



HOOK

GAME: Wacky Challenges

Choose 2-3 of these according to the age/ability of your class. The idea is to have some level of competition among the children, promising a big prize at the end.

Bubble blowing contest: Who can blow the biggest soap bubble (or plastic bubble from tube with straw)

Coin toss: toss the coin closest to the wall

Thumb wrestling

Finger wrap: Give youth a length of string and have them race to wrap the string around their finger.

Marshmallow balance: Who can balance the highest number of marshmallows or candy pieces on his/her nose

Balloon Popping: Whose the fastest at blowing up a balloon until it pops

Peel an orange: Who can peel an orange the fastest

Jolly Javelin: Use any long, thin object (e.g. multi-colored wacky noodles, straws, hot dogs wrapped in plastic wrap, chopsticks, or rolled up newspapers or magazines). Five children can throw at once, behind a set line. Distances can be marked again with their shoes.

Balloon Volleyball: Give each child or team a balloon to see who can keep it up the longest. When the balloon hits the ground, have students sit down.

Source: <http://www.creativeyouthideas.com/resources/game-ideas/bible-lessons-from-the-olympics-victorious-in-the-challenges-of-life-2/#ixzz4HkzLJMn3>

<http://ministry-to-children.com/10-wacky-olympic-games-for-kids-ministry/>



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JESUS, OUR VICTORY

LESSON: JESUS, OUR VICTORY

The greatest world sporting event is going on now. What is it? *Olympics*

At the Olympics, more than 11,000 athletes from 207 countries train hard and compete against each other in 28 sports.

Not everyone can take part. There is a long list of requirements to ensure only the top and the best can get in. You need to train really hard and rank in various competitions to qualify to represent your country for the Olympics.

When you are at the games, you still have to fight your way through the heats and the quarter and semi-finals to reach the finals. And at the finals, only one athlete wins the gold medal. The top of the top. The best, fastest, strongest.

And the crowd cheers, and there is great rejoicing because everyone loves a hero, a champion.

Do you know that the Christian life is often referred to as a race?

1 Cor 9:24-25

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. 25 Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever.

We are asked to run this race — our new life in Christ — well until the end. We do not do it for physical, temporary rewards. Our prize is a crown that lasts forever.

But unlike the Olympic games, there are two major differences.

Firstly, everyone qualifies.

The invitation to this new life in Jesus is open to everyone, especially to you, children.

Mark 10:13-16

13 People were bringing little children to Jesus for him to place his hands on them, but the disciples rebuked them. 14 When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. 15 Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." 16 And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.



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And secondly, our victory is already won.

We are not in this Christian life to win our salvation. We are already winners because of Jesus.

He was the one who was qualified to take our place on the cross. He was sinless and perfect, hence He could give His perfect life in exchange for our sin and death.

He was the one who emerged victorious — He defeated sin, death, sickness, and the devil.

Jesus is the greatest champion of all.

And because He is victorious, we can ALL share in His victory. We don't fight FOR victory. We fight FROM victory.

1 Cor 15:57 *But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

This victory means we don't have to be afraid of the devil or death anymore. We can hold our heads up high as God's champions.

This victory means that no matter what problems and challenges we face, Jesus is the One who is fighting for us.

Deut 20:4 *For the Lord your God is the one who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you victory."*

We don't have to be anxious or upset or jealous and angry. We can rest in Him and know that God is fighting for us. He will work everything out for good, no matter what the circumstances. Thank you Jesus!



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ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

HUDDLE TIME

In small groups, share what are the challenges we are facing, and declare Jesus' victory over them.

SONG: God is fighting for us

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zgKry5VYs74>

SONG: For it is by Grace

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dScCiw_B8K8