

Engage

7-11s discover the adventure!

GB@home



Forward focus

Introduce the theme of these activities. It's easy to get distracted and held back by things that don't matter. In the Bible, Paul shows us the importance of looking forward and focusing on God.

Value/characteristic:

Focus

Character:

Paul

Plug in

Read Philippians Ch.3:12-14 (taken from the *International Children's Bible*): 'I do not mean that I am already as God wants me to be. I have not yet reached that goal. But I continue trying to reach it and to make it mine. Christ wants me to do that. That is the reason Christ made me his. Brothers, I know that I have not yet reached that goal. But there is one thing I always do: I forget the things that are past. I try as hard as I can to reach the goal that is before me. I keep trying to reach the goal and get the prize. That prize is mine because God called me through Christ to the life above.'

Explain Paul had the goal of focusing on God and His promises.

If an athlete running a race takes their eyes off the finish line, and instead gets distracted by what's happening around and behind them, they can easily lose direction and stop making progress. It was the same for Paul trying to focus on God, and the same for us.

Power up

You'll need:
A football (or other ball)
Something to mark out the goal



posts (chairs, blankets, cones)

At least 2 people.

Set up a football penalty shoot-out. Have a series of gos with (a) someone in front, trying to distract the player and (b) someone standing behind and out of sight.

It's so important that we look forward and are focussed.

Download

Watch an episode of Shaun the Sheep, Off the Baa, which can be found at www.dailymotion.com

Despite the pressure of the pigs, the intimidation of the goalie and the gaze of the other players, Shaun manages to stay focused, look forwards and score a magnificent penalty.

Get connected

What distracts you in life and holds you back? Ask your child to make a list e.g. people's opinions of them, playing too much on their games console, fears they have of 'not doing well' etc. Explain it's easy to lose our time getting distracted by things that don't really matter. Instead, as the Bible shows us, we should look forward and focus on the things that really do matter.

Connect

Get your child to think about some goals you could achieve during your time at home. Then think about some goals they could achieve once life returns to 'normal'. Make a poster to display these things that they can look forward to over the next 12 months. Share these ideas/posters with their GB leaders so that they can pray for your child's goals.