

DETERMINATION

Deciding it's worth it to finish what you started

WEEK 1

1st

BOTTOM LINE: Keep going even when it seems impossible.

Read Matthew 19:26

DAY 1

All Things Are Possible

What is something new you have tried but then in the middle of trying it, you stopped? Like a new sport, learning to read, building a LEGO® set. Learning new things is hard and sometimes when it gets hard, we feel like giving up. This month we are going to talk about what it looks like to keep going even when it seems impossible. Have an adult help you find **Matthew 19:26** in the Bible. Write the verse down somewhere that you can see it. What a cool reminder that things might be impossible to us, but with God all things are possible.

Know that we can keep going because with God all things are possible.

DAY 2

Yes You Can!

Do you remember the first time you tried to ride a bike? It seemed so hard right? Maybe even impossible! And now, I bet you can ride your bike without even thinking about it! In fact, you could probably make a whole list of things that you used to think were impossible. Grab a piece of paper and some crayons. Make a list of all the things you can think of that you used to not be able to do but now, you have can do it!

Look for more things to add to your list this week and let it remind you to keep going even when it seems impossible.

DAY 3

Let's Do This

Ask an adult to help you make a paper chain. Grab a piece of blank paper, scissors, tape, and some crayons. First, cut out 10 strips of paper. On each strip of paper, write something that you would like to learn to do. After you have written on each strip, connect them by making a circle and connecting them to each other, creating a paper chain. Hang this paper chain somewhere in your room and each time you learn to do one of these things, remove it from your paper chain. Sometimes it's really hard to keep going especially when you are learning something new. But our heavenly Father is here to help us. He cares about what we care about and He wants to help us with every link on our paper chain!

Ask God to help you with the things that are important to you.

DAY 4

Do What?

Ask an adult to help you look up this week's Bible story in **Matthew 28:16-20**. What do you think the disciples were thinking when Jesus asked them to tell the whole world about Him? That seems like an impossible thing to do right? There are going to be things in our life that seem impossible too but we can keep going knowing that God will help us face the situation with determination! Pray this prayer below.

Dear God,
Thank You that I can count on You to help me when I face tough things. Remind me in those tough times that You are there to help me. I love you.
Amen.



DETERMINATION

deciding it's
worth it to
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WEEK
One
2nd-3rd Grade

Read 1 Corinthians 9:24-25

DAY 1

This month is all about determination, deciding it's worth it to finish what you've started. Have you ever run a race? To get a medal you have to keep going, even when it seems like you can't go one more step.

This is true in life too. Sometimes we're tempted to quit when things get hard. But for those who follow Jesus, we receive a crown that lasts forever! Because Jesus can do anything, He can give us the power we need even when all we want to do is quit. We can keep going even when it seems impossible.

This week, we'll highlight four real life stories of determination. Read the determination story below and then unscramble the letters to reveal the name of the person who kept going. Rejected by 29 medical schools before being accepted by mistake to Hobart College, she became the first woman to receive a medical degree in the United States in 1849. She opened a medical practice, served poor families, and established the first medical college for women. Who was she?

L I B E T E Z A H B A L W L L C K E

Ask God to help you run the race or finish what you start, even when it seems impossible.

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Read 1 Corinthians 16:13

DAY 2

One of the awesome things about following God is that He promises to be with us, no matter what. When you have a big job to do, when the job seems way too hard, God can help you stand strong, be brave and finish with determination. That's what Paul is talking about in today's verse. Even when the task seems impossible, God is with you.

Let's take a look at another story of determination. Can you name this famous inventor? Considered unteachable at a young age, this inventor continued to try and try again. While many would say he had failed, he would say that he simply found over 1,000 ways not to create a light bulb. Who was he?

H T M O S A N E I S D O

Ask God to give you the strength you need to remain strong, and keep going to finish what you've started.

ANSWER: THOMAS EDISON

Read Isaiah 41:10

DAY 3

Do you ever feel like quitting? Maybe you've tried and failed and you're afraid you'll NEVER get it right. That's when you have to remember that God is with you. He can make you strong, help you and hold you safe. His way is always right. God will give you the strength you need to keep going, even when it seems impossible.

Check out this story of determination. Can you unscramble the name to discover the answer?

This famous "colonel" didn't start on his idea until the age of 60. He worked from age 60-73 to create and grow his business, sometimes even living in his car. Today, you can find a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant in 118 different countries. Who was he? (Hint: The first name starts with an "H")

L D R A A H N

D D A V I

N D S A E R S

Thank God for the reminder that you don't have to be afraid even if you need to try again.

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Read John 15:5

DAY 4

Ever popped a juicy grape into your mouth? Did you pluck it from the stem first? That stem is connected to the vine which supplies all the water and nutrients that grape needs to grow and become your snack.

Jesus described Himself as the vine. You are the branch. When you stay connected to Jesus, He can help you keep going, to keep doing the right thing, and to keep loving others the way He loves.

Our last story of determination is about a man who kept going even when he faced 50 many setbacks. Can you figure out who it is?

He lost his beloved mother, his business failed, he ran for state legislature and lost, he got fired from his job, he couldn't get into law school, he borrowed money from friends to start another business but that failed too. Despite many unsuccessful runs into politics, he was elected president in 1860. Who was he?

H A A A B M R

I O L N L N C

Ask Jesus to help you stay connected to Him so you live the way He wants you to live.

KEEP GOING
even when it seems impossible.

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Day 5

Did you follow through and share with someone yesterday about God's love? It's okay if you didn't—it's not always the easiest thing to do. But even if it seems impossible, it's not!

Think about these things that at one time people thought was impossible:

- 1) Walking on the moon
- 2) Air travel
- 3) The automobile
- 4) Computers (and now we carry them in our pockets!)

What is something that seems impossible to you right now? Maybe it's long division, doing a cartwheel, or making the swim team. Write it down here: _____.

Now, write down one thing you can do today to make that impossible thing seem a little more possible: _____

As you work toward doing the seemingly impossible, remember Jesus is with you. And one day, when you achieve what once seemed impossible, be sure and share with others how Jesus' power and presence carried you through!

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: _____

Day 2

Read Matthew 28:16-20

As you read Matthew 28:16-20, underline the direct commands Jesus has for His disciples. If you were a disciple that day, do you think those commands would feel possible or impossible? _____

Now, read back through and circle the places where Jesus makes the seeming impossible, possible. (*Hint: It has to do with His power and His promise.*)

The task Jesus gave His disciples may have seemed impossible, but having Someone with all authority by their side no matter what meant they could keep going!

Day 3

What is something that you believe Jesus is calling you to do that seems impossible right now? Maybe it's like the disciples: to tell others about Jesus. Or maybe it's being nice to your little brother or sister, and some days it just doesn't seem possible. Fill in the blanks below and ask God to help you.

“Dear God,

**I believe You want me to _____,
but it feels very overwhelming and even impossible at times. I
believe that Jesus has the power to help me do this, and He is
with me always. Help me to take one step today by
_____, remembering that Jesus is
always with me. In His Name, I pray.**

Amen.”

Day 4

The command that Jesus gave His disciples wasn't just for the 11 men who met Him at the mountain that day. Jesus told them to keep sharing until all nations know Who He is, and until then, we are also tasked with that mission: to share God's love and the fact that He sent Jesus to be our Savior with everyone.

You can just tell a friend about how God's love makes you feel, or share a story about a time you felt Jesus with you, or do something kind for someone and explain that you love because God first loved you. There are so many ways to talk about Jesus. Think about who you will see and talk to today, and what you might be able to share with them about Jesus and His love, then follow through (and remember that Jesus is there with you)!

