

## **GAMES AND ACTIVITIES**

These additional games and activities can be used throughout the Victory series. If you want to integrate more movement and interaction in your lesson, check out these options. We've included tips to make the games and activities inclusive for all kids and have designated which games are intended for each lesson in the series.

## **GAME 1: RELAY STATION RACE**

**SUPPLIES:** index cards or paper (8 cards or sheets), tables (4), tape (prep only), marker or pen (prep only), bowl, plastic cups (15 per team), flat cookies (1 per team plus 1), chopsticks (1 set per team), mini marshmallows (10 per team), paper plates (2 per team), long socks (1 pair per team), chocolate kisses (wrapped, 10 per team plus 1)

This game works great with the Deborah and Barak lesson!

### **Allergy Caution**

This activity includes possible food allergens!

**Leader Tip:** If you have a smaller group of kids, assign kids a letter (A, B, C, or D) and invite them to attempt the challenges at the corresponding stations. It won't be a competition—just good, old-fashioned fun!

**Leader Tip:** If you have an odd number of kids, have the kid assigned to station A also complete the challenge at station D.

#### Make It Inclusive!

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities Include kids with physical restrictions or disabilities by inviting them to help monitor each station. Or, depending on their abilities, invite them to participate at a station and remain there the whole game without traveling from one side of the room to the other.

In this game, kids will compete in a relay race with four different challenges. Kids will be assigned which challenge to complete in the team relay race.

Before kids arrive, write the letters A, B, C, and D on separate index cards. Repeat this so you have two sets of alphabet index cards (two A's, two B's, two C's, two D's). Fold one alphabet set in half (A–D) and place in a bowl. Across the room, set up four tables. Tape one letter-labeled index card to the front of each table. These will be your stations: A, B, C, and D. (If your space won't accommodate four tables, set up one or two and prepare multiple stations at each table.)

At station A, place a stack of 15 cups per team. At station B, place cookies on a plate (one per team plus one). At station C, place one mound of mini marshmallows onto a paper plate; the mound should include 10 mini marshmallows per team. Also set out chopsticks (one set per team). At station D, set out a pile of fully wrapped chocolate kisses (10 per team plus one) and clean, long socks (one pair per team).

Arrange kids into teams of four on the opposite side of the room from the stations. **Today we're having a relay race with a twist! Across the room** (point to the stations) **are four stations.** Walk to the station A.

If you draw the card for station A, you'll stack these 15 plastic cups into a pyramid—five cups on bottom, then four cups, three cups, two cups, and one cup. Then using only one hand, you'll unstack the cups. Demonstrate building the pyramid with two hands and unstacking the cups with one.

If you draw the card for station B (walk to station B), you'll put a cookie on your forehead. Demonstrate putting a cookie on your forehead. Using only your face muscles, you will move the cookie to your mouth. Explain that kids can hold their hands near their chins to prevent their cookies from falling to the ground. If the cookie falls to the ground, they should no longer let it touch their mouths. When done demonstrating, either eat the cookie, discard it, or set it aside to eat later.

If you draw the card for station C (walk to station C), you'll use chopsticks to move ten marshmallows from the plate to your own pile. Demonstrate using chopsticks (one in each hand) to pick up one marshmallow.

**Leader Tip:** For Younger Kids. For an easier alternative to picking up marshmallows with chopsticks, provide a pair of large kitchen tongs for each team.

If you draw the card for station D (walk to station D), you'll put socks on your hands and unwrap ten chocolate kisses. Demonstrate unwrapping one chocolate kiss with socks on your hands.

Each teammate will draw a card to see which station each person is assigned. If you get A, you're first in line and will complete station A's challenge. You'll run to station A when I say, "Go!" and do the challenge as fast as you can. Once you finish it, you'll run back and tag your teammate to complete station B. This will continue until all four stations are done. The first team to do all four stations wins.

**Let's find out who is doing which station!** Visit each team with the bowl and have kids draw cards to determine which station they will do. Have teams line up in order based on station assignments.

#### Is everyone ready for the relay race? OK. Go!

As needed, help kids complete each station challenge. Once everyone has completed the assigned station tasks and one team is declared the winner, gather kids together.

None of us knew we'd be doing these crazy challenges today or who would be on our teams. We are all pretty unlikely people when it comes to doing these challenges. Sometimes God works through unlikely people or circumstances to accomplish His plans. In God's big story, God worked through an unlikely group of people—Deborah, Barak, and Jael—to bring victory to His people.



# **GAME 2:** SNOWBALL FIGHT

**SUPPLIES:** paper (1 sheet per kid plus 1), pencils or pens (1 per kid), painter's or masking tape

**Wonder Ink RESOURCES:** Numbered David and Goliath Wonder Truth Slide

**Leader Tip:** For larger groups, divide the room into four parts using painter's or masking tape, and create four teams instead of two.

### Make It Inclusive!

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities Include kids with physical restrictions or disabilities by inviting them to be "professional snowball makers." They will get to write words from the Wonder Truth on multiple sheets of paper that they then crumple into "snowballs." Or invite them to be the official announcers who call out when to start and stop the game.

In this game, kids write one word from the Wonder Truth onto a paper, crumple the paper into a "snowball," then have a snowball fight. When time is up, kids will gather as many Wonder Truth sentences as possible.

Before kids arrive, divide the room in half using painter's or masking tape.

To organize kids into five groups, count them off from 1–5. Have them stand with other kids who were assigned the same number (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5). Display the Numbered David and Goliath Wonder Truth Slide.

Hand out blank sheets of paper and pencils to each kid. (To save paper, give each kid a half sheet rather than a full.) **Do you see the number above each word in the Wonder Truth? Whatever number you are, you will write that word in big letters on your sheet of paper. So if you're one, you will write God. Two: you will write will. Three: you will write always. Four: you will write be. Five: you will write victorious.** Point to each word on the slide as you say the corresponding number.





This game works great with the David and Goliath lesson! **Once you write your word, crumple your paper into a "snowball."** Demonstrate crumpling a sheet of paper into a ball. Then collect the pencils.

Help kids form two teams, one on each side of the line of tape. When I say, "Go!" you'll throw snowballs at the other team. And you'll keep throwing snowballs until I say, "Stop!"

**Leader Tip:** If your setting and group are loud, consider flipping the lights off and on one time as you call "Stop!" to get the kids' attention. Just let them know ahead of time that you plan to do this, so it doesn't take them by surprise.

When I call, "Stop!" you will gather up all the snowballs on your side. Then, together with everyone on your side of the line, you'll flatten the snowballs, read the words on them, and arrange the papers into as many Wonder Truth sentences as possible. Allow questions before beginning. Ready? Set? Go!

After about two minutes, call, **"Stop!"** Encourage teams to work together to make as many Wonder Truth sentences as possible using the snowballs on their sides of the line. After a couple minutes, see which team was able to put together more full Wonder Truth sentences: God Will Always Be Victorious. Then gather kids together.

Have you ever had a real snowball fight? Let kids respond. In a snowball fight, how do you decide who wins? Let kids respond. Usually, it's whoever stays the driest! According to those rules, you were all victorious—just like we learned today that God always wins. In God's big story today, we learned that God is always victorious!



# **GAME 3:** BUILD-A-VILLAGE

**SUPPLIES:** uncooked spaghetti noodles, mini marshmallows, blindfolds (1 per kid), timer (optional), tables (optional)

## **Allergy Caution**

This activity includes possible food allergens!

This game works great with the Elisha and Naaman lesson!

**Leader Tip:** To add more physical movement to this activity, place the supplies in a large bowl or gallon-sized resealable baggie for each team. Hide the bowls or baggies throughout the room and invite kids to search for a bowl or bag of supplies before they start building.

### Make It Inclusive!

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities

Be sensitive to kids who don't wish to be blindfolded. Some kids feel fearful or anxious when their eyes are covered, so give them the option of closing their eyes tightly rather than wearing a blindfold.

In this game, teams will first try to build a village blindfolded and then will attempt to build a village without blindfolds.

Gather kids into teams of three or four. What village or small-town buildings can you name? Allow kids to answer. Those are great answers! Your team is going to use uncooked spaghetti noodles and mini marshmallows to build a village that includes a school, church, road, and house. But here's the catch ... you're going to try building it while wearing blindfolds! Expect some kids to complain. That's OK. Assure them this is just fun and to try their best! Have groups spread out. If possible, designate space at a table for them to stand as they build their villages. Hand out supplies and help kids put blindfolds on. Tell them they will have two minutes to try building their villages, and consider using a timer to keep track of time. **Ready? Set? Go!** 

After two minutes, have kids stop and remove their blindfolds. **Now let's try the same challenge** again—only this time without a blindfold! Ready? Set? Go!

Again, give kids two minutes (or more, depending on time restraints) to create villages with their teams. Visit each team to admire their finished village; then gather to discuss the game.

What was it like trying to build the village with the blindfolds on? Allow kids to respond. Trying to create a village while blindfolded wasn't something we could do, at least not very well! What was it like building the village without the blindfolds? Allow kids to respond. Without the limitation of the blindfold, it was possible to build the village with your team. God doesn't have limitations like we do. In God's big story, God healed Naaman—which not even the king of Israel could do—because He does what no else can do!



# GAME 4: IF YOU ...

**SUPPLIES:** self-adhesive gift bows (2 per kid), masking tape, trash can

#### Make It Inclusive!

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities Invite kids with physical restrictions or disabilities to call out the colors or objects instead of having the tagger do this. They can sit or stand to the side and speak loudly or, if possible, into a microphone.

In this game, kids attempt to race from one side of the room to the other without the tagger grabbing a bow from their backs.

Give each kid two self-adhesive gift bows and have them stick the bows to their backs. (Encourage kids to help one another with this! Self-adhesive bows will stick better to some types of clothing than others, so have masking tape available for kids who need to increase the stickiness of their bows.) Have a trash can handy so kids can easily throw away the bow backings. Next, invite kids to line up along one end of the room.

The goal for you who are lined up is to run across the room when called—but without the "tagger" in the center grabbing a bow from your back. Show kids where they will run. If you lose one bow, you're still in. But when you lose both bows, you will join the tagger in the center and help grab other kids' bows.

The tagger will either call out a color or an object, such as a food or animal. If he calls out a color and you are wearing that color, you will move to the other side of the room. If the tagger calls out an object that you like, such as a type of food, you will move to the other side of the room. Let's do a couple practice rounds where I will act as the tagger.

**If you're wearing black, go!** Let kids wearing black race across the room without losing any bows to you as you pretend to

#### This game works great with the Elisha and the Angel Army lesson!

grab at their bows. Let's do one more practice round. If you like pizza, go! Let kids who like pizza race across the room without losing any bows to you as you pretend to grab at their bows. Got it? Choose one outgoing kid to be the first tagger. The tagger does not need any bows on her back. Introduce the rest of the group to the tagger, and then have her stand in the center of the room. Eventually there will be kids running both ways across the room, so encourage kids to be careful and watch where they are going. If your space is small or kids are particularly energetic, ask kids to speed walk rather than run.

When the final kid loses both bows, gather the kids together.

What happened as more kids joined the tagger? Allow kids to answer. Yes! The tagger group grew more powerful! We can ask God to help us see His power like Elisha prayed for God to open his servant's eyes. God can open our eyes to see His power more and more—and grow our trust in Him as He does!

**Leader Tip:** Looking for an additional active game to go along with the Victory series? Check out the Marshmallow Blaster game in the Epic Battle event guide!



# **GAME 5:** POP REVIEW

**SUPPLIES:** balloons in various colors (20 per team of one color), chairs (1 per team), scissors (prep only), trash can, large trash bags (optional), disposable cups (20 per team, optional), tissue paper in various colors (20 sheets per team of one color, optional), rubber bands (20 per team, optional), kids-safe scissors (1 per team, optional)

This game works well as a review near the end of the Victory series!

#### Wonder Ink RESOURCES: Pop Review Sheet (1 per team)

### **Allergy Caution**

This activity includes possible food allergens!

### Make It Inclusive!

Tip for Including Kids with Unique Abilities Invite kids with physical restrictions or disabilities to be "organizing experts" who help teams decide which paper slips belong to each Victory lesson. The sound and sensation of popping balloons can cause stress for kids with sensory processing challenges. Consider using the disposable-cup alternative.

In this game, kids race across the room, pop a balloon, and work with their teams to organize slips of paper as quickly as possible into groups that correspond with the four Victory lessons.

Before kids arrive, print one Pop Review Sheet for each team and cut out the slips of paper, keeping each team's slips in a separate pile. Designate one balloon color for each team, roll up each team's slips, and place each slip into a balloon of that color. Then inflate and tie the balloons. Consider placing inflated balloons into large trash bags for temporary storage. As an alternative to balloons, place each slip in a disposable cup. Designate a tissue paper color for each team, and cover that team's cups with that color tissue, securing it to the top of the cup with a rubber band. Place one chair per team on the far side of the room, and set that team's balloons (or disposable cups) near its chair.

Help kids form teams of 2–10 kids. (There should be at least one proficient reader on each team.) Invite teams to line up single file directly across the room from their chairs and balloons (or cups). Today we're playing a game that helps us review what we've explored in our Victory series. One at a time, you'll run to your team's pile of balloons, grab one, and pop it. You can use the chair, your foot, or whatever works to pop your balloon—except not your mouth! Walk across the room and grab one balloon from a pile to demonstrate, then return it to the pile (without actually popping it). Consider setting a pair of



kid-safe scissors on each chair that teams can use to pop their balloons.

Inside each balloon is a slip of paper. After you pop your balloon, grab your slip of paper, and race back to tag your next teammate in line. Demonstrate by returning to where the kids are and pretending to tag a kid at the front of a team's line. Your team will keep taking turns grabbing and popping balloons until all twenty balloons are popped. Keep all your team's paper slips in a pile by your line until you collect all twenty of them!

Each slip of paper has something written on it from one of the four Victory lessons. Once all twenty balloons are popped, your team's job will be to organize the slips of paper based on which lessons they belong to. You should have five slips that belong to each lesson. Before we start, let's take a moment to review what each lesson was about. Many kids may not have been present for all four Victory lessons, so offer help as needed as kids think back through the four lessons. See if they can remember each Bible story and Wonder Truth:

- Lesson 1: Deborah and Barak. Wonder Truth: God Can Work through Unlikely People
- Lesson 2: David and Goliath. Wonder Truth: God Will Always Be Victorious
- Lesson 3: Elisha and Naaman. Wonder Truth: God Does What No One Else Can
- Lesson 4: Elisha and the Angel Army. Wonder Truth: God Is Powerful

Great job remembering our Victory stories and Wonder Truth sentences! The first team to correctly arrange the clues into the right lessons wins!

**Leader Tip:** Write the four lesson titles and their corresponding Wonder Truths on a whiteboard to help kids remember the stories and organize their slips more efficiently.

#### Now, let's begin. Ready? Set? Go!

Once all the teams have popped their balloons and organized their slips, go through the answers together and declare a winner (or winners):

Lesson 1 Slips:

- Deborah and Barak
- God Can Work through Unlikely People
- King Jabin terrorized the Israelites for 20 years. The Israelites cried out to God for help.

- Deborah told Barak how God would give victory over Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army. But Barak hesitated and wanted Deborah to go with him.
- Barak and his army defeated Sisera's army. Sisera fled to the tent of Jael and was struck dead while he slept. Deborah, Barak, and Jael all played a part in God's victory.

Lesson 2 Slips:

- David and Goliath
- God Will Always Be Victorious
- David took supplies to his brothers and heard Goliath taunting the Israelites.
- David told Saul he would fight Goliath. He took his staff, bag, slingshot, and five smooth stones to fight Goliath.
- David hit Goliath in the forehead with a stone, and he fell down dead. God's strength helped David defeat Goliath.

Lesson 3 Slips:

- Elisha and Naaman
- God Does What No One Else Can
- Naaman had a terrible skin disease. He heard Elisha could heal his sickness and left to find him.
- Naaman asked the king of Israel to help heal him. But the king of Israel could not!
- Elisha told Naaman to wash in the Jordan River. Naaman did and was healed from his terrible skin disease.

Lesson 4 Slips:

- Elisha and the Angel Army
- God Is Powerful
- God told Elisha where Aram's army would be. Then Elisha warned the king of Israel.
- The king of Aram surrounded the city where Elisha was because he wanted to capture Elisha.
- Elisha prayed for God to make the soldiers of Aram blind and led them to the capital of Israel. Elisha prayed for God to open the soldiers' eyes. They saw they were outnumbered by Israel's troops.

Ask kids to pick up balloon pieces and paper slips and toss them into the trash can. Then gather everyone together.

We've learned so much about God during this Victory series! Who can name three things they've learned about God? Allow kids to respond. Fantastic! Now as we enter into our weeks, let's be on the lookout for how our victorious and powerful God is working in us and around us!



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