

Week One – DAY 1

Eyes on Jesus

Activity: For fun, first look at the black symbols only. Then refocus on the white space between the black symbols to see Jesus. (Use with permission by Shari Abbott of reasonsforhopeJesus.com)



Game: Paper Plate Powerball (<https://ministrytoyouth.com/youth-group-games-jesus/>)

SUPPLIES

Paint stir sticks – enough for each family member who plans to play

Heavy-duty paper plates for each player

Stapler (to attach plates to sticks)

A trash can or paint bucket for each player (be creative by using something for the balloons to be hit into for a goal)

5 different colored balloons for each player

HOW TO PLAY THE GAME

Remember you can create variations to make it work for you family and environment.

Give each player the paint stir stick with a strong paper plate stapled to it. (Be sure the bottom of the plate is facing outward). This is their paddle.

For the game setup, place 4 trashcans or whatever goal you're using around the room or at one end of the room if you're do it as a relay.

Inflate the 5 colored balloons for each player. Be sure to have some extra in case a balloon pops.

When the game begins, each player will use his/her "paddle" to try and hit his/her colored balloon into their trash can, bucket, or whatever it is you are using for the goals.

Every time a player gets a balloon in the bucket or can, they get one point.

After the game, say:

This game was all about getting to the goal, right? Once you had a balloon near your paddle, you stayed focused until you got it into the can! You were determined to get to the goal! Can you imagine having that same determination in keeping your eyes on Jesus, focusing on Him every day.

Read (The Message):

Hebrews 12:2 ---- Keep your eyes on *Jesus*, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's *there*, in the place of honor, right alongside God.

Matthew 6:22 ---- Your eyes are windows into your body. If you open your eyes wide in wonder and belief, your body fills up with light.

Questions:

1. What do you think it means to "keep your eyes on Jesus..." a staring contest, an act of judging Him, or giving Him our full attention or hearts?
2. Make a list of ways you can stay focused on Jesus.
3. Based on your list, what is one more thing you can do that you're not already doing or could do better at staying focused on Jesus?

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for loving me so much. Help me to _____ so that I can keep my eyes on You better. In Jesus' name, Amen

