

DETERMINATION

Deciding it's worth it to finish what you started

WEEK **5**
1st

BOTTOM LINE: Keep going even when you have questions.

Read Jeremiah 29:11

DAY
1

Keep Going

Have you ever heard of a guy named Abraham Lincoln? If you haven't yet, you will soon! He was the 16th President of the United States. But you know what? Becoming President didn't come easy. He failed a lot before he was finally successful and became our President. Ask an adult to help you read about all the failures that eventually led to Abraham Lincoln becoming an amazing President. Do you think he questioned whether he was doing the right thing? Of course, he did and all those failures along the way prepared him to be the President that he was. It's the same for all of us. The hard stuff that we might have questions about now, help us to become who God wants us to be.

Remember that when we have questions, God has a plan!

DAY
2

Pop That Question

Ask an adult to help you look up our Bible story this week in **Acts 8:26-40**. How cool is it that God used Philip to answer questions that the man had about faith? God puts people in our lives to help answer the questions that we have, too. Grab some latex balloons, small pieces of paper, and a pencil. On each piece of paper, write a question that you have, stick it inside a balloon and blow it up. Place the balloons around your room and each day, pop one and find someone to ask one of your questions! After you make your balloons, take some time to pray this prayer.

Dear God,

I am so grateful that You put people in my life that I can ask questions. Give me the courage to ask people the questions I have. I love you. Amen.

DAY
3

God Knows

Ask an adult to help you look up this week's verse in Jeremiah 29:11. As you read it, see if you can fill in blanks below.

I know the ____ I have for _____. I want you to ____ success. I do not ____ to ____ you. I will give you ____ for ____ to come.
Jeremiah 29:11 (NIV)

What an amazing verse for us to remember when we feel like we have questions!

Thank God that when we have questions we can know that He has a plan for our lives!

DAY
4

I Have A Question!

Have you ever been in school and there's something you don't understand? What do you have to do? You have to ask questions to help you understand. There are people in our lives that we can trust to ask hard questions. We're not ever going to know everything but when we ask questions it's like giving us a piece to a puzzle. Take a minute and think about the people in your life that you can trust to ask hard questions about life and faith. Flip over this sheet and see if you can cut out all the puzzle pieces and put them back together!

Know that we can keep going even when we have questions!



**KEEP
GOING**

**even when you
have questions.**

DETERMINATION

*deciding it's
worth it to
finish what
you started*

WEEK
Five
2nd-3rd Grade

Read Romans 15:4

DAY 1

Do you know why the Bible is important?

Maybe that's a question you've never really thought about. The Bible isn't just another book that tells us about events of the past. The Bible is God's word to us. When we read it, just like you're reading it today, it can help, teach, comfort and guide. When you have questions about God, the Bible is the best place to go for answers.

We all have questions for God. Some questions might seem silly (like "why are there mosquitoes?") and some are more serious (like "why is my grandmother sick?") Questions aren't bad! That's how we learn. Don't be afraid to ask questions, to search the Bible for answers and to talk to other people who love and follow God too. This week, if you find yourself wanting to give up, read this verse. Thank God for His word. And remember, you can keep going, even when you have questions.

Read Acts 17:24-26

DAY 2

Do you have a friend that doesn't go to church? If you wanted to tell that friend about God, where would you start?

Use the word bank to fill in the blanks from today's verses.

God made the _____.
He made _____ in it.
He is the _____ of heaven and earth.
He doesn't _____ in temples built by human hands.
He doesn't need _____.
He himself gives life and breath to all _____.
From one man, he _____ all the people of the world.
He decided exactly _____ they should live.
He decided exactly _____ they should live.

**anything
made
when
everything
Lord
people
live
world
where**

We learn a ton about God from these verses! And while these words don't answer every single question about God, they tell us quite a bit about who He is. We all have questions about God. Questions help us learn and grow. But even with our questions, we can still trust God. And just like Paul did in these verses, you can tell others what you know about God too. Remember, you can keep going with determination even if you have questions.

Read Proverbs 3:5-6

DAY 3

Do you know how your Mom's car works?

Can you take apart a washing machine and put it back together?

When you turn on your TV, do you understand how the images appear on the screen?

You put your trust in stuff every day without completely understanding how it works. The same is true in our relationship with God. You might be tempted to give up, to quit living the way God wants you to live when things happen that you don't understand.

But trust means that you choose to believe, even with all your questions, that God is good and that He loves you. Even when things don't make sense or when you have questions you can't answer, you can still trust God and obey what He's asked of you.

Pick one thing in your house that you depend on but maybe don't completely understand (like your washing machine or refrigerator). Write out the words of today's verse on a notecard and tape it to that item. Ask God to help you continue to obey Him, to keep going, to keep trusting, even when you have questions.

Read Joshua 1:7

DAY 4

Do you know what the word "distraction" means? A distraction is something that takes your focus off the task in front of you. What are some things that distract you or keep you from finishing your homework? Write your answers below.

It's easy to get distracted and let other things get in the way when we're trying to get something done. When we stay focused, not looking to the right or to the left, we have a better chance of limiting the distractions around us.

What are some things that keep you from doing what God wants you to do? What are some things that often distract you or get you off track?

When it comes to determination, focus is super important. When you look ahead and keep going, not looking to the right or to the left, it's much easier to finish what you start. As you pray today, ask God to help you stay focused so that you can finish with determination. He will help you be strong and brave as you follow Him.



**KEEP
GOING**

**even when you
have questions.**

Day 5

Now that you've practiced spending the day asking questions, you're going to work on embracing question-asking with your life. Grab a journal or a few sheets of paper, and make these headings:

Questions about God

Questions about life

Questions about my future

Questions about schoolwork

Questions about my passions/interests

Any time that you're tempted to quit something because you don't understand, come back to your journal and write your question down. Then dig deeper and see if you can find the answer. If you can, come back and write down the answer. If you can't, keep going anyway, and come back and write down how your determination to keep going even when you didn't have all the answers paid off.

Make "asking questions but going ahead anyway without all the answers" a practice in your life, and one day you'll look up and see you finished what you started and learned a whole lot along the way!

**What questions
do you have?**

WEEK 5



Day 1

Go to Studio252.tv and watch this week's episode of The So & So Show. (Click on Fun2Watch! then The So & So Show.)

Even if you already saw it at church, feel free to check it out again!

SO & SO TOP 3

After watching, write one thing that . . .

1) YOU LIKED: _____

2) YOU LEARNED: _____

3) YOU'D LIKE TO KNOW: _____

PRETEEN

Day 2

Read Acts 8:26-40

As you read Acts 8:26-40, underline all of the questions the Ethiopian man has.

Notice even his last question:

What can stop me from being baptized?

This isn't really even a question—it's more of what we might call a rhetorical question, a question for effect rather than a question that really needs answering.

Asking questions is not a bad thing—in fact, it's a good thing! When we stop asking questions, we often stop learning. And learning about God and His Story is always a great thing!

Day 3

Did you know that God is okay with your questions? In fact, He welcomes them! Why? Because asking questions is a great way to get to know someone, and when we ask God questions about His character, His love, His plan for our lives, we are opening the door to get to know Him better! Fill in the blanks of the prayer below, and then use your answers in a prayer to God.

One thing I love about God: _____

One thing I don't understand about God: _____

One thing I wish I knew about God: _____

One thing I wish I knew about God's plan for me: _____

One thing I know about God that helps me know I can trust Him: _____

End your prayer by thanking God for welcoming your questions and wanting to have a deeper relationship with you!

Day 4

Today, you might annoy people around you a little. But that's okay. Because for one day, you're going to aim to ask as many questions as you can. Don't ask annoying ones (like the constant "why?"), or things that you already know the answer to, but anytime you come across anything you don't understand, ask. Intentionally look for things around you that don't make sense, or that you don't know how they work, and ask someone who knows.

At the end of the day, share all the information you learned with a parent. Talk about how you looked at things differently when you were truly trying to understand. Did you ever want to give up on something because you didn't understand it? **How did it feel to keep going anyway?**

