



LOW-ENERGY GAME

Name That Character

[10 min]

Supplies

- slips of paper (at least 3 per child)
- brown paper lunch bags (1 for every 4 to 8 kids)
- pens
- timer

Play a Game Like Catch Phrase

Say: **Let's think of some famous fictional characters in our world today. We'll write down their names and then use them to play a game!**

- Form groups of four to eight kids, and have each group sit together in a circle. Then number off by twos to divide each circle into two teams with players remaining where they are seated (alternating Team 1 and Team 2).
- Give each child at least three slips of paper, and have kids write a different fictional character's name on each paper. For example, a child could write "Superman" on one, "Mulan" on another, and "Captain Hook" on another. It's okay if more than one child writes the same name.
- Mix up and place each group's papers (from both teams) in a brown paper lunch bag.
- Choose one child from each team to go first. On "go," he or she will have 30 seconds to choose a paper and describe that character to his or her team without saying the name. Kids should use only words, not actions or gestures.
- Once kids on that team correctly guess the character, the first child keeps drawing and describing more names until the 30 seconds are up.
- Kids will keep a pile of paper slips their team successfully guesses.
- Continue playing, passing the bag around the circle so teams alternate turns every 30 seconds. Kids in smaller groups will have multiple turns to describe characters.
- Play at least ten 30-second rounds, and then count paper slips. The team with the most papers wins!

Talk About It

Ask: • **Fictional characters aren't real. So why do you think so many people know who they are?**

• **In this game you described the characters. How can you describe God to your friends?** Share an example to begin the conversation.

Say: **The names of these characters fill our world, so sometimes they may feel real! They're in books, movies, video games—they're everywhere! But just being all around us doesn't make them real. There is only one real God, and we can share about him with our lives and our words.**



TALK-ABOUT VIDEO
Carl's Bible

[10 min]

Supplies

- “Carl’s Bible” teaching video

Discuss and Watch “Carl’s Bible”

Say: Today we’re learning that God is the only real God. In the Bible, Josiah made sure to get rid of anything that would help people worship fake gods.

Ask: • **What do you know about other religions? How do you think they got started?**

Say: In our video today, we’ll see what happens when our friend Carl gets a little confused about following only the real God.

Watch “Carl’s Bible.”

Ask: • **Why did Carl start writing a new Bible?**

• **What was the problem with what Carl did?**

Say: God is the only real God. There are people who have come up with other ideas for religions with different gods, and they’ve been able to spread those ideas better than Carl did. It’s a good thing Jacob stepped in to set Carl straight! But other religions aren’t true, because God is the only real God.



DEEPER BIBLE

What Should I Do if My Friends Believe Other Religions?

[15 min]

Supplies

- Bibles
- whiteboard or poster board
- dry-erase or regular markers

Easy Prep

- Write the following simple addition problems on a whiteboard or poster board:
 $2+2=$, $3+7=$, $4+2=$, $5+6=$, $1+9=$, $9+1=$, $8+3=$, $1+4=$, $7+5=$, $6+2=$

Solve Math Problems

Point out the math problems on the board.

Say: **It's time to test your math skills!**

Have kids come up and write the answers to the addition problems. When kids have finished, say: **I hate to break it to you, but you got every single problem wrong. You clearly don't understand how addition works. It's like this... $2+2=22$. You just smush the numbers together. That's how addition works.**

Write the answer to each problem using that logic, so you have 22, 37, 42, 56, 19, 91, 83, 14, 75, and 62 for answers. Let kids respond to your math, and continue to defend your way of addition as the "correct" way. After it goes on for a while, lead kids in this discussion.

Ask: • **How would you describe what happened in our room when we disagreed about math?**

• **How did you feel when you *knew* you were right, but I was telling you that you were wrong?**

Say: **We're learning that there's only one real God. But there are a lot of people who don't believe that's true. Maybe they follow a different religion or they don't believe in God at all. So what should we do if our friends believe other religions? Let's dig in to that.**

Dig Deeper

Say: **Before we get into Scripture, let's share other beliefs your friends or relatives might have about God.**

Ask: • **What are other things your friends believe about God that would contradict the truth that he's the only real God?** You could give examples of other world religions and also include agnosticism—the idea that we can't know if there's really a God.

Say: **It sounds like people believe a lot of different things about what's real about God. And some people don't know *what* to believe! When that happens, it's easy to get into an argument like we did about how to add numbers. (By the way, I knew you were right!)**

Ask: • **Think about our argument about math. How effective is arguing with people to make them believe the truth?**

• **What happens to our friendships when we argue?**

Say: **Arguing with people about God isn't a good idea. So here's what we can do.**

First, you need to know what you believe. Who *is* the one real God we believe in? The more you get to know him, the better you'll know this. But here's one thing that's basic to knowing what you believe.

Read John 3:16.

Ask: • **Put this verse in your own words to sum up what's real about God.**

Say: **The Bible also tells us how we can share about the hope we have because of what we know.**

Read 1 Peter 3:15-16.

Ask: • **Would you say there was gentleness and respect in the way we disagreed about our math equations? Explain.**

• **These verses say to be ready to explain our hope if people ask. What would you say if someone asked you why you believe in the one real God?**

Say: **When people ask about our faith, the Bible says to share with gentleness and respect. In other words, not by arguing! But what would cause someone to ask about our faith? The answer is the way we live. That's the third tip to answering questions about our faith.**

Read Matthew 5:16.

Ask: • **What's one thing you could do that might make someone praise God...or at least ask about him?**

Say: **You don't have to argue that there's only one real God. You can show it by how you live! And if you know what you believe, you can be ready to share it when people ask about the way you live.**

And one other thing you can do is pray for people who don't know the one real God! God loves them just as much as he loves you and me. It's not about being right; it's about sharing that love with people we love! Let's pray right now.

Pray: **God, we pray for people who don't know that you are the only real God. We pray for people who believe (name some things kids shared earlier). **We ask you to show yourself to them through us. In Jesus' name, amen.****

Encourage kids to commit to praying daily for friends or relatives who don't know God.



LIFE APPLICATION WRAP-UP

Pray for the Unknown

[5 min]

Pray

- Have kids pray for people they *do* know who don't know the one real God yet. Kids can share prayer requests for specific people.
- Have kids pray for people they *don't* know who don't know the one real God yet.

Wrap Up

Pray: **God, we know you're the one real God. We want everyone to know you and love you! Help us share your love and light with others so they can get to know you, the one real God. In Jesus' name, amen.**

Thank kids for coming, and encourage them to come back next week.



ACTIVITY PAGES WITH A POINT

The One Real God

[10 min]

Supplies

- “God's Commandments: No Idols” Coloring Page
- pencils
- crayons

Older Kids: Do an Activity Page

Say: **We're learning that there's only one real God. That's why Josiah smashed all the idols that people worshipped as if they were real! And just like there's only one real God, there's only one right answer in this puzzle.**

Distribute the activity pages and pencils. Kids will figure out which path leads to God.

- Ask:
- Describe what you did to find the right path.
 - How sure are you that you found the right answer?
 - What makes you sure God is the only real God?

Say: **There are a lot of things in life that can try to trick us. We might start to believe other things people believe in or worship are true. But the truth is there's only one real God. Other paths just don't lead to him!**

ANSWER KEY: Path E

Younger Kids: Color a Coloring Page

Distribute the coloring pages and crayons. Say: **One of God's commandments is that there's only one real God, so we worship only him. That's why Josiah smashed all the fake gods people worshipped! Let's color Josiah destroying the fake gods.**

Allow time for kids to color.

When kids finish coloring, three-hole-punch their pages and put them into binders, if desired.