**May 17, 2020**

**Acts 3:1 – 4:21**

**Even When**

**What You Need:** ping-pong ball (or similar sized ball/object), objects to carry ball (spatula, spoon, chopsticks, jumbo straw, etc.)

**What You Do:**

* Instruct everyone to sit in a circle.
* Choose one person to go first.
* Give that person a ping-pong ball and something to carry the ball with (spatula, spoon, chopsticks, etc.).
* Ask them to carry the ball around the circle.
* After they make it once around the circle, they will tag someone else to be “It.”
* The next person will carry the ball as well but with a different item.
* If/when they drop the ball, give an “Even When” question and talk about how they can show determination even when something tough happens.
  + *Note: It’s okay if a lot of the kids’ responses are simply, “Keep doing the thing you started.” The idea is to get them thinking about all the different opportunities they have to buckle down and show determination.*
* Continue rotating items and taking turns until all players have had a chance to walk around the circle.

**Even When Questions:**

1. You’ve been asked to watch your younger sister for the next hour. How can you show determination EVEN WHEN your sister keeps getting into cabinets she’s not supposed to?
2. Your teacher is picking out your partner that you must complete a project with. How can you show determination EVEN WHEN she pairs you up with a kid who doesn’t usually try very hard?
3. Your gym teacher is having everyone run a mile today. How can you show determination EVEN WHEN you are super tired?
4. Your recital is coming up and the piece you’re supposed to play has some hard sections to learn. How can you show determination EVEN WHEN you have to keep practicing the same thing over and over again?
5. You want to go outside and play with your friends. How can you show determination EVEN WHEN you have a ton of homework to do first?
6. It’s your turn to clean up after dinner. How can you show determination EVEN WHEN your little brother got his spaghetti all over the table?
7. You’re having a hard time with free throws in basketball. How can you show determination EVEN WHEN you miss most of the shots you take?
8. You’re folding laundry, but the pile doesn’t seem to be getting any smaller. How do you show determination EVEN WHEN you are so ready to be done with chores?

**What You Say:**

“Isn’t it so hard to continue what we started when things go wrong? How did you feel when the ping-pong ball fell off whatever you were holding it with? Whatever hurdle comes your way, it is always worth it to finish what we started. Let’s decide that this week, we are going to keep going even when it gets tough.”

**Close in Prayer**

“God, we want to thank You for not just telling us that we can stay determined in the tough times but also that You help us stay determined through Your Holy Spirit. We thank You for the stories of people like Peter and John who remind us of this truth. Give us the strength to keep going even when it gets tough!”