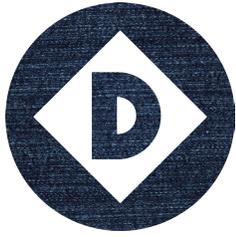


# DISCIPLES

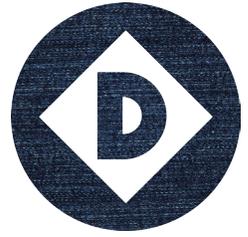


**“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.”**

**Matthew 7:24-25**



# Week 8



## TOPIC

**Faithfulness**

## DISCIPLE

**The Twelve**

## BIBLE STORY

**Disciples Desert Jesus  
Mark 14:43-50; 16:14-15**

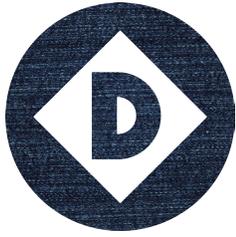
## TODAY'S TAKEAWAY

**I will follow Jesus to the end.**

## WEEKLY VERSE

**“If we are unfaithful, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny who he is.”**

**2 Timothy 2:13**



# Week 8



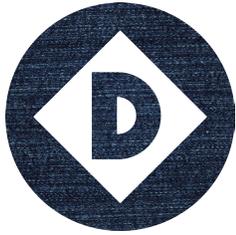
## SKIT

### Skit Information

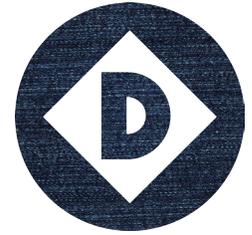
The skits will require two people. One person will play themselves (the straight character), and the other person will play the funny character. It works best if you can find a person willing to commit to being the character for the entire series.

### Character Bio

The character's name is Minion Maddie. If a male is playing the character consider calling them Minion Mark or Minion Matt. Minion Maddie loves minions so much that she decided she wants to become one herself. Her goal in life is to become more like a minion in every way. Consider putting your character in a yellow shirt, overalls, black shoes, black gloves, a yellow hat, and goggles. Extras: Add minion accessories, wear a minion shirt, decorate minion shoes, go all out.



# Week 8



## SKIT

**Leader:** It's our last week in our Disciples Series. I can't believe how much we have learned about becoming better disciples of Jesus!

**Minion Maddie:** *Comes in with a bunch of bananas.*

**Leader:** Oh, hi Maddie! That's a lot of bananas you have there.

**Minion Maddie:** Of course it is! Remember, last week I got promoted up to being a banana trainer. Now, I am training on how to use bananas for literally anything!

**Leader:** I'm not really sure about how bananas can be used for anything, but I am really glad you are enjoying your new job.

**Minion Maddie:** Training has been rigorous for my new position, but I am loving every minute of it.

**Leader:** So, now that you are in the last week of your minion training program, would you say that it was worth it? Are you glad you stuck with it even when you really wanted to quit, and thought you couldn't pick up even one more banana peel?

**Minion Maddie:** It has definitely been worth it! I have made so many new friends who also love minions, I have learned how to work hard at a job I didn't like, and I have learned that if you stay committed to doing what you love, it is so rewarding.

**Leader:** Wow! You really have learned a lot and grown through your eight weeks of minion training. Maybe it wasn't such a waste of time.

**Minion Maddie:** Definitely not!

**Leader:** It sounds like you have learned a lot about what it means to be faithful.

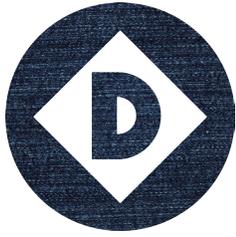
**Minion Maddie:** Sure have.... wait, what does faithful mean?

**Leader:** I'm glad you asked. We are actually finishing up our training on how to become better disciples of Jesus this week as well. Our last week is all about faithfulness. Faithfulness means that you are committed and willing to stick with someone or something no matter what. For you, that means finishing up your minion training. For us, that means we are willing to follow Jesus our whole entire lives.

**Minion Maddie:** That is a really long time to follow someone. Do you think you will ever mess up or get distracted?

**Leader:** Probably. None of us are perfect, but do you want to hear the good news?

**Minion Maddie:** Definitely!



# Week 8



## SKIT

**Leader:** Even when we mess up and let God down, He is always willing to forgive us and take us back. Another way of putting it is that even when we are unfaithful, God is faithful to us.

**Minion Maddie:** God definitely sounds like the kind of leader I want to follow. I definitely make some messes.

**Leader:** Well, I would love to teach you all about what I have been teaching the kids, Maddie. Now that you have finished up your minion training maybe you can come start your disciple training with me!

**Minion Maddie:** That sounds awesome! I can't wait!



# Week 8



## GAME: SPACE KILLER

### Supplies

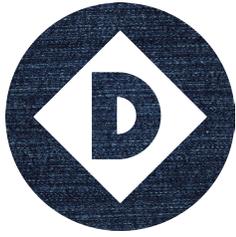
- Large piece of cardboard
- X-acto knife
- Long dowel rod/paint stirrer
- Paint/markers
- Nerf guns/Ping pong ball shooters
- Darts/ping pong balls
- Buckets
- Tape (for the floor)

### Setup

- This game is based off of the game the girls and Gru play at the carnival in the first Despicable Me movie. You will need to look up a picture of the space ship in the game, draw the shape in pencil on cardboard and cut it out with an x-acto knife. Then, draw/paint all the details of the spaceship.
- Once the spaceship is completely dry, attach it to the dowel rod/paint stirrer with hot glue or duct tape
- Fill two buckets with darts or ping pong balls.
- Put a strip of tape on the floor where you want the kids to start.

### How To Play

1. Choose two kids from each team to play.
2. The kids on the first team will be given nerf guns/ping pong ball shooters and a bucket of darts/ping pong balls.
3. A leader will stand about ten feet away from the kids holding the alien ship, moving it around.
4. The kids will have to stay behind the line of tape during the entire game.
5. Each team will have 1 minute to try to hit the alien ship with their nerf darts or ping pong balls.
6. The team that hits the space ship the most times wins.
7. Optional: Play additional rounds with new kids if time.



# Week 8



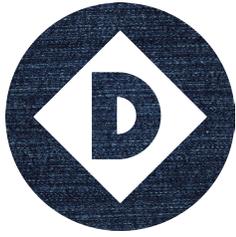
## MESSAGE

### Supplies

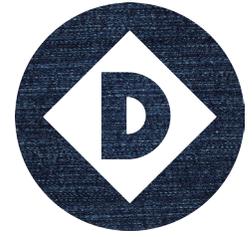
- A Bible in your preferred version (this curriculum uses the NLT version primarily)
- Minions Rescue Gru and Lucy Clip from Despicable Me 2 prepared (38:29-39:28)
- Large signs with strings with 12 disciples names on them.
- Small cup filled with water
- Large bowl
- Large playing card or index card (must cover the entire top of the cup you are using)

### Introduction

It's our last week in our Disciples Series! It has been a lot of fun learning about how we can become better disciples and followers of Jesus. We have learned so much from the individual disciples who followed Jesus, but today we are going to look at all twelve of Jesus' closest disciples. Many times in the Gospels, we see the disciples talked about as a group. Who can name some of Jesus' twelve disciples? *Allow kids to respond.* Great job. We may not know a lot about some of them individually, but we know that God chose this particular group of men for a reason. He was looking for disciples who would follow him faithfully to the end. What does faithfulness mean? *Allow kids to respond.* Faithfulness is all about being committed to something or someone, or being willing to stick with them when things get hard. The minions were pretty great examples of being faithful and committed to their leader. Let's check out this week's clip to see how faithful they were in a tough situation. *Play Minions Rescue Gru and Lucy Movie Clip.* When Gru and Lucy were in a jam and needed help, the minions were the first people Gru called. He knew that they would drop everything to come and help them. We can take some lessons from the minions about being faithful to our leader, God. It turns out the disciples needed some lessons on faithfulness too. Do you think Jesus' disciples were always faithful and committed to him? *Allow kids to respond.* What do you think it means to be fierce? *Allow kids to respond.* Well, let's see what happened with Jesus and his disciples right before He was about to die.



# Week 8

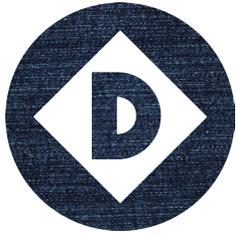


## MESSAGE

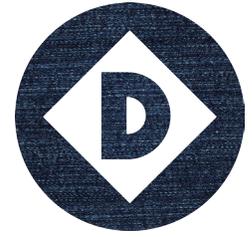
### Bible Story

If you have your Bibles, turn with me to Mark 14:43-50. At this point, Jesus is almost to the end of his time of ministry on Earth. We are going to need all twelve disciples for today's story. *Choose 12 kids to come up and put the signs around their necks introducing each disciple to the group and have them act out the story.* He had just told his disciples over dinner that he was about to be betrayed and killed. After dinner, Jesus took his disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane for one last prayer session. The disciples struggled to stay awake to pray with Jesus, and actually fell asleep! Can you believe that? Jesus wakes them up to tell them that he is about to be betrayed. Let's see what happens in verses 43-50. "And immediately, even as Jesus said this, Judas, one of the twelve disciples, arrived with a crowd of men armed with swords and clubs. They had been sent by the leading priests, the teachers of religious law, and the elders. The traitor, Judas, had given them a prearranged signal: 'You will know which one to arrest when I greet him with a kiss. Then you can take him away under guard.' As soon as they arrived, Judas walked up to Jesus. 'Rabbi!' he exclaimed, and gave him the kiss. Then the others grabbed Jesus and arrested him. But one of the men with Jesus pulled out his sword and struck the high priest's slave, slashing off his ear. Jesus asked them, "Am I some dangerous revolutionary, that you come with swords and clubs to arrest me? Why didn't you arrest me in the Temple? I was there among you teaching every day. But these things are happening to fulfill what the Scriptures say about me.' Then all his disciples deserted him and ran away."

I always find this passage so confusing. When you think about all the twelve disciples have been through with Jesus: hearing His teachings, seeing His miracles, seeing Him raise people from the dead, and showing up the Pharisees, and they all left Him in his time of need. One of them, Judas, even led the men who wanted to kill Jesus directly to him. So, why did Jesus pick twelve disciples who He knew were going to desert Him in his time of need? Well, I think one reason is that He wanted us to know that no one is going to be perfect. Even Jesus' chosen twelve disciples messed up, got distracted, fell asleep while praying, and even abandoned Jesus. However, I'm thankful that's not the end of the story. Judas made the decision to completely turn his back on Jesus and hung himself instead of returning to ask for forgiveness. *Have Judas take off his sign and sit down.* The other eleven disciples were still around waiting for Jesus. Let's fast forward to after Jesus died and rose from the dead, to right before he went back up to heaven. Mark 16:14-15 says, "Still later he appeared to the eleven disciples as they were eating



# Week 8

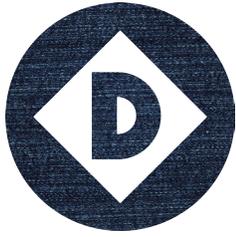


## MESSAGE

together. He rebuked them for their stubborn unbelief because they refused to believe those who had seen him after he had been raised from the dead. And then he told them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.’” Even after the disciples abandoned Jesus and refused to believe that he had raised from the dead, Jesus still remained faithful to them. He came back to them and gave them one of the biggest jobs in all of history, to go into all the world and tell everyone about him. Jesus knew that the disciples wanted to follow him, and they could be faithful which such a huge task. Guess what? He was right! Each of the remaining eleven disciples went out and did exactly what Jesus told them to. It was definitely not easy at all, but they were committed to faithfully spread the good news about Jesus to the end. Each of the eleven disciples except for John were killed because of their faith. They were beaten, burned, stoned, stabbed, and even crucified just like Jesus. They proved that they were willing to follow Jesus faithfully to the end. Let’s give our disciples a hand. *Allow the kids to go have a seat.*

### Life Application/Object Lesson

The disciples may not have been perfect, but they were still a great example for us on how to follow Jesus faithfully. We will not always be perfect, and we may even be tempted or distracted from following God. The good news is, God is always faithful to us and willing to forgive us even when we are unfaithful. The Bible says in 2 Timothy 2:13, “If we are unfaithful, he remains faithful, for he cannot deny who he is.” *Pull out the cup of water, bowl and card. Hold up the cup of water.* Even when we want to walk away from God or pretend like we are not Christians, God is faithful to us. *Stick the card on the cup and turn it upside down.* He will stick with us, and wait for us to return to following him. When we are faithful in following God, other people will see that in the way we act and the things we say. We will not be able to keep it to ourselves, we will want to share Jesus with others. When other people make fun of us because of what we believe or disagree, we won’t back down. Let’s pray and ask God to help us to be faithful in following Him in everything we say and do. *Optional: After you pray offer a prayer of salvation for anyone who has not accepted Jesus into their life.*



# Week 8



## GAME: MAKE A MINION RELAY

### Supplies

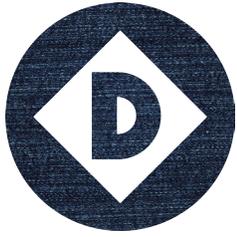
- Large piece of cardboard
- Yellow, white, blue, and black foam sheets, poster board, or card stock
- Velcro strips
- Markers (black, brown, and silver)
- Optional: Obstacle course supplies (cones, scooters, pool noodles, hula hoops, etc)

### Setup

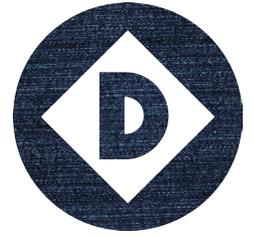
- Make two minion bodies out of yellow poster board and hot glue or tape them to the piece of cardboard.
- Create all the minion accessories using foam sheets, poster board or card stock. Minion pieces: gloves, shoes, goggles/eyes, mouths, overalls, pockets. See picture on next page.
- Attach velcro strips to the backs of all the pieces and the minion bodies.
- Create an obstacle course using whatever you have on hand for the kids to navigate with their minion pieces, with the piece of cardboard with the minion bodies at the end of it.

### How To Play

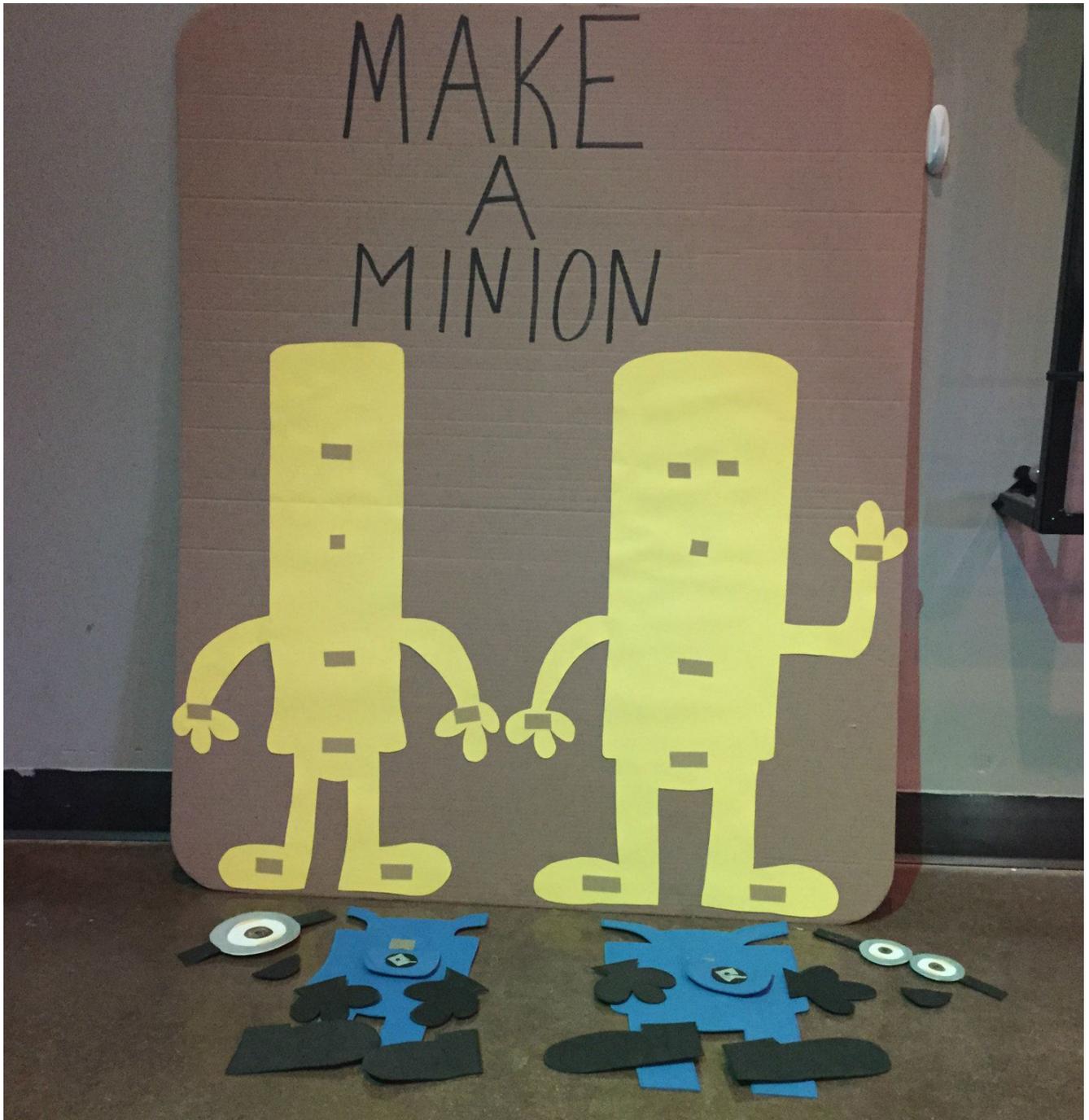
1. Choose 8 kids from each team.
2. Have the kids line up single file in their teams behind the obstacle course.
3. Kids will race one by one through the obstacle course with one piece of the minion to attach it to their minion. Then, they will race back through the obstacle course to tag the next kid on their team.
4. Keep playing until one team has assembled their entire minion.
5. Optional: To make the game harder, have the kids crawl, ride a scooter, or even be blindfolded for the relay race.

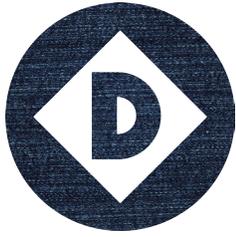


# Week 8



## GAME: MAKE A MINION RELAY



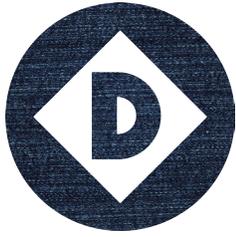


# Week 8



## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What does faithfulness mean to you?
2. Give an example of what it means to be a faithful friend.
3. Do you think it is easy or hard to be committed to following God? Why?
4. What is something you can do to show others that you are faithful in following God?
5. Optional: Look up these verses about faithfulness and discuss them as a group.
  - 1 Samuel 12:24
  - Luke 16:10
  - Psalm 119:89-90
  - 2 Timothy 2:13



# Week 8



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

**1. What is the name of our current series?**

**Answer: Disciples**

**2. What was the name of Jesus' disciple who betrayed him?**

**Answer: Judas**

**3. What did the disciples do in the garden when Jesus was arrested?**

**Answer: deserted him/ran away**

**4. What is Today's Takeaway?**

**Answer: I will follow Jesus to the end.**

**5. How many of Jesus' 12 disciples ended up dying for their faith in him?**

**Answer: 10**