

Water Kickball!

Lesson Idea:

Romans 12:12

“Be happy because of the hope you have. Be patient when you have troubles. Pray all the time.”

For this game you are going to have go through some challenges to get a home run. Some are easy and others might freeze your toes off.

Just because you become a Christian doesn't mean that nothing will ever go wrong. In fact, the Bible even says that we **will** suffer. It also says that when we suffer people will see Jesus in us. Our reaction by having faith, trusting Him, having peace when no else does – all show others who Jesus is.

What do you think is the best thing to do when you experience troubles? (*allow response*)

The Bible says in Romans 12:12: *“¹²Be happy because of the hope you have. Be patient when you have troubles. Pray all the time.”*

So one of the challenges that you will have to do is fish out a fish from the iced water – using your toes!

(The demonstrator then sits on the chair by the ice fishing base and takes quite a while to get a fish while the leader continues to talk. He can complain and become impatient etc.)

Does the leader look like he is going through some trouble?

Does he look happy?

What would happen if he gave up? Would he catch the fish? No, he needs to be patient and he needs to be persistent. As then ... he will catch a fish.

But let's not forget the last part of that verse... PRAY ALL THE TIME

Jesus taught us that we need to be persistent in praying. That means not asking just once, not asking only twice but to keep asking and asking and ASKING. In Luke 18:1-8 we can read a parable that Jesus told about a widow who went to an unjust judge and asked for his help. The judge didn't want to help the widow and sent her away... but the widow kept on asking and asking and ASKING, until eventually the judge gave her what she wanted. Jesus told this story to teach us that asking and asking will even make a person who does not love or care for you eventually give you what you want. So imagine how much more our God, who loves us, will do for us when we ask.

So at each station we are going to say a different part of the verse so that we will remember what to do the next time we face a challenge.

Items needed:

- Kick ball
- Mask/goggles
- Wide bucket with laminated portion of the verse stuck to the bottom and filled with water
- Large deep bucket with plastic fish that can sink and bags of ice
- Mini inflatable pool with bubble liquid and bubble blowers in it. Bubble machine optional.
- Slip n Slide (hired or even a large plastic sheet) with bubble bath and a hosepipe for continuous water supply)
- 2 x hula hoops for the starting points of the bowler and kicker

Game instructions:

Link to video demonstration: <https://youtu.be/gN0YWTdG4hY>

1. Set the playing field up similar to baseball, with 4 bases, a hula hoop (home base) for the kicker and a hula hoop in the middle for the bowler.
2. Divide players into two equal teams, a fielding team and a kicking team.
3. One of the fielders roll or lightly throw the ball to the first kicker. That player then kicks the ball and runs to first base.
4. When the second person kicks and runs to first base, the first kicker makes their way to second base. And so on...
5. The fielding team must try and catch the ball when it is kicked. If they catch the child out, that child must go to the back of the line and go again.
6. Let each child have a turn to kick the ball, and then swap teams. Or put a time limit for each team. The team with the most fish in the bucket is the winner.
7. Here are some base options but get creative and use what you have.
 - 1st base – scuba diving: (using a mask dunk your head in the bucket of water and sea creatures and read the portion of the verse that is stuck on the bottom
“Romans 12:12 Be happy because of the hope you have)

- 2nd base – ice fishing: (sit on the chair and grab a fish out of the ice water and into the tin with their toes and say “Be patient when you have troubles”)
- 3rd base – blow bubbles: stand in the bubbles of the bubble machine. Blow your own bubbles as you say, “Pray all the time”.
- 4th base – slide home on the Slip n Slide.

