

GROUP CONNECT Guide (10 mins)

Connect

This activity helps kids get to know each other and learn the Motion rules.

You'll Need:

- Painter's tape

Instructions

1. **Make** a line down the center of the eGroup space with the painter's tape.
2. **Read** this question and encourage kids to answer by choosing a side: "Which Easter treat do you like best?"
 - Side 1: Chocolate eggs
 - Side 2: Jelly beans
3. Once all kids have chosen a side, tell kids to introduce themselves to at least two other kids on the same side. They should share their name and why they chose their answer.
4. If time allows, **repeat** for this question: "Which of these would you hope to do someday?"
 - Side 1: Travel to a foreign country
 - Side 2: Break a world record
5. **Review** the three Motion rules:
 1. **Jump in!** What can you do to help yourself stay engaged in the Motion experience? (*participate in discussions, games, and activities; worship enthusiastically; have a great attitude*)
 2. **Listen up!** How can you show respect to others? (*listen to and follow leaders' directions, stay quiet when others are talking*)
 3. **ACT out!** ACT stands for **A**ccept others, **C**hoose kindness, and **T**ake responsibility. How can your actions help others have a great experience?" (*intentionally include everyone, use kind words, keeping my hands to myself, owning my actions*)

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BIBLE CONNECT Guide (10 mins)

Bible Connect

This activity helps kids open their Bibles and learn what the Bible says.

Activity Objective

Kids learn how to use a Bible, find different passages in a Bible, and read what God's Word says.

You'll Need:

- Bibles (1 per kid)

Instructions

1. **Give** each kid a Bible and instruct kids to turn to Matthew 26:47. **NOTE:** *This may take time, but it helps kids learn skills for reading the Bible on their own. If needed, encourage kids to use the table of contents in their Bible, and then decide if the book is in the Old or New Testament.*
2. **Read** Matthew 26:47-50 aloud.
3. Repeat for the following passages:
 - Matthew 26:57,59-66
 - Matthew 27:27-31
 - Matthew 27:50
4. **Explain:**
 - It's hard to read the early parts of this story. Jesus had to go through so much pain and suffering to take the punishment for our sins. The whole situation must have seemed pretty hopeless.
 - The story doesn't end there, though! Three days after He died on the cross and was buried in a tomb, Jesus came back to life! He did something no one else can do and proved that He keeps His promises, no matter how big or impossible they may seem.
 - We can still trust Jesus will always keep His promises to us. He is alive and wants to have a relationship with each of us. We can have hope because Jesus is alive!

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Icebreaker Question (LG)

Would you rather eat a chocolate egg filled with guacamole or cottage cheese?

ACTIVITY Guide (10 minutes)

Guess the Mess

This activity reminds us that God can overcome all of our messes.

Activity Objective

Teams will race to guess images that relate to messes we might experience in our everyday lives.

You'll Need

- Whiteboards (4), dry erase markers (4), activity cards (1 set of 4)

Instructions

1. **Explain** teams will race to guess what images are being drawn on the whiteboards. Each image will relate to some kind of mess we experience in our everyday lives.
2. **Divide** kids into four teams. Give one kid on each team a whiteboard and a dry erase marker. This kid is the first artist.
3. **Show** the image on the first activity card ONLY to the artists. At your signal, encourage all artists to **draw** the image on their whiteboards while their teams try to **guess** what they're drawing before other teams guess it.
4. **Tell** the first team who guesses correctly to tally a point in the corner of their whiteboard, then **read** the prompt from the back of that activity card. **Encourage** kids to respond.
5. **Tell** teams to choose a new artist.
6. **Repeat** with the next activity card.
7. **Explain:**
 - All messes have consequences. It may be a punishment for the mess, or you could miss out on something because of it.
 - The consequence for our sin is being separated from God after we die.
 - When Jesus died on the cross, He took the consequence for our messes. Because Jesus died and came back to life, our sins can be forgiven and our messes can be cleaned up!
 - Before Jesus can clean up your mess, you have to make a decision to believe in Him and follow Him.
 - When we choose to believe in Jesus and follow Him, He can make something beautiful out of the messes in our lives. We can have hope because Jesus is alive!
8. **Say, "Some of you have already made the decision to follow Jesus, and that's awesome! But some of you might have more questions about how Jesus can help clean up your mess and what it means to follow Him. If you'd like to talk more about how you can follow Jesus and the hope He can give you, raise your hand."** (Place a check mark beside each of these kids' names on your check-in sheet.)

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 - Before Jesus can clean up your mess, you have to make a decision to believe in Him and follow Him. Raise your hand if you've already made the decision to follow Jesus. (Make note of these kids so they do not go to the Next Level eGroup.)
 - When we choose to believe in Jesus and follow Him, He can make something beautiful out of the messes in our lives. We can have hope because Jesus is alive!
8. **Say, "We're going to have a separate group for any kids who want to know more about making the decision to follow Jesus. Do any of you want to go to this group?"** (Place a check mark beside each of these kids' names on your check-in sheet.)

DISCUSSION Guide (10 mins)

Choose questions for your eGroup.

1. Which part of the message stuck out to you most?
2. Have you ever made a huge mess? What happened?
3. Read the **point** (We can have hope because Jesus is alive.). What do you think that means? (*When we believe Jesus is alive and wants a relationship with us, He can give us hope that carries us through tough situations, etc.*)
4. How is your sin like a mess? (*It can seem overwhelming to try to fix it or clean it up; it's discouraging; the consequences can cause us to miss out on great things, etc.*)
5. Read Isaiah 40:31.
"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."
How can this verse encourage you when you're facing a mess?
6. We can find hope when we have a relationship with Jesus. How has Jesus helped you have hope?
7. Take prayer requests and pray for your kids.

Leader Notes/Announcements

*Remind kids to bring their Bible to Motion next week for a Bible prize.

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