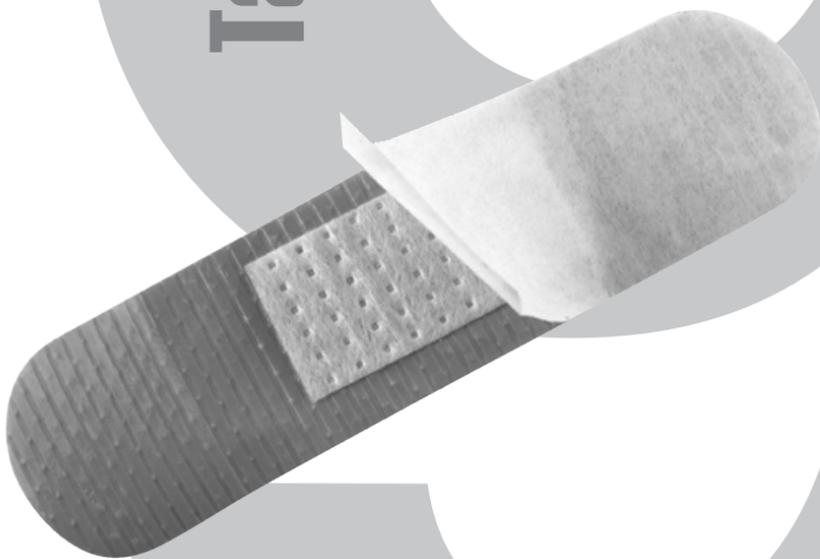


# Take a Risk



## **What if I Don't Like It?**

*Key Faith Foundation:* God Is Good

*Key Scriptures:* Exodus 16:1-15; Deuteronomy 1:26-46;  
Psalm 116:1-8; Romans 8:28

**grapple schedule** (see pages 4-5 for descriptions)

5 minutes	grapple community
10-15 minutes	grapple games and clues
10 minutes	grapple time
15 minutes	grapple team time
10 minutes	grapple team reports
5 minutes	grapple prayer and dare

 **Supplies** Bibles, *Grapple* DVD, DVD player, Christian music CD, CD player, copy of the Grapple Team Guide for each person, paper, pencils, paper plates, gross looking foods (see page 57), modeling clay

**grapple community:** 5 minutes

Play Christian music as kids enjoy snacks and friendship, and then play an opening countdown from the *Grapple* DVD to wrap up Grapple Community time.

**grapple games:** 10-15 minutes

Lead kids in the games they chose ahead of time at [mygrapple.com](http://mygrapple.com).

**grapple clues**

Have kids write the answers to this week's Grapple Clues. Award points for each correct answer. (Answers in parentheses are samples.) The winning team gets the Grapple Button (see page 5).

**CLUE 1** [395 points]: **Discover in the Bible two people who didn't want to do something God asked them to do.** (*Jonah in Jonah 1; Moses in Exodus 3*)

**CLUE 2** [462 points]: **Find one example in the Bible of God asking people to eat something kind of weird.** (*Asking Ezekiel to eat bread baked over human dung in Ezekiel 4; asking the Israelites to eat manna in Exodus 16*)

**CLUE 3** [294 points]: **Find someone in your Grapple Team who had to eat something weird this week.**

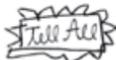
**CLUE 4** [174 points]: **Discover one other person in our class who's done something you think is risky—rock climbing or riding an upside-down roller coaster, for example.**

**GET READY** ▶ Prepare “risky” foods, such as boogers (melted Cheez Whiz mixed with drops of green food coloring), mud (Oreo cookies mashed into pudding), eyeballs (peeled grapes in gelatin), or kitty litter (smashed vanilla wafers combined with cut-up Tootsie Rolls)! Prepare as many food items as you want, depending on your time, number of kids, and classroom situation. Put at least one serving of each food type on each group’s plate.

**ALLERGY  
ALERT**  
see page 5

Divide kids into groups of four or five, and lead the entire class in the following:

**How many of you have watched *Fear Factor*? Pause. On the show, people compete by doing risky activities such as swimming in icy water, riding a bull blindfolded, or walking a tightrope. But lots of times, the risky activity involves eating something really, really gross. Today we’re going to play our own risky *Fear Factor* game! Each of you will take a turn eating a risky food. Show kids what the foods are. The goal is to have each person in your group eat at least one of the food items so that by the time your group is done, the plate is empty. Once your group has eaten all the food, you can sit on the floor.** Give groups time to strategize about who will eat which food items. Then shout “Go!” and let kids play until all groups are seated.



*What was hard or easy about eating the food? Which was the riskiest food? Why? Why do you think people like or don’t like taking risks?*



*What are some risky things you’ve had to do in real life? Tell about a time you didn’t want to do something risky, but you did it anyway because you thought it was the right thing to do or because God was asking you to do it.*

**Eating gross-looking foods isn’t as risky as some of the things God asks us to do in real life. Sometimes God asks us to step out of our comfort zones and do something that seems really scary and crazy. But why does God ask us to do that? Does God want something bad to happen to us? Does God expect us to do things we don’t like? Let’s grapple with that.**

**grapple team time:** 15 minutes

Break into Grapple Teams. Encourage Grapple Team leaders to check in with kids about their week. Grapple Team leaders will facilitate discussion, using the Grapple Team Guide on pages 59-60. Afterward, kids will report what they learned.

**grapple team reports:** 10 minutes

At the end of Grapple Team Time, match Grapple Teams that chose Option 1 with Grapple Teams that chose Option 2 from page 60. Have teams present their reports.

**grapple prayer:** 5 minutes

Read the Grapple Prayer options. Have the class choose one prayer option that everyone will do. Allow kids time to pray about what they discovered. Then close in prayer.

**Option 1:** *Expression Prayers*

**Make facial expressions as you pray and talk to God about taking a risk and trusting him.**

**Option 2:** *Leap of Faith Prayers*

**Pray about something that seems scary that you think God has asked you to do. Then leap as far as you can before saying "amen."**

**grapple dare**

**It can be scary when God asks us to take a risk, to step out of our comfort zone and do something we don't like. But we can trust that God is good and God will work all things for good. Not every situation will be easy or fun, but we can know that God is right there with us in the midst of that situation. This week, I dare you to take that risk for God and trust God to be with you. I dare you to trust that God is good, faithful, and trustworthy and that God wouldn't ask you to take a risk if he didn't have a good reason.**

**Remember to go to [mygrapple.com](http://mygrapple.com) this week to choose the opening games for next week, look for Grapple Clues to win the Grapple Button, play an online game, and connect with each other—and me.**

## grapple team guide

In your Grapple Team, use this guide to grapple with today's question.



*What's something you don't want to do that you're afraid God might ask you to do?*

### **Read Deuteronomy 1:26-46.**

The Israelites chickened out and decided not to go to the Promised Land. Based on this passage, why do you or don't you think God will allow you to avoid a risk just because you don't like it? How did God respond to the Israelites when they refused to take a risk for him?

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Have you ever been too nervous to take a risk you knew God wanted you to take? What happened? How do you think God will respond to you if you don't take a risk? if you take a risk but end up not liking the consequences?

### **Read Exodus 16:1-15.**

What risks did the Israelites take when they followed God out of Egypt? Why do you think God asked the Israelites to leave Egypt? How did God provide for the Israelites in this passage? What good and bad things came from following God?



*Describe to your partner what you think manna might have tasted like. Then use the clay to create what you think manna looked like. Why do you think the Israelites had a hard time trusting that God would help them out of their risky situation? When do you have a hard time believing God will help you out in risky situations?*

**Read Psalm 116:1-8.**

What did the author of these verses discover about God in the middle of a scary situation? Which character traits of God are most praised in these verses? What can you remember from these verses the next time God asks you to do something risky and scary?

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**Read Romans 8:28.**

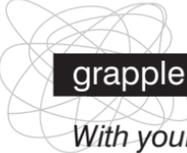
What stands out to you in this verse? Why do you think this verse is important to remember when God asks you to take a risk for him? When has taking a risk and doing something you didn't like worked out for good?

How is God challenging you to take a risk in your life right now? Take a moment to use the clay again to sculpt something you know God is asking you to do but you're afraid you won't like. Share two or three things you learned today that will remind you of why you can trust God in that situation.

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**grapple team reports**

*With your team, choose one of the options below to report what you discovered.*

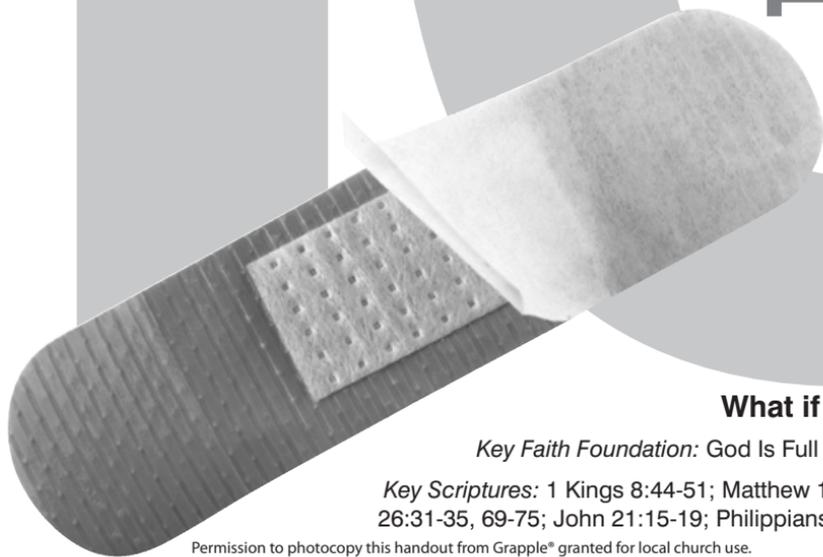
**Option 1: On Your Head**

Do a "risky" handstand as you share what you learned.

**Option 2: Transformed**

Start out acting scared and then act confident as you share what you learned.

# Take a Risk



## What if I Fail?

*Key Faith Foundation:* God Is Full of Grace

*Key Scriptures:* 1 Kings 8:44-51; Matthew 17:14-20;  
26:31-35, 69-75; John 21:15-19; Philippians 3:12-14

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**grapple schedule** (see pages 4-5 for descriptions)

5 minutes	grapple community
10-15 minutes	grapple games and clues
10 minutes	grapple time
15 minutes	grapple team time
10 minutes	grapple team reports
5 minutes	grapple prayer and dare

**Supplies** Bibles, *Grapple* DVD, DVD player, Christian music CD, CD player, copy of the Grapple Team Guide for each person, paper, pencils, scissors, photocopies of the “Tough Tongue Twisters” handout at the end of the lesson.

**grapple community:** 5 minutes

Play Christian music as kids enjoy snacks and friendship, and then play an opening countdown from the *Grapple* DVD to wrap up Grapple Community time.

**grapple games:** 10-15 minutes

Lead kids in the games they chose ahead of time at [mygrapple.com](http://mygrapple.com).

**grapple clues**

Have kids write the answers to this week’s Grapple Clues. Award points for each correct answer. (Answers in parentheses are samples.) The winning team gets the Grapple Button (see page 5).

**CLUE 1** [365 points]: **Discover in Exodus 4 what Moses thought he was a failure at.** (*Moses didn’t think he was good with words.*)

**CLUE 2** [809 points]: **Find out in Acts 6 who is described as being full of God’s grace.** (*Stephen*)

**CLUE 3** [796 points]: **Discover what each person in your Grapple Team thinks grace means.**

**CLUE 4** [524 points]: **Find out from one other person in our class the biggest risk he or she has ever taken.**

**grapple time:** 10 minutes

**GET READY ▶** Cue the Grapple DVD to the “Failure” clip. Cut apart the photocopies of the “Tough Tongue Twisters” handout.

Give one tongue twister to each person, and lead the entire class in the following:

**Here’s your task: Read and memorize the tongue twister on your slip of paper. You’ll need to be able to repeat it in front of everyone at least four times in 15 seconds without stumbling over your tongue. You have 30 seconds to practice. Go!**

After 30 seconds, give each person an opportunity to say the tongue twister four times in 15 seconds. Be ruthless with the clock (but not with the kids!). Although a few kids might succeed, most won’t. After a few examples, everyone should be laughing. Encourage hilarity!



*How did you feel when I presented this challenge? How was this feeling similar to or different from how you felt when you were in front of everyone and you weren’t sure if you would succeed or fail?*



*What’s one big risk you’ve taken, and how did it turn out? Name one risk you’d really like to take during your lifetime—swimming with dolphins, climbing the world’s tallest mountains, or pursuing your dream career, for example. What would it take for you to achieve that dream? What would happen if you failed at that dream?*

**Let’s watch a video clip as we think some more about succeeding and failing.**

Show the “Failure” clip on the Grapple DVD.



*Tell about a time you felt like you kept failing at something the way some of the people in this video did. How did you handle it, and how did things turn out? How do you think God views you if you fail?*

**Failure can be painful. What will people think of us? What will God think of us? Will we ever recover from failure? Let’s grapple with that.**

**grapple team time:** 15 minutes

Break into Grapple Teams. Encourage Grapple Team leaders to check in with kids about their week. Grapple Team leaders will facilitate discussion, using the Grapple Team Guide on pages 65-66. Afterward, kids will report what they learned.

**grapple team reports:** 10 minutes

At the end of Grapple Team Time, match Grapple Teams that chose Option 1 with Grapple Teams that chose Option 2 from page 66. Have teams present their reports.

**grapple prayer:** 5 minutes

Read the Grapple Prayer options. Have the class choose one prayer option that everyone will do. Allow kids time to pray about what they discovered. Then close in prayer.

**Option 1: Forgiveness Prayers**

**Get on your knees like Solomon did, and bow your head as you humbly ask God to forgive your failures—the ones in the past and the ones still to come. Then thank God for being there with you through any failure.**

**Option 2: Imagine Prayers**

**Close your eyes and take a couple of steps as you imagine yourself taking a big risk, one you think would honor God. Ask God to help you risk big and trust that he will be full of grace and love no matter what the outcome.**

**grapple dare**

**What if I fail? I will, and so will you. We're not perfect, and we will blow it, sometimes massively. But God is full of grace, and the risk of failure isn't a good reason not to take a risk. We might succeed just as massively! This week, I dare you to risk following Jesus. Do one thing you've never tried before to follow Jesus. Maybe you'll invite your new neighbor to church. Or maybe you'll come up with your very own way to demonstrate your love for Jesus every day. Go ahead—I dare you to risk it all and take a chance!**

**Remember to go to [mygrapple.com](http://mygrapple.com) this week to choose the opening games for next week, look for Grapple Clues to win the Grapple Button, play an online game, and connect with each other—and me.**

## grapple team guide

In your Grapple Team, use this guide to grapple with today's question.



*If you knew you couldn't fail, what three risks would you take this year?*

The Bible is full of people who failed. Read how Jesus' closest friends failed.

### **Read Matthew 17:14-20.**

How do you think the disciples felt during this time? What good and bad things do you think came out of their failure? What good and bad things have come out of your failures?

### **Read Matthew 26:31-35, 69-75.**



*With your partner, decide which of you will play the part of Jesus and which of you will play the part of Peter. Based on the second passage, act out what you imagine Jesus would have said to Peter had he been there and what Peter's response would have been. Then talk about how you would have responded to Peter's denial if you were in Jesus' position. Tell about a time you failed in a way similar to the way Peter did. How do you think God responded to your failure?*

Check out Jesus' response to Peter after he died, rose again, and appeared to the disciples.

### **Read John 21:15-19.**

How do you think Peter felt seeing Jesus again after he'd failed him? What surprises you about Jesus' words to Peter? What does Jesus' response to Peter say about how Jesus will respond to your failures? How does knowing that you could fail affect whether or not you're willing to take a huge risk, such as following Jesus?

**Read 1 Kings 8:44-51.**

King Solomon undertook a huge risk with a successful outcome when he built a new temple for God. What in Solomon's prayer refers to failure? What can you learn from the fact that Solomon prayed about failure before it happened? Based on this passage, what is one way you can handle failure in your life?



*Based on the passages above, what do you think God's response is to people who fail?*

**Read Philippians 3:12-14.**

Based on this passage, why do you or don't you think God expects us to be perfect? What does it mean to forget the past and look forward to what lies ahead—and how you can do that in your life even after a major failure?

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**grapple team reports**

*With your team, choose one of the options below to report what you discovered.*

**Option 1: Risk!**

Share a risk you think God would like you to take, and answer the question "What if I fail?" based on what you learned today.

**Option 2: If...**

Complete this sentence for three true-to-life scenarios to share what you learned today: "If we [risk], the worst that could happen is [result], but God [how you think God will respond]."



# Tough Tongue Twisters



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New unique New York news.



.....

Freshly fried flying fish.



.....

Which wristwatches are Swiss wristwatches?



.....

She sells seashells by the seashore.



.....

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.



.....

A box of mixed biscuits, a mixed biscuit box.



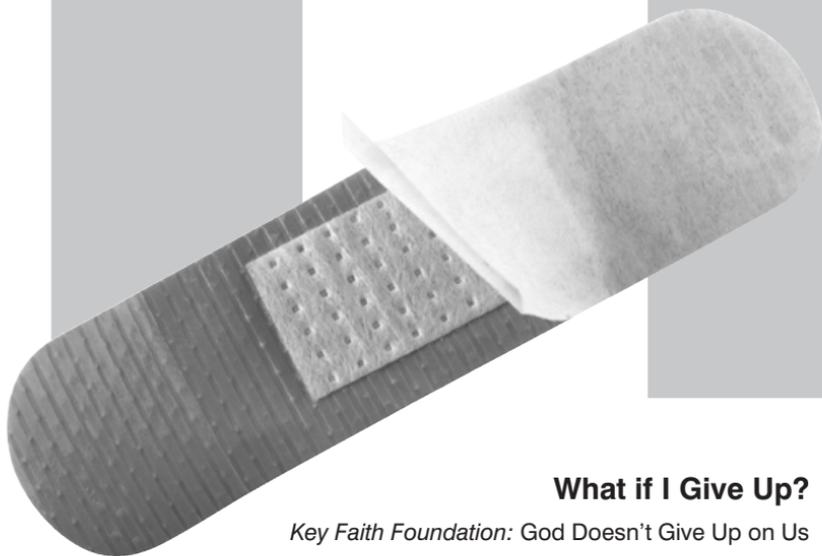
.....

The sixth sick sheikh's sixth sheep's sick.



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# Take a Risk



## What if I Give Up?

*Key Faith Foundation:* God Doesn't Give Up on Us

*Key Scriptures:* 1 Kings 19:1-13; Psalm 42;  
2 Timothy 2:3-13

**grapple schedule** (see pages 4-5 for descriptions)

5 minutes	grapple community
10-15 minutes	grapple games and clues
10 minutes	grapple time
15 minutes	grapple team time
10 minutes	grapple team reports
5 minutes	grapple prayer and dare

**Supplies** Bibles, *Grapple* DVD, DVD player, Christian music CD, CD player, copy of the Grapple Team Guide for each person, paper, pencils, masking tape, stopwatch or timer

**grapple community:** 5 minutes

Play Christian music as kids enjoy snacks and friendship, and then play an opening countdown from the *Grapple* DVD to wrap up Grapple Community time.

**grapple games:** 10-15 minutes

Lead kids in the games they chose ahead of time at [mygrapple.com](http://mygrapple.com).

**grapple clues**

Have kids write the answers to this week's Grapple Clues. Award points for each correct answer. (Answers in parentheses are samples.) The winning team gets the Grapple Button (see page 5).

**CLUE 1** [731 points]: **Discover what Galatians 6 says will happen if we don't give up.** (*We will reap a harvest of blessing.*)

**CLUE 2** [196 points]: **Find out who in Job 2 was encouraged by his wife to give up.** (*Job*)

**CLUE 3** [509 points]: **Discover if anyone in your Grapple Team knows what it means to "cry uncle."** (*Give up or give in.*)

**CLUE 4** [289 points]: **Find out how many people in our class have quit taking piano or music lessons.**

Give each person three pieces of masking tape to stick to their clothing. Then lead the entire class in the following:

**Today we're going to play a challenging game called Stick-With-It. This game tests your skills, patience, and ability to stick with it. If you decide to give up at any point, you can indicate you're done by taking off one of the pieces of masking tape. The first part of the game involves physical agility and patience. Are you ready? Here we go.**

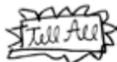
Tell kids they need to try to kiss their own elbow. Very few will be able to do so. Have kids remove one piece of masking tape when they decide to give up. If after a few minutes, kids are still trying but are unable to achieve the goal, ask kids to remove one piece of masking tape.

**For the second test, you'll need endurance and lung power. Stretch your lips, and take some deep breaths to get ready.**

Ask kids to take a deep breath, open their mouths as wide as possible, and say "Awww" for two minutes without stopping to take a breath. Start the timer after you explain the goal. Once again, very few, if any, will be able to complete this challenge. Have kids remove one piece of masking tape.

**The third test requires great math and spelling skills. To warm up, let me hear you spell the word *quit*. Pause. I think you're ready. Here is the third and final part of our game.**

Display the following pattern or have the kids write it on a piece of paper. O,T,T,F,F,S, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_, \_\_. Ask kids to figure out the pattern and finish the sequence. Give kids a few minutes to break the code. If they give up or can't achieve this after a few minutes, have them remove one more piece of masking tape. Then share the answer: **One, Two, Three, Four, Five, Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, Ten.**



*Which test was the most challenging part of this experience? If you gave up, why did you decide to give up? If you didn't give up, what encouraged you to keep going?*

69



*What is something you've given up on in real life? How do you think God feels about you when you give up in real life?*

**In our Stick-With-It game, it wasn't important whether you gave up or not, but there are many times in real life when it is important. What happens when we give up on something that's really important? Does God give up on us if we give up on something that's important to him? Let's grapple with that today.**

**grapple team time:** 15 minutes

Break into Grapple Teams. Encourage Grapple Team leaders to check in with kids about their week. Grapple Team leaders will facilitate discussion, using the Grapple Team Guide on pages 71-72. Afterward, kids will report what they learned.

**grapple team reports:** 10 minutes

At the end of Grapple Team Time, match Grapple Teams that chose Option 1 with Grapple Teams that chose Option 2 from page 72. Have teams present their reports.

**grapple prayer:** 5 minutes

Read the Grapple Prayer options. Have the class choose one prayer option that everyone will do. Allow kids time to pray about what they discovered. Then close in prayer.

**Option 1: Key Word Prayers**

**Use the following words from Grapple Team Time at least once in your prayer: *hope, discouraged, faithful, and give up.***

**Option 2: Prison Prayers**

**Picture yourself in a prison cell next to Paul. Imagine you've overheard him praying. Pray like Paul might have about a situation in your own life where you feel like giving up.**

**grapple dare**

The words *give up* are not in God's vocabulary. God never quits loving you, and he'll never give up on you no matter what you do. Philippians 1:6 says, "And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns." That's a promise to you that God has no intention of ever calling it quits on. I dare you to imitate God's example by not giving up on something this week, even when it seems like too much to handle. I dare you to have an attitude like Paul's and endure anything to follow God.

**Remember to go to [mygrapple.com](http://mygrapple.com) this week to choose the opening games for next week, look for Grapple Clues to win the Grapple Button, play an online game, and connect with each other—and me.**

## grapple team guide

In your Grapple Team, use this guide to grapple with today's question.

Can you think of when giving up on something might be the best choice? the worst choice? What happens when we give up on something that we know God wants us to do? Check out how the prophet Elijah gave up.

### **Read 1 Kings 19:1-13.**

How did Elijah's emotions influence him to give up on something that God was leading him to do? Tell about a time you faced something so big that there seemed no way out except to give up. Based on this passage, what did Elijah learn about God when he gave up? How can what Elijah learned help you?

King David often felt like giving up, too. In fact, he put his feelings into a psalm or poetic song when he felt as though God had given up on him.

### **Read Psalm 42.**



*Based on this passage, what do you think caused David to feel like God gave up on him? Why do you or don't you think God gave up on David? When have you felt the way David did as he wrote this psalm?*

What words from this passage describe the way you feel when you want to give up?

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What words from this passage describe God and his feelings toward David?

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## Read 2 Timothy 2:3-13.

Picture Paul sitting in a prison cell because he proclaimed the message of the gospel. That's where he was when he wrote the verses you just read. Why might Paul have been tempted to give up? Tell about a time you might have been tempted to give up because you were worried about what people might think of you or do to you because you believe in Jesus. How can you "endure hardship" in a situation that makes you feel like quitting? What do you learn from these verses that encourages you to not give up in following Jesus?

Look at 2 Timothy 2:13 again, and write why God absolutely, positively, will never give up on us.

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*Based on what you read today, write a psalm or poetic song (it doesn't have to rhyme) that relates to an area in your life where you're often tempted to give up. If you need direction, look back at Psalm 42:5-11. Include how you feel when you face a tough situation and how you think God will respond to you.*

A decorative icon consisting of several overlapping, swirling lines.

### grapple team reports

*With your team, choose one of the options below to report what you discovered.*

**Option 1: At the Beep**

Recap what you learned today by pretending to leave a voice-mail message.

**Option 2: Campfire Stories**

Sit around an imaginary campfire, and take turns sharing what you learned today and what you'll do the next time you feel like giving up.

# Take a Risk



## **What if I Get Hurt?**

*Key Faith Foundation:* God Is a Refuge

*Key Scriptures:* Job 1:12-22; Psalms 23:1-4;  
31:14-22; Jeremiah 29:11

**grapple schedule** (see pages 4-5 for descriptions)

5 minutes	grapple community
10-15 minutes	grapple games and clues
10 minutes	grapple time
15 minutes	grapple team time
10 minutes	grapple team reports
5 minutes	grapple prayer and dare

**Supplies** 

Bibles, *Grapple* DVD, DVD player, Christian music CD, CD player, copy of the Grapple Team Guide for each person, paper, pencils, markers, recent newspapers, rolls of bathroom tissue

**grapple community:** 5 minutes

Play Christian music as kids enjoy snacks and friendship, and then play an opening countdown from the *Grapple* DVD to wrap up Grapple Community time.

**grapple games:** 10-15 minutes

Lead kids in the games they chose ahead of time at [mygrapple.com](http://mygrapple.com).

**grapple clues**

Have kids write the answers to this week's Grapple Clues. Award points for each correct answer. (Answers in parentheses are samples.) The winning team gets the Grapple Button (see page 5).

- CLUE 1** [200 points]: **Discover someone in the Bible who was protected by God in a miraculous way.** (*Jonah in Jonah 1; Daniel in Daniel 6; Paul in Acts 28:1-10*)
- CLUE 2** [952 points]: **Find the common theme in these three verses: Deuteronomy 33:27, Psalm 46:1, and 2 Samuel 22:3.** (*God is a refuge.*)
- CLUE 3** [310 points]: **Find out from one person in your Grapple Team how he or she got a scar or scratch.**
- CLUE 4** [377 points]: **Discover how many kids in our class built or played in forts when they were younger.**

As kids arrive, set out newspapers, rolls of bathroom tissue, and markers.

Lead the entire class in the following:

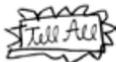
**Newspaper reporters look for exciting stories to write about. They find shocking news or unusual situations and tell about them in interesting ways. Pair up with a friend, and grab a newspaper. Look for and circle a real life situation that was dangerous or scary for the people involved.**

Allow a few minutes for the kids to scan their newspapers. Invite them to briefly share the articles they found.



*Share a time you or someone you know faced a situation similar to the ones we just read about. What did you do? How did the situation turn out?*

Give each pair a roll of bathroom tissue, and have each person wrap an arm or leg to look like a cast. Partners can then take turns using markers to write on each other's casts both common and uncommon ways kids often get hurt, physically and emotionally. Some examples might be skateboarding, sports injuries, the death of a family member, or a fight with a friend.



*What are some examples you came up with of ways kids get hurt? How does knowing you can get hurt in these ways affect the way you live your life? How does knowing you can get hurt impact how you feel about God and his ability to protect you?*

**When we experience danger, pain, or fear, it's often difficult to understand how God plays into the picture. Trusting God in those times can be a real test of our faith. We want to put our whole life in God's hands, but what if we get hurt? The answer is nearly as difficult as the question, but let's grapple and discover what God's Word has to say.**

**grapple team time:** 15 minutes

Break into Grapple Teams. Encourage Grapple Team leaders to check in with kids about their week. Grapple Team leaders will facilitate discussion, using the Grapple Team Guide on pages 77-78. Afterward, kids will report what they learned.

**grapple team reports:** 10 minutes

At the end of Grapple Team Time, match Grapple Teams that chose Option 1 with Grapple Teams that chose Option 2 from page 78. Have teams present their reports.

**grapple prayer:** 5 minutes

Read the Grapple Prayer options. Have the class choose one prayer option that everyone will do. Allow kids time to pray about what they discovered. Then close in prayer.

**Option 1:** *Newspaper Prayers*

**Look over the circled newspaper articles, and pray for someone who faced a terribly difficult situation.**

**Option 2:** *Fort Prayers*

**Kneel and form a circle. Then hold hands with someone on the opposite side of the circle. Raise your arms to create a roof, and take turns sitting inside the refuge of the circle as you pray about a scary situation in your life.**

**grapple dare**

**You may never have to face something as awful as a school shooting, a car accident, or the hurtful actions of others. But if you do, know that God is there beside you, holding your hand and walking through the situation with you. You can turn to God, and he will be your refuge and safe place in the midst of a horrible situation. If you get hurt, God wants you to respond as David did. This week, I dare you to take on one of the hardest dares ever: Love God and trust him even though you don't understand why a bad thing had to happen.**

**Remember to go to [mygrapple.com](http://mygrapple.com) this week to choose the opening games for next week, look for Grapple Clues to win the Grapple Button, play an online game, and connect with each other—and me.**

## grapple team guide

In your Grapple Team, use this guide to grapple with today's question.



*Take a moment to silently think about a way you've been badly hurt or a way you're most afraid of being hurt. Then check out the following Scripture:*

### **Read Jeremiah 29:11.**

What does this verse say about God's plans for you?  
 How does this verse compare to some of the hard things you see in your life or the lives of people around you?  
 Why do you or don't you think this verse means that people who follow God never get hurt?

### **Read Job 1:12-22.**

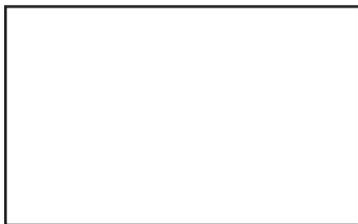
Job was following God and minding his own business when his life was hit with some really terrible things. List them.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

How does Job's experience compare or contrast to the verse in Jeremiah 29:11? Why do you or don't you think this example of Job goes against what the verse in Jeremiah says? How do you explain the fact that, like Job, you can get hurt even when you're not doing anything wrong? Why do you or don't you think it means God has abandoned you or doesn't love you anymore if terrible things happen in your life and you get hurt? Look again at Job's response in Job 1:20-22, and share a way you can follow his example the next time you're hurt in some way.

**Read Psalm 23:1-4.**

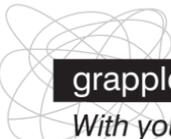
What experiences in your life have hurt you, either physically or emotionally, and have made you feel like you're going through the darkest valley? Draw a wide V for valley, and write those experiences inside it.



Based on this passage, where is God when you're experiencing hurt? How does knowing where God is change how you feel about going through things that might hurt you?

**Read Psalm 31:14-22.**

Draw hands to represent God holding something that has hurt you. What does it mean to you to put your past, present, and future hurts into God's hands? Based on this passage, what can you tell someone who asks, "What if I get hurt?"



**grapple team reports**

*With your team, choose one of the options below to report what you discovered.*

**Option 1: Accident Reports**

Review some of the hurts you wrote earlier on the casts, and use what you learned today to explain the right way to respond when something bad happens.

**Option 2: New News**

Refer to one of the newspaper scenarios in which someone faced a difficult situation. Based on what you learned today, explain where God was during that situation.