



LIFESKILLS GAME

“Simon Says”

This game is a fun way to help students understand how to listen well to others. **If you choose to spend more time doing the Prayer Path activity, then you may skip this game.**

What do we need?

- Nothing

How do we play?

Classic Simon Says

1. Line up the group across from you, 10 to 20 feet away.
2. Tell the players that they should all obey you if you first say the words "Simon says."
3. Tell them that they are out of the game if they follow an order that doesn't begin with "Simon says," or if they fail to do what Simon says to do.
4. Begin by saying something like, "Simon says, put your hands on your head."
5. Continue giving orders. Mix it up and give commands randomly without saying "Simon says."
6. The students who do what you say even when you don't use the "Simon says" command are out.
7. Play until one person is left. They are the winner.
8. You could let that person give the commands for the next round.

Getting Tricky

1. Give the orders fast, in rapid succession.
2. Cut the orders short, saying, "Simon says, do this," and make the motion you want mimicked, such as putting your hands on your shoulders.
3. Do this step several times with a different command each time.
4. Quickly say "Do this," and make the motion -- put your hands on your waist, for example. Many players will automatically follow your lead (and end up out of the game).
5. Relax and say something like "Straighten up the line," in a casual manner. Again, several players will comply (and they'll be out).
6. Single out specific players, especially older ones who are harder to fool. Say, "Chris, move back (or up) a step." They might fall for it.
7. Ask a question every now and then. Point and ask, "What's your name again?" If the person answers, he's out.
8. Keep the pace moving fast.

ROOTS CLOSE

Okay, so tonight we learned that prayer is both talking to God and listening to God. It's basically being in communication with Him and building your relationship with Him. It's so much more than just asking God for things. It's also thanking Him for things and listening to what He wants for your life.

One thing you need to know is that God always hears your prayers--100% of the time. And He will always answer your prayers. It just may not always be what you want in that moment. But He will always answer you in one of three ways:

- One: He will say yes and you will see your prayer answered.
- Two: He will say no, because He knows what is best for you.
- Three: He will say wait, because He knows when the right time is.

Even if He says *NO* or *WAIT*, He is still answering us and doing what is best for us. We just need to do what is said in **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** (*Read it out loud*).

We need to be talking to God and listening to Him all the time--not just at bedtime or before meals--but all the time, in every circumstance, and before making decisions.

So try to focus on communicating with God this week and give Him thanks often.

(Pray for the students)

VIDEO: ROOTS SEGMENT 5

CHALLENGE/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Insert any announcements that pertain to your particular campus.

Focus on talking to God and listening to Him every day this week.

HANGOUT

WEEK 27

PRAYER IS ABOUT COMMUNICATING WITH GOD

HANGOUT (15 minutes)

ROOTS VIDEO-Segment 1 (1:00)

WORSHIP (20 minutes)

ROOTS VIDEO-Segment 2 (:58)

GAME TIME (15-20 min) **(or 30-40 min)**

ROOTS VIDEO-Segment 3 (2:18)

TALK IT OVER (20 min)

ROOTS VIDEO-Segment 4 (5:07)

LIFESKILLS CLOSE (3 min)

LIFESKILLS GAME (15-20 min) **(or skip this game)**

ROOTS CLOSE (3 min)

ROOTS VIDEO-Segment 5 (:53)

CHALLENGE/ANNOUNCEMENTS (2 min)

HANGOUT (15 min)



HANGOUT

VIDEO: ROOTS SEGMENT 1

WORSHIP

VIDEO: ROOTS SEGMENT 2

GAME TIME

“Prayer Path ”

An exercise in praying to God. Prayer is talking to God as well as listening to God. Prayer allows us to understand God’s will and then live in it. We need to be in continual prayer with God just like in a relationship (how good is a friend if you don’t talk with them and listen to them?). **You may choose to spend more time on this activity. If you’d prefer to let students spend more time at the prayer stations, then allow for 30-40 minutes for this activity, and skip the lifeskills game tonight.**

What do we need?

See Roots Week 27 instruction sheet

How do we play?

See Roots Week 27 instruction sheet

VIDEO: ROOTS SEGMENT 3

TALK IT OVER

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. How would you define prayer?
2. Tell about a time when you prayed for something and you saw God answer it?
3. If you could pray for anything in your life right now what would it be and why?
4. Does God always answer our prayers? If so, how? If not, why not?
5. How often do you pray? Do you feel like you pray enough or do you feel like you need to pray more? Why?
6. Open up your Bible or Bible App to **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18** and read it together as a group.
7. What do you think it means to pray continually?
8. What is one thing you need to pray continually for this week?

VIDEO: ROOTS SEGMENT 4

LIFESKILLS CLOSE

Listening to others well is a great lifeskill to have because it shows people that you value them and what they have to say.

It’s easy to focus on ourselves and what’s going on in our world, but the Bible says in James 1:19 NIV . . . *Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry, . . .*

So try to listen first to others and what they have to say. Respond after you’ve really heard what they said. Be genuinely interested in what they have to say and what’s going on in their lives.

(Say this next part ONLY if you’re PLAYING the lifeskills game)

So let’s see who is the best listener is in here with this week’s Lifeskills game . . .

If you have chosen to skip the lifeskills game, now you will just move right into the Roots Close.

Next Up: LIFESKILLS GAME

Continued on back . . .