

- **Place a post-it note under a table or chair in the room. Before you start tell the children there is a yellow piece of paper stuck somewhere in the room, the first person who can find it will get a prize.**
- **Give a piece of candy to the first person who finds the paper.**
- Today we are going to talk about seeking for things that are valuable. You went looking for that paper because you knew there was a prize that would come if you found it. Today we are going to look at how God is the ultimate prize and why we should search for Him.
- **Recap the previous week with some quick questions. If you group is small ask questions and give a piece of candy for every right answer. Try to get everyone some candy.**
- **Sing**
- In Minecraft if you play on survival mode you do a great deal of seeking. You normally call it mining, but you do a whole bunch of it. When me and my son play the first thing we do after we find a cave to live in is to start digging a mine looking for treasure.
- To find the good stuff you have to dig way down. Diamonds are found not up by the surface, but way down by the blocks that mark the floor of the world. If you want to find them you have to keep searching and searching. You may get lucky and find them early, or you may have to wait a long, long time, but part of playing the game is searching.
- We have been talking about faith and having faith in God and that can be hard sometimes because sometimes we can't see God, but the Bible says that we can seek him and if we seek after him we don't have to worry we will find him.
- **Video (Faithcraft Week 2)**
- OK, so that is one more silly video that we watch here at Faithcraft, but just because it is silly doesn't mean that the Bible verses in it aren't real. So let's go back and look at one of those. Turn to *Jeremiah 29:11-13 (HCSB)*
- OK, so let me tell you a bit about what is happening here. God tells Jeremiah that the people of Israel will be defeated by the enemies. Because they had turned away from God he was going to punish them, but he told Jeremiah that just because things were getting hard didn't mean that God didn't love them and just because God wasn't visible didn't mean he wasn't around.

- Let's read this passage:
- *Jeremiah 29:11–13 (HCSB)*
- *11 For I know the plans I have for you says the Lord“plans for your welfare, not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. 12 You will call to Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. 13 You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.*
- **When does the Bible say that we will find God?**
- When we search for him.
- As we talk about building out faith it is important that we search for God. We are going to learn how we can search for God in a bit, but before we do that I thought it would be fun to do a little search activity.
- **Searching for gemstones**
- With these things you had to keep searching until you found the gems, it wasn't always easy, but faith is searching even when things are hard.
- **So how then do we search after God?**
- The video game us 3 clues:
- **BELIEVE THAT GOD LOVES US**
- This one is important because if we don't believe that God cares about us then we can't believe that what he says is true. Since we know that God loves us we don't have to worry when we can't find him.
- **TRUST THAT GOD WANTS TO BE FOUND**
- I love playing hide and go seek with Noah because Noah likes to be found. He doesn't want to keep hiding he wants you to find him. So when I say Noah where are you he says, “I'm under the bed” or wherever he is hiding. He wants to be found. The same is true for God we don't have to look very hard to see God all around us.
- **What are some ways that we can see God around us?**
- The last thing we can do to seek God is to **KEEP LOOKING** for him.
- We can't give up if it seems like he isn't right there. Last week we learned that we build our faith through prayer and bible study and coming to church. Those

are ways that you can seek God too. keep looking for him and you will find him when you seek him with all of your heart.

- Snack
- **Rec: Paperwads with stars on them.**
- **Print out a large star on a piece of paper and a large circle on another piece of paper.**
- **Estimate the size of your group and make enough copies that about half could get stars and half could have circles.**
- **Crumple up the copies (and a few extra pieces of paper) into balls and then dump them out on the floor.**
- **Tell students they will have 10 seconds to throw the paper wads at anything other than each other.**
- **After 10 seconds tell them that they have another 10 seconds to try to find a wad of paper that has a star printed on it.**
- **Award a small prize to whoever finds a star**
- **Play again as long as they are having fun.**
- In this game you had to keep searching for the prize. This week be sure to keep searching for God as much as you searched for these stars.
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