



Get Their Attention! (3 minutes)

Materials: **Bendy Pencil**

INTRODUCE yourself and the kids by saying:

Hey! My name is _____, and I'm so glad all of you are here today! Let's pass this **bendy pencil around the circle. When it comes to you, tell us your name and which homework assignment you think would take more hard work—writing your name 100 times or counting to 1,000.**

After each kid has had their turn, **SAY**:

Homework assignments can take a lot of hard work, and sometimes, we don't understand why we have to do them. But we can trust that our teachers have a reason for giving them to us, and work hard at them no matter what!

We should work hard at EVERYTHING we do. And that's what we Need to Know today. Say it with me:

I Will (point to self)

Work Hard! (pound fist on palm)

Need to Know:

I Will

(point to self)

Work Hard!

(pound fist on palm)

Bible Story:

Walls Fall Down

Joshua 6

Materials:

- **Bendy Pencil**
- **God's Story for Me Bible**
- **Activity Cards**
- **Instructions Sheet**
- **Hand Sanitizer**
- **Small Candy**
- **Bookmarks**
- **Markers**
- **Filler Guide**

Bible Story (6 minutes)

Materials: **God's Story for Me Bible**

EXPLAIN what kids will do as you read the Bible Story:

I am going to read a story from God's Word. While I'm reading, you are going to do what God's people do in the story. Pay close attention! There is a time that they **MARCH QUIETLY, BLOW THEIR TRUMPETS, and SHOUT!**

READ pp. 133-137 from the **God's Story for Me Bible**, allowing kids to act out what God's people do in the story! Then, **ASK**:

1. **Would marching around an entire city seven times in one day be easy or hard?** (Hard!)
2. **Did God's assignment for His people make sense at first?** (No!) **No it didn't! But they trusted that God had a plan.**
3. **When God's people trusted Him and worked hard, what ended up happening?** (The walls of Jericho fell down, and they got the land!)

I'm sure God's people were glad they had obeyed Him and worked hard when they saw those walls fall down!

Hard work always pays off! That's why we should work hard, no matter what we're doing! So here's what we Need to Know today! Say it with me!

I Will (point to self)

Work Hard! (pound fist on palm)

ASK the kids to close their eyes & bow their heads. Have the kids repeat after you as you **PRAY**:

Dear God, help us work hard at EVERYTHING we do. Thank you for ALWAYS rewarding us for working hard. We love you! Amen.

Application Activity Summary:

Kids will work hard to follow instructions and find a hidden message.

Need to Know:

I Will

(point to self)

Work Hard!

(pound fist on palm)



Proverb:

"The lazy will not get what they want,
(shake head "no")

But those who work hard will."
(thumbs up)

Proverbs 13:4

(hold up one finger on one hand and three fingers on the other)

Application Activity (6 minutes)

Materials: Activity Cards, Instructions Sheet, Hand Sanitizer, Small Candy

1. Distribute **Activity Cards** among the group as evenly as possible.
2. Read and follow the instructions on the **Instructions Sheet**.
3. After the hidden message has been revealed, **sanitize** hands, reward each kid with a piece of **small candy**, and **SAY**:

I'm proud of you for working hard to find the hidden message! This message is the Proverb that we're learning this week and next week. It is about working hard. Let's talk about some examples of working hard.

- ☞ ***On Saturdays, you love to be lazy. But your mom says that this Saturday is yard work day! Would it be wise to stay inside and be lazy or work hard helping your family in the yard?*** (Work hard helping in the yard)
- ☞ ***Right! The lazy do not get what they want, but those who work hard will! So if your mom takes everyone who helped in the yard out for ice cream, you would be rewarded for being wise!***
- ☞ ***It's really hard work to pay attention at school ALL day. Would it be wise to choose being lazy by taking a nap during school?*** (No)
- ☞ ***Exactly! It is not wise to be lazy, but those who work hard will get what they want! For example, if your teacher calls on you to answer a question, you will be thankful that you chose to be wise!***

Now that you know the Proverb we are practicing today, let's play a game!

Wrap It Up (5 minutes)

Materials: Activity Cards, Bookmarks, Markers, Filler Guide

PLAY "Hopscotch" with your group to review the Proverb.

1. Lay the **activity cards** out as pictured on the left, but more spread out.
2. You and your group will say each word of the Proverb as each kid hops across.
3. Have the kids hop beside, not on top of the cards.
4. Play until all kids have hopped across the **cards**, or as time allows.

After each kid has had a turn, **PASS OUT** **bookmarks** and **markers**. Allow kids to draw a picture of themselves working hard at something on the back of their **bookmarks**.

While kids are coloring, **ASK**:

1. ***Today in large group, where did Zippy and Jordan get to go when they worked hard?*** (On a field trip to the aquarium floor.)
2. ***If we are lazy and do not work hard, will we get what we want?*** (No) ***God tells us that when we work hard, we'll get what we want! Does that make you want to work hard?*** (Allow responses)
3. ***What do we need to know today?*** (I Will Work Hard!)

USE **Filler Guide** to keep the kids engaged in small group.