

SECTION

4.8

Evidence Review



Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 1: Training Schedule

Notes:

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Ask kids to raise their hands if they participate in a sport, play an instrument, or are involved in an afterschool activity. Give them an opportunity to share what they are involved in.

Ask the following questions:

- What would happen if you never practiced or trained?
- How often do you meet to practice or train?
- How does practicing or training benefit you?
- How does practicing or training benefit your coach, teacher, or instructor?

STEP 2: Share these key concepts:

- A regular training schedule helps athletes, musicians, and scholars excel and get better in their field.
- Regular training schedules benefit both the participants and the instructors or coaches. The participants know their expectations, and the coaches or instructors set and work toward specific goals with their kids.
- In a similar way, God has developed a training program for believers, outlined in the Word of God. When we follow His plan for our training, we grow closer to Him, and He is glorified with our lives.

STEP 3: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of training in faith, prayer, studying God's Word, worship, serving, fellowship, and witnessing.

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Introduction Activity (5 Minutes)

Option 2: A Plan to Succeed

Notes:

What You'll Need: Nothing

STEP 1: Write the following algebraic equation on the board.

$$x^3 + 1 \text{ and } (y^4x^2 + 2xy - y)/(x - 1) = 12$$

STEP 2: Explain to kids that this is an algebraic equation. Ask a volunteer to try to solve it while teaching the concepts used to the whole class.

After a moment or two, ask the following questions:

- What would happen if your teacher expected you to complete this problem on the first day of school, without helping you at all?
- Why would it be unwise for a teacher to teach algebra before addition or subtraction?
- Why is it important for your teacher to have lesson plans and goals for your learning?

STEP 3: Share the following key concepts:

- Just as your teachers have a plan for your educational training, God has a plan for your spiritual training that will help you grow closer to Him.
- God's plan for your spiritual training and growth is outlined in the Bible.
- When we follow God's plan for spiritual growth, we will grow closer to Him, and we will become the successful people He created us to be.

STEP 4: Transition into the main lesson by opening in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help you and your kids understand the importance of training in faith, prayer, studying God's Word, worship, serving, fellowship, and witnessing.

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Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 1: Summary Statements

What You'll Need: Bibles, T&T handbooks, seven poster boards, paper, pens, pencils, crayons or markers

PREP: Write the following words and verses on each of the boards, leaving room for kids to draw.

Faith (Hebrews 11:6)

Prayer (1 John 5:14)

Studying God's Word (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

Worship (John 4:23-24)

Serving (Matthew 20:28)

Fellowship (Ephesians 4:1-3)

Witnessing (Matthew 5:16)

STEP 1: Have kids work in pairs or groups, and give each group markers, pens, pencils, or crayons. Assign each pair or group one of the topics and verses listed on the board. Encourage kids to review that topic and verse in their handbooks and to come up with a symbol or a picture that represents that aspect of training in our growth in Christ. For example, the pair with the first topic and verse may choose to demonstrate faith as a cross, the second group may demonstrate prayer as two hands. Give pairs or groups five minutes to come up with a symbol demonstrating that topic of training and then draw that symbol on their poster boards.

STEP 2: After five minutes, have pairs or groups present their symbols and read their verses in the order listed on the board.

STEP 3: After each group has shared their symbols, share the correlating key concepts listed below:

- Faith is the first step in our relationship with God. In order to be saved, we must believe that Jesus, God's Son, took the penalty for our sin by dying on the cross (Ephesians 2:8, Romans 10:9-10). Our faith grows as we learn more about who He is and what He has done. As our

faith strengthens, we will begin to demonstrate our faith to others by our actions. We will seek to please God and glorify Him with our lives (Galatians 2:20). We will become the people God created us to be.

- We communicate with God by praying anywhere and anytime (1 Thessalonians 5:17, Philippians 4:6). We can share with God our thoughts, emotions, wants, and needs. We can also pray for others (Colossians 1:3-4). When we pray, we can have confidence that if we ask God to answer our prayers according to His plan for us, He will give us what we need (1 John 5:14).
- The Bible contains God's very words to mankind (2 Peter 1:21). It is the only instruction manual we need to live a life pleasing to God (2 Peter 1:3). We study God's Word when we read and meditate (think about it over and over) on it. As we meditate on God's Word, our knowledge of it deepens, and we are able to confidently understand it, live it out in our lives, and then share it with others (Joshua 1:8, Psalm 96:3, James 1:22).
- Worship is anything we do to show God we love Him. Worship is the response believers display in their hearts, reactions, and thoughts to God's character and goodness (Psalm 86:9-10). We worship God when we praise Him, pray, read His Word, tell others about Him, live completely for Him, and allow God to use us to do whatever He wants with our lives (Psalm 96:2-3, Psalm 119:171-172, Ephesians 2:10, Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 13:6).
- Serving God means we are willing to do whatever He asks us to do. Jesus is the greatest example of a servant; He willingly obeyed God and died on the cross for our sins (Philippians 2:8). We can follow Christ's example of humility as we put the needs and interests of others before our own, recognizing their value and seeking to love and treat them as we want to be loved and treated.
- Fellowship is being in a relationship with other believers. The moment we are saved, we are adopted into God's family, and God desires us to have good relationships with our siblings

in Christ (Romans 8:16). As we get to know our brothers and sisters in Christ better, we will be able to recognize when they are struggling and need comfort. And because we have grown in our love for them, we will willingly reach out to them when they need us to comfort and encourage them, seeking unity and peace above all (Galatians 6:2, Ephesians 4:1-3). When fellowship with believers is focused on God and characterized by humility, gentleness, and love, it is a gift from God that will last for eternity.

- Witnessing is giving evidence of what Christ has done for us. We witness through our speech, actions, lifestyle, and our treatment of others (1 Timothy 4:12). When we grow in our faith and our relationship with God, we will live a life that pleases Him. We will have love, joy, peace, compassion, and patience (Galatians 5:22-23). As others see the evidence of what Christ has done for us, our lights shine brightly for God, and others will be drawn to Him (Matthew 5:16).
- Following these training steps will help believers grow in their faith, unashamedly becoming what God has created them to be (Ephesians 2:10). The training in a believer's life never ends. It is our job to continue growing in our relationship with God until He comes again or we die and live with Him in heaven.

STEP 4: Draw kids' attention to the symbols on the board. Encourage them to think of one way they need to grow and train in their relationship with God.

STEP 5: Close in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to help your kids continue in their spiritual training and to become the people God created them to be.

Notes:

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Evidence Review



Main Lesson Activity (10 Minutes)

Option 2: Training to Succeed

What You'll Need: Bibles, Training to Succeed Handout, pens or pencils

PREP: Print the handout, and make copies for all the kids in your group

STEP 1: Explain that this week's lesson is about reviewing the things we can do to see the evidence of our faith. Pass out the handout pages so that every kid has one.

STEP 2: Explain that kids will be using their bingo board to talk about how they will continue to train in their assigned area. For example, the individual, pair, or group that is assigned faith may say that they will grow in faith by living out what I believe by my actions. They will do this by going around to each other and mingling, and getting each other to sign their initials on a square. The rules are that you can't have someone sign on more than one square, so they will be trading people quite a bit. Have leaders available to offer assistance as needed.

STEP 3: After five minutes, wrap up the mingle time, and find out which kids have the most squares signed, and congratulate them.

Then share these key concepts:

- God has developed a training program for believers, outlined in the Word of God. When we follow His plan for our training, we grow closer to Him, and He is glorified with our lives. The categories of our training program are faith, prayer, studying God's Word, worship, fellowship, and witnessing.
- Faith is the first step in our relationship with God. In order to be saved, we must believe that Jesus, God's Son, took the penalty for our sin by dying on the cross (Ephesians 2:8, Romans 10:9-10). Our faith grows as we learn more about Who He is and what He has done. As our faith strengthens, we will begin to demonstrate

our faith to others by our actions. We will seek to please God and glorify Him with our lives (Galatians 2:20). We will become the people God created us to be

- We communicate with God by praying anywhere and anytime (1 Thessalonians 5:17, Philippians 4:6). We can share with God our thoughts, emotions, wants, and needs. We can also pray for others (3 John 1:2, Colossians 1:3-4). When we pray, we can have confidence that if we ask God to answer our prayers according to His plan for us, He will give us what we need (1 John 5:14).
- The Bible contains God's very words to mankind (2 Peter 1:21). It is the only instruction manual we need to live a life pleasing to God (2 Peter 1:3). We study God's Word when we read and meditate (think about it over and over) on it. As we meditate on God's Word, our knowledge of it deepens, and we are able to confidently understand it, live it out in our lives, and then share it with others (Joshua 1:8, Psalm 96:3, James 1:22).
- Worship is anything we do to show God we love Him. Worship is the response believers display in their hearts, reactions, and thoughts to God's character and goodness (Psalm 86:9-10). We worship God when we praise Him, pray, read His Word, tell others about Him, live completely for Him and allow God to use us to do whatever He wants with our lives (Psalm 96:2-3, Psalm 119:171-172, Ephesians 2:10, Romans 12:1-2, Hebrews 13:6).
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- Witnessing is giving evidence of what Christ has done for us. We witness through our speech, actions, lifestyle, and our treatment of others (1 Timothy 4:12). When we grow in our faith and our relationship with God, we will live a life that pleases Him. We will have love, joy, peace, compassion, and patience (Galatians 5:22-23). As others see the evidence of what Christ has done for us, our lights shine brightly for God, and others will be drawn to Him (Matthew 5:16).

STEP 4: Remind kids that their training and growth in Christ does not end until they are in heaven with God forever. Encourage them to love God with their whole hearts and to live a life that pleases Him. When they accomplish these goals, they will live out the Awana theme verse, 2 Timothy 2:15. Encourage kids to recite it with you, and then close in prayer.

Notes:



Training to Succeed Handout

<p><i>Faith</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Prayer</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Studying God's Word</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>
<p><i>Serving</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Worship</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Serving</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>
<p><i>Fellowship</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Witnessing</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>	<p><i>Prayer</i></p> <p>Initials: _____</p>