



PERSEVERE TO RUN THE RACE!
31.05.20

kidmaniaTM

NOTE TO PARENTS from Ps Luke Aiasecca

Thank you for the privilege of ministering to your family through Kidmania Online. Today's Kidmania Online episode was **PERSEVERE TO RUN THE RACE!**

This parent info sheet can be used by you at home to support your Kidmania experience WITH your children and help them to get the most out of it.

The 'main ideas' section of this parent info sheet has been designed especially for you to enter into meaningful discussion with your children.

To help your children really share what is in their hearts and minds with you, and so YOU can actively build faith and wisdom into them, when it comes to the 'Ask' points, take care to not rush them... give them time to think and respond and really show them you are listening and that you understand.

We are here to support you! If you have any questions you would like to discuss please contact your location Kidmania co-ordinator or email me at luke.aiasecca@enjoy.church

God bless you!

Family Ice Breaker – It's Race Time!

This is a fun way to introduce what you will be talking about as a family.

Today we saw some of our church leaders in a funny running race, and we saw Ps Shane and Ps Georgie race each other on Nintendo Switch Mario Kart! You might like to try a race at home.

Here are some ideas for races:

- * *Caterpillar race* - Wiggle on your tummies with hands behind backs, from one end of the room to another. Have a treat waiting, the first one to the treat eats it.
- * *Sack race* - Kids could use old pillow cases to jump from one point to another.
- * *Egg and spoon race* - We suggest using dessert spoons and hard boiled eggs - less mess.
- * *Silly walking race* - Everybody's walk will be different, and the goal is not to be the fastest to do a lap, but the most interesting.
- * *Math facts race* - line up and race to see who can be the first to get 10 times-tables and addition/subtraction questions right.
- * *Electronic gaming race* (just a race or two - try not to get distracted).
- * *Picture me in the race* - You could draw pictures of yourselves in the race of life, with Heaven cheering you on.
- * *Cross country race* – use the backyard or a park/reserve and give instructions on what to go over, around, through, up, down etc. and where the finishing line is.

Whatever you do - have fun!

Today's Scripture Reference - Hebrews 12:1

1. Read the Scripture out loud
2. Repeat & recite (now and this week at mealtimes)

(NLT) Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

The Main Ideas for Family Discussion

Topic introduction:

Say: In today's Kidmania Online episode we learned that we all have a race to run which God has marked out for us. Let's look in the Bible to see what God has to say about this.

Memory Verse Challenge: [turn the page over to the **Today's Scripture Reference** section]

Discussion:

Ask: What have you learned by listening to this Scripture? [let them answer in their own words]

Say: By 'race' we mean the 'life' God has given to us to live here on earth, before we go to Heaven. This life has a beginning and an end, it is quite long, and it is meant to be a purpose-filled journey of learning and adventure. We are meant to know God and others along the way.

Say: We run for Jesus

Ask: Who do we run our race for - ourselves or Jesus? [we are looking for the answer: Jesus]

Ask: Why? [we are looking for an answer like: because Jesus saved us, our life belongs to Him. Also, we were created by God for His purposes, so we run for Jesus because as God's only Son He is the King.]

Ask: Is living your life for someone else going to be fun? [Yes! God's plans are better than our plans.]

Ask: Do you think Jesus is watching and cheering you on? [Yes!]

Ask: Who else is watching you and cheering you on? [we are looking for answers like: God the Father, all the angels, others in the church who teach and encourage us, others in the world (so we should be a good example for them), our parents, etc. everyone wants the best for us.]

Say: we need to get rid of the weight

Say: Anything that weighs us down is going to make it hard for us to do almost everything.

Ask: Can you imagine running, swimming, jumping, and brushing your teeth with weights strapped on to you all the time? How difficult and tiring would that be?

Ask: What are some tangling straps/ropes and weights that you may have attached to you? [we are looking for answers like: unrepented of sin, unforgiveness, anger, jealousy, bad attitudes, negative thinking, loving things and people more than we love God, and caring more about what other people think than what God thinks, etc.]

Say: we need to run with patience and perseverance – and not give up

Say: Not everything will be easy and go the way we expect it to.

Ask: Can we finish the race if we give up running? [No! – we just have to keep going and do our best – God will help us... and we will grow in patience and perseverance as we do.]

Say: we can't take shortcuts

Say: There are no short cuts with God. We know that if we're teachable then the lessons God has to teach us, and the tests He has for us, won't last as long. And, we know that as we grow, get stronger, and get practice, the easier things become. We have to do what is hard until it becomes easy in everything we learn.

Ask: What is something you do easily now that you once found hard?

Ask: What would have happened if you had given up before it became easy and enjoyable?

Say: we shouldn't compare

Say: God has a special plan for each of us. He made us different from each other and He has different things for each of us to do. You are a terrible version of someone else, and the only one who can ever be the best version of YOU.

Ask: Will all our races (lives and journeys) look the same? [No!]

Summary:

Ask: Which of these 5 points (underlined above) do you think is most challenging? [pray into this next]

Let's Pray!

Dear Heavenly Father... thank You that you have great plans for each of us. As we each run our race please help us to remember we run it for Jesus with patience and perseverance, we have to let go of some things and keep going, and not compare our race with others. Lord, help me with [challenge]. And please help [name] with [challenge] because they want to run their race well ...in Jesus' Name, Amen!

