



## Week 4 – The Winner’s Crown: Keeping the Faith

- Bible Story: Finish the race, keep the faith (2 Timothy 4:7–8)
- Key Discovery: Finishing with Jesus is the greatest prize.
- Takeaway: I can always: Keep trusting Jesus when it’s hard, knowing He rewards faithfulness.

**Video Bible Stories:** Use this link to access recommended Bible story videos and bonus content for this curriculum series. <https://linktr.ee/WinterGamesLessons>

**Parent Connect:** Print extra copies of this overview page to share with the families in your ministry.



# Week 4 – Supply List

---

## **Group Game: Endurance Challenge**

- Open space for movement
- Stopwatch or timer (optional)

## **Object Lesson: Finish Line Tape**

- Long strip of paper, ribbon, or crepe streamer (finish line tape)
- Open space for a child to run through

## **Bible Story**

- Bible (for reading 2 Timothy 4:7–8)

## **Craft Activity: Crown of Life Craft**

- Strips of yellow or gold construction paper (2–3 per child)
- Tape or stapler
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers, gems, or star cutouts (optional)
- Scissors

## **Word Search & Coloring Page**

- Printed word search handouts (provided below, 1 per child)
- Printed coloring page (provided below, 1 per child)
- Crayons or colored pencils

# Introduction Game (5 minutes)

## Endurance Challenge

---

### Supplies Needed:

- Open space for standing and moving
- Stopwatch or timer (optional)

**TEACHER:** At the Winter Games, athletes have to keep going even when they feel tired. That's called *endurance*. In today's Bible story, Paul talks about finishing the race of faith strong. Let's test our endurance with a fun challenge!

### How to Play:

1. Have all kids spread out so they have space.
2. Explain that you'll call out a pose for them to hold as long as possible.
  - Examples: stand on one leg like a flamingo, hold arms straight out, squat low, or balance on tiptoes.
3. When you say "Go," kids hold the pose.
4. See who can last the longest. Use a stopwatch or count out loud.
5. After a round, let everyone rest and then try a new pose.
6. Play a few different endurance challenges.

**Debrief:** That was tough! Your muscles probably got tired, but you didn't give up right away. The Bible says that following Jesus is like a race—we keep going, even when it's hard. And the best part? Jesus gives us strength to finish, and at the end, He promises us the crown of life!

# Object Lesson (5 minutes)

## Finish Line Tape

---

### Supplies Needed:

- Long strip of paper, ribbon, or crepe streamer (to use as finish line tape)
- Open space for a child to run through

### TEACHER:

*Stretch the paper/ribbon across the front like a finish line.*

Every race has a finish line. Athletes train for years just to cross it and celebrate. The Apostle Paul wrote in **2 Timothy 4:7–8**, “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness.”

*Choose a volunteer to run across the room and break through the tape.*

That’s what it feels like to finish! Paul said that following Jesus is like running a race. It’s not always easy, but the most important thing is to keep going—to keep trusting Jesus. And when we finish, God has an eternal reward for us that’s better than any medal.

**Debrief:** Crossing the finish line is exciting—but the real prize is being with Jesus forever. He gives us the strength to keep running and to finish strong.



# Bible Story (15 minutes)

## Finish the race, keep the faith (2 Timothy 4:7–8)

---

**Key Discovery:** Finishing with Jesus is the greatest prize.

**Takeaway:** I can always: Keep trusting Jesus when it's hard, knowing He rewards faithfulness.

**TEACHER:** Have you ever watched athletes cross the finish line and celebrate their victory? They train for years just for that one moment. In today's story, Paul talks about the finish line of his own life—not winning a gold medal, but finishing strong with Jesus.

Paul wrote his final letter to Timothy from prison. He knew his life was almost over, but instead of being sad, he was full of hope. Paul had spent his life sharing Jesus, and now he looked forward to the prize God promised him: the crown of righteousness.

**READ (NIV): 2 Timothy 4:7**

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”

Paul compared his life to a race. He didn't quit, even when it got hard. He kept trusting Jesus all the way.

**READ (NIV): 2 Timothy 4:8a** “Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—”

Athletes get medals or trophies, but Paul looked forward to something better: God's crown of righteousness, His reward for finishing with faith.

**READ (NIV): 2 Timothy 4:8b** “—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing.”

Paul's reward wasn't just for him. It's for everyone who follows Jesus and doesn't give up. That includes us!

**Summary:** Paul lived his life like a race for Jesus. He finished strong, and God promised him a crown. If we keep trusting Jesus, we'll share in His victory too.

**Gospel Connection:** Jesus already won the greatest victory—through His death and resurrection. Because of Him, we can finish the race of faith and look forward to eternal life with Him. The finish line isn't the end—it's the beginning of forever with Jesus.





# Discussion Questions & Prayer (5-10 minutes)

---

**TEACHER:** Today we learned that Paul finished his race of faith strong. He kept trusting Jesus, and God promised him a crown of righteousness. We can also finish the race when we keep our eyes on Jesus.

## **Discussion Questions :**

1. What did Paul mean when he said, "I have finished the race"?
2. What kind of "crown" did Paul say God gives His people?
3. How can we keep following Jesus, even when life gets hard?

## **Prayer Time:**

- Invite kids to share prayer requests—especially things that feel hard or make it difficult to follow Jesus.

*"God, thank You for Paul's example of finishing the race strong. Help us to keep trusting You, even when it's hard. Thank You for Jesus, who gives us the strength to finish and the reward of eternal life with You. Amen."*

# Word Search Puzzle

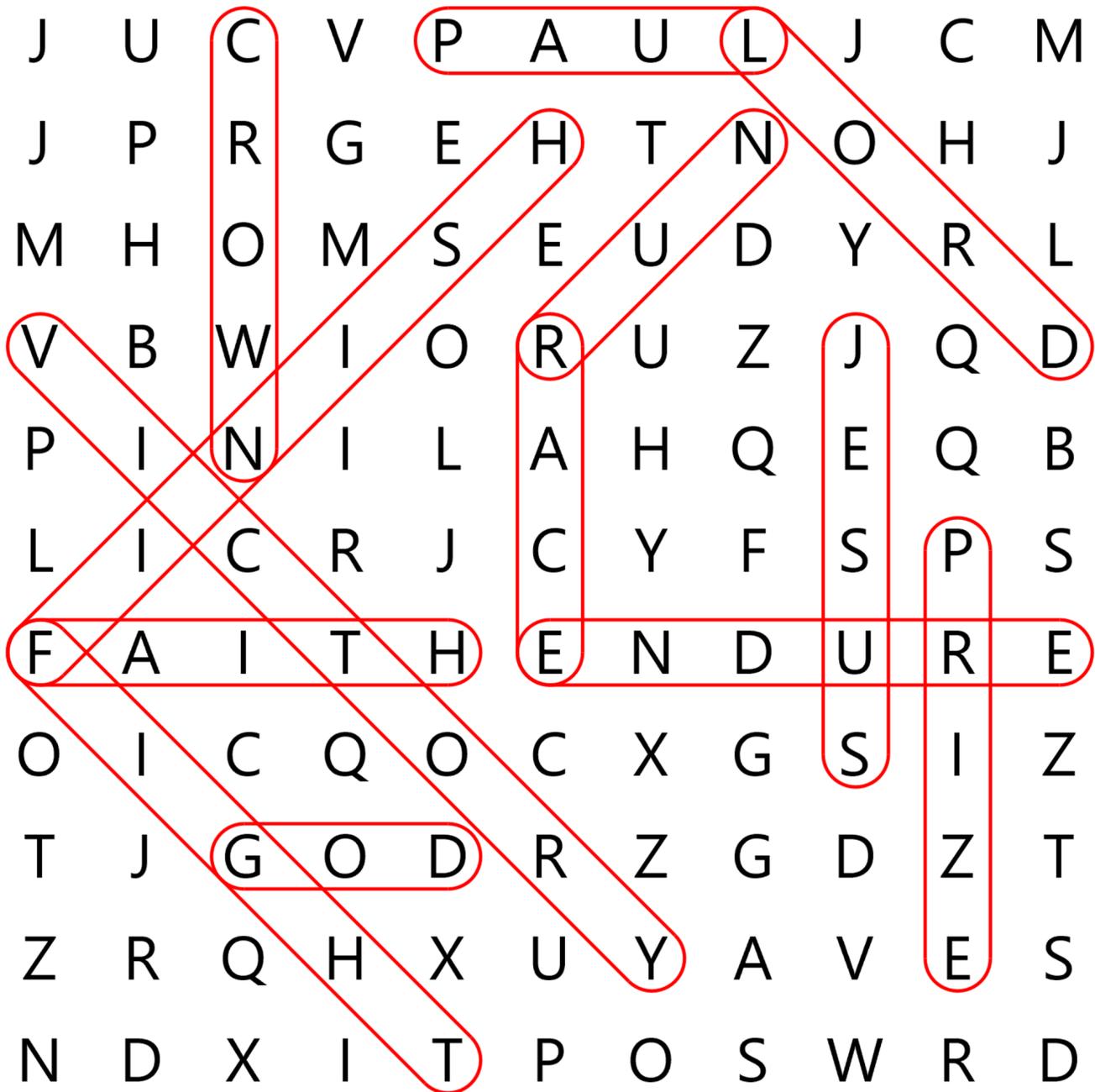
---

CROWN – ENDURE – FAITH – FINISH – FIGHT – GOD – JESUS

LORD – PAUL – PRIZE – RACE – RUN – VICTORY

J	U	C	V	P	A	U	L	J	C	M
J	P	R	G	E	H	T	N	O	H	J
M	H	O	M	S	E	U	D	Y	R	L
V	B	W	I	O	R	U	Z	J	Q	D
P	I	N	I	L	A	H	Q	E	Q	B
L	I	C	R	J	C	Y	F	S	P	S
F	A	I	T	H	E	N	D	U	R	E
O	I	C	Q	O	C	X	G	S	I	Z
T	J	G	O	D	R	Z	G	D	Z	T
Z	R	Q	H	X	U	Y	A	V	E	S
N	D	X	I	T	P	O	S	W	R	D

# Word Search Answers



# Craft Activity (5–10 minutes)

## Crown of Life

---

### Supplies Needed:

- Strips of yellow or gold construction paper (2–3 per child)
- Tape or stapler (to connect strips into a crown)
- Markers or crayons
- Stickers, gems, or star cutouts (optional for decoration)
- Scissors



**TEACHER:** Today we learned that Paul said he finished the race and looked forward to the crown of righteousness from God. Athletes win medals, but God gives His children a crown of life that lasts forever. Let's make a Crown of Life to remind us of that promise.

### How to Make It:

1. Give each child 2–3 strips of yellow or gold paper.
2. Help them tape or staple the strips into a circle to fit their head.
3. Let kids cut points along the top to make the crown shape.
4. Across the front, write: "Finish with Jesus" (badge phrase).
5. Decorate with colors, stickers, or gems.

**Debrief:** This crown is a reminder of the real reward—eternal life with Jesus. We don't run for trophies or medals that fade, but for the prize that lasts forever.