invent more cheers.