

# LESSON 1: THE SUPERKID CREED



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**Memory Verse:** *As pressure and stress bear down on me, I find joy in your commands.*

Psalm 119:143



## GAME TIME

## IN PLAIN SIGHT



**Suggested Time:** 15 minutes



**Memory Verse:** *As pressure and stress bear down on me, I find joy in your commands.*

Psalm 119:143

**Supplies:** ■ Blindfold, ■ Soccer ball, ■ Small prizes for ALL participants, ■ Duct tape

### Game Goal:

- Players successfully and quickly get themselves and their soccer balls across the finish line.
- This game teaches that boundaries are in place to help us quickly and easily get to the destination God has for us.

### Game Instructions:

- Use the duct tape to create a start and finish line about 15-20 feet apart.

### Relay 1:

- Choose 1 player to blindfold.
- Apply blindfold, then have player spin 3 times.
- After spinning, player attempts to move the soccer ball, and himself/herself, across the finish line.
- Player may not use a “power-house” kick to move the ball across the room; only gentle punts to get the ball across the finish line.

**Ask** Was it hard to hit your goal blindfolded, with nothing to guide you?

### Relay 2:

- Choose another player to blindfold.
- Choose 4 contestants to be “boundaries” (they will serve as “bumpers,” coaching the player to help him/her find the way to the finish line).
- Apply blindfold, then have player spin 3 times.
- After spinning, player attempts to move the soccer ball, and himself/herself, across the finish line, using gentle punts.
- “Boundaries” will stand 6 feet apart, directly across from each other.
- “Boundaries” should keep the player and the ball moving forward by coaching him/her toward the finish line, keeping player and ball inside the boundaries.
- It should be much easier for player to find his/her way to the finish line with the boundaries in place.

**Ask** Was it a little easier for you than it was for \_\_\_\_\_ (name of first player) to get the ball across the finish line?

### Relay 3:

- Choose another player to blindfold.
- Choose 2 more players to add to your existing “boundaries.”
- Apply blindfold, then have player spin 3 times.
- “Boundaries” will stand 5 feet across from each other.
- “Boundaries” should keep the contestant and the ball moving forward by coaching him/her toward the finish line, keeping the player and the ball inside the boundaries.
- After spinning, player attempts to get the soccer ball, and himself/herself, across the finish line, using gentle punts.
- With less room, more bumpers and coaching, it should be much easier for player to find the way to the finish line.

**Ask** By adding more boundaries, do you think it was a little easier for \_\_\_\_\_ (name of player) to get the ball across the finish line than it was for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (names of 2 players)?

### Relay 4:

- Choose another player to find his/her way to the finish line.
- Choose enough contestants to make a solid “boundary” from start to finish line.
- DO NOT blindfold the player.
- Place the “boundaries” 3 feet across from each other; they should be able to touch the hands of the person standing across from them, with just enough room for the player to walk between.
- Have the player spin 3 times.
- After spinning, player must kick the soccer ball across the finish line, using gentle punts.
- Boundaries should be so close, the only way the player can move is forward. No coaching will be needed, since the boundaries are so close together.

Give every game participant a small prize.

**Ask** The entire group: Does everyone agree it is a lot easier and faster for \_\_\_\_\_ (name of last player) to play this relay when there were narrow boundaries, the blindfold was removed and the finish line was in plain sight?

### Final Word:

- As the boundaries moved closer, it was easier to get to the finish line.
- As we learn about The Superkid Creed today, it becomes easier and easier to follow the guided path God has already planned for us.
- Just like the last relay: God’s plans are always easy to follow, and His boundaries are never hidden from us.



## ACADEMY LAB

## THE SUPERKID CREED



**Suggested Time:** 10 minutes



**Memory Verse:** *As pressure and stress bear down on me, I find joy in your commands.*

Psalm 119:143



**Teacher Tip:** Cut out a picture or create a drawing of a scene your Cadets are in every day, or use a picture from the computer, online, etc. You need to try the bottle setup at home, first. Test your Army man. Does he fit in the bottle? Is he too light/heavy? Is your bottle too small or plastic too thin? Learn the best way to carefully insert the Army man and pen cap into the bottle.

**Supplies:** ■ 1 Tall (at least 1 liter) water bottle, ■ Picture/drawing to tape to the back of the water bottle, ■ Pen cap with a pocket clip, ■ Paper clip, ■ Poster tack, ■ Thin plastic Army man (not too heavy)

### Prior to Lesson:

1. Prepare one, clear, plastic water bottle. Since the bottle will represent each Superkid's "world," it's most fun if you draw or cut out pictures of a schoolroom, home, playground or a place where each Superkid spends a lot of time. Tape the picture to the outside of the bottle, so the bottle represents a day in the life of a Superkid. Fill the water bottle, leaving a little room at the top.
2. Find a pen cap that has a pocket clip, and block the opening with poster tack (reusable putty adhesive) if necessary, so water can't seep through.
3. Attach a paper clip to the pocket clip on the pen cap.
4. Attach the Army man to the paper clip with the poster tack.
5. Check to make sure the cap and plastic Army man will float near the surface by trying it first in a glass of water. If it sinks, try removing some of the poster tack.

### Presentation Instructions:

1. Carefully lower the pen cap, paper clip and Army man into the bottle, and screw the lid on. The Army man connected to the paper clip and pen cap (with poster tack) is like the kid who is connected to a Creed—God's Word.
2. Squeeze (very hard) the sides of the bottle. You will see the Army man sink because of the pressure placed on the bottle. Then let go, and watch how the air-filled pen cap draws him back up to the surface.
3. That is how our world operates. Our world is a structure. Just as there is water and air in the bottle, there are good and bad decisions we can make while we are here on earth. When pressure squeezes the outside of the bottle (our world), the water and air move around and can put pressure on the Army man to push him down.
4. Our Creed is like the pen cap. It provides a bubble of air for our lives. Even when pressure comes, if we'll stay connected to our Creed—like the Army man is connected to the pen cap—we will always rise to the top to live that Sweet Life God has called us to. But without the pen cap (Creed), the Army man would have no air bubble to take him back up when the pressure tries to push him down.



## OFFERING

## MORE THAN ENOUGH



**Suggested Time:** 10 minutes



**Offering Scripture:** Jesus soon saw a huge crowd of people coming to look for him. Turning to Philip, he asked, “Where can we buy bread to feed all these people?” He was testing Philip, for he already knew what he was going to do.

Philip replied, “Even if we worked for months, we wouldn’t have enough money to feed them!”

Then Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, spoke up. “There’s a young boy here with five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that with this huge crowd?”

“Tell everyone to sit down,” Jesus said. So they all sat down on the grassy slopes. (The men alone numbered about 5,000.) Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks to God, and distributed them to the people. Afterward he did the same with the fish. And they all ate as much as they wanted. After everyone was full, Jesus told his disciples, “Now gather the leftovers, so that nothing is wasted.” So they picked up the pieces and filled twelve baskets with scraps left by the people who had eaten from the five barley loaves.

John 6:5-13

**Supplies:**  Picnic basket,  Loaf of bread,  2 Cans of tuna,  Mayonnaise,  Bowl,  Spoon,  Can opener,  Butter knife,  Plate

### Offering Instructions:

**Ask** How many of you have ever gone on a picnic?

**Ask** What is one thing you must have in order to enjoy a great picnic? (Answer: Food!)

Let me show you what I have in my picnic basket.

- Pull out each item.
- Look out at your crowd and count—looking back and forth at your small amount of bread and two cans of tuna. (Adjust amounts to be clearly less than needed for your crowd.)
- With a defeated look on your face, open up the cans of tuna and put in bowl.

**Ask** Do you think there’s any possibility I could feed everyone in this room today with what I have here?

This reminds me of a time in the Bible when Jesus wanted to feed 5,000 people.

- Read aloud John 6:5-13.
- Can you imagine having a picnic with 5,000 people and only this amount of food? (Point to your table.)

Why was Jesus able to feed all those people?

- The boy gave Jesus an offering of food. Jesus used the boy’s offering, blessed it and fed 5,000 people!
- How cool is that? Not only was the boy taken care of, but Jesus personally blessed him and gave him back 12 full baskets of food.





## WORD TIME

## THE SUPERKID CREED



**Memory Verse:** *As pressure and stress bear down on me, I find joy in your commands.*

Psalms 119:143

### I. GOD WANTS US TO DO THINGS HIS WAY, NOT OUR OWN WAY **PROVERBS 3:5-6**

- Way**—how you think and react, how you do things.
- If you obey the Lord, you'll be blessed! **Deuteronomy 28:1-14**
- When we do things God's way, The Sweet Life is the result! **Proverbs 3:1-8**

### II. WHAT IS A CREED?

- Creed**—a system or formula of belief.
- We believe in God's way of doing things.
- The Superkid Creed is a list of decisions we make that come from God's Word.

### III. THE WORD OF GOD IS JESUS' CREED

- Jesus had already decided to be led by God and do things His way. **Matthew 3:15, 4:1**
- When Jesus was under pressure to do things Satan's (or the world's) way, the Word came out of His mouth. **Matthew 4:1-11**
- When you are under pressure, the Word of God in your heart will help you. **Psalms 119:143**
- When you say the Superkid Creed, you are declaring your decision to do things God's way, no matter what the circumstances are. Hey! You're just like Jesus!



**A Word From Commander Kellie:** Today's lesson could change your Superkids' lives forever! Wow, that's a BIG statement—but true. The way we think is the determining factor for everything. If we can teach our kids to put aside the way they think and begin to think like God, they will live the life God planned for them—The Sweet Life! For the next few weeks we will focus on showing the Superkids what a creed is and why you need one. There is a lot of pressure on kids today, but when the Creed—God's Word—is in their hearts, it will help them do what is right—the result? The Sweet Life!

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**REAL DEAL****DESMOND T. DOSS****Suggested Time:** 15 minutes

**Concept:** Highlighting an interesting historical place, figure or event that illustrates the theme of the day. The theme of the day is, what is the Superkid Creed?



**Teacher Tip:** DVD, comics, etc. Get pictures of Desmond T. Doss comics. We suggest getting as familiar as possible with the script prior to instructing this lesson. The following script is a sample outline that may be helpful to follow during class (it can be modified to fit your teaching style).

Entering in costume is an attention grabber for the Superkids. When presenting the information to the kids, it's helpful to have pictures available.



**Teen Tip:** Reviewing the script prior to class and involving teen helpers is a great way to keep the kids involved and attentive.

**Costumes:** United States Army outfit ( Army-green slacks and shirt), White armband with a red cross (sign of a medic) and a green U.S. Army helmet with a medic cross on it

**Supplies:**  U.S. Army Medal of Honor (replica or picture),  Pictures of Desmond T. Doss' military company,  Map of Okinawa,  Picture of Hacksaw Ridge,  Desmond T. Doss comic book

**INTRO:**

Desmond T. Doss was the FIRST conscientious objector to receive a Medal of Honor from the United States government .

**Ask** What is a conscientious objector?

Someone who refuses to perform military service on the grounds of freedom of thought, conscience or religion.

Most conscientious objectors are simply anti-war, and often anti-government. Desmond believed that the Lord had commissioned him to never kill and never carry a gun. But, he believed that the Lord had called him to duty for his country, and he wanted to serve God and country as a medic to help save lives instead of taking them.

**LESSON:****Ask** What was Desmond's creed?

- Desmond was born February 7, 1919, in Lynchburg, Virginia, to Tom and Bertha Doss.
- His mother had a large picture on the wall of the Ten Commandments that Desmond would stare at and even stand on a chair to touch as a young boy. The commandment, "Thou shalt not kill," was illustrated with a picture of Cain killing his brother, Abel. Desmond could not understand how someone could kill his own brother. Staring at that drawing, he felt like the Lord said to him, "Desmond, if you love Me, you won't kill."
- Desmond's father had alcohol problems, but his mother was very compassionate. One night his father and uncle were very drunk and got into a fight. Desmond watched, horrified, as his dad pulled a gun on his very own brother (Desmond's uncle). He was relieved as his compassionate mother stepped in between the men, demanding that

Desmond's father hand over the gun, which saved both men's lives. After Desmond's father handed the bullets, and then the gun to Desmond's mother, she gave it to Desmond and told him to hide it. Desmond obeyed and vowed that it would be the last time he would ever carry a gun. *Desmond was a young boy when he chose to stick to a creed!*

### Ask Why did Desmond need a creed?

- When World War II started, Desmond did not feel his convictions should excuse him from his duty to his country. Even though the Army draft officer offered him a way out, he refused. He wanted to serve his country as a medic. But the Army didn't *ask* where he wanted to be assigned; they sent him to a conscientious objectors' camp. Most of the people at this camp were anti-war soldiers who had problems with their duties, wearing uniforms and carrying their flag. Desmond insisted that he was not an objector, but a "conscientious cooperator" because he still wanted to serve his country.
- In response, the U.S. Army assigned him to a rifle division with the 77th Division—the hardest place to be for a conscientious objector. While in training, the officers ridiculed him and gave him extra toilet-cleaning duties. His fellow soldiers threw boots at him and made fun of him as he prayed every night at bedtime. He was called a pest and a nuisance, but he carried a little Bible with him everywhere he went.
- Two of the officers even tried to get him court-martialed for not carrying a gun! They took away his rights to see his family. He was not even allowed to see his brother before the young man was shipped overseas with the U.S. Navy. But, even when they took away his rights, Desmond refused to compromise. He said, *"I knew if I once compromised, I was going to be in trouble. Because if you can compromise once, you can compromise again."*

### Ask How did Desmond's creed change things?

- Desmond was not only devoted to not taking lives, but also to saving them. While in training, he was finally transferred to being a medic, and began looking after his men in the 77th Division.
- When the men were sent into battle in Guam, Desmond began gaining the respect of his men by his attitude of hard work and devotion to caring for the sick and wounded. He disregarded the danger of gunfire, crawling from foxhole to foxhole to tend the wounded in his division.
- Next, the 77th Division was sent to Okinawa for one of the most difficult tasks. They were assigned to take a 400-foot high ridge that was the most well defended spot on the island .
- April 30, 1945, Desmond asked if he could pray for his company of men—the B-company—before they went into battle. Both the A and B companies were being sent to accomplish a nearly impossible task. Desmond's request was granted, and the officers allowed him to pray for the B-company before going into battle. The A-company returned with very few soldiers, while NOT ONE of the B-company was killed or injured!
- May 2, 1945, Desmond's unit was not given time to pray, and it was a tough day for his company. During the battle, a third of the men retreated back down the ridge while two-thirds were left wounded at the top. Desmond refused to go back down even though others retreated. Desmond faced and ran through heavy machine-gun and mortar fire, continuing to work 12 long hours through the battle, single-handedly carrying 75 wounded men to the edge of the ridge, and then lowering them down the cliff with a rope. He was never hit by a single bullet during that time. There was even a Japanese soldier, who after the war, reported that he'd gotten Desmond in his sights several times, but every time he tried to pull the trigger, his gun would jam. *God was protecting Desmond as he obeyed!*

## MAKING HISTORY:

- May 5, 1945, the entire division, with permission from the company commander, waited patiently for Desmond to finish his devotions before they went into battle. They were faced with another nearly impossible and deadly task, but each soldier agreed they were willing and able, as long as Desmond was there to care for them.



- May 21, 1945, as they went into battle, their unit ran into a company of Japanese soldiers unexpectedly, and Desmond was caught in hand-to-hand combat. But, despite the heavy fighting going on all around him, he continued caring for the wounded. When a grenade was thrown near him, Desmond covered it with his feet. When it exploded, he was thrown through the air and landed with serious injuries to his legs and backside. Instead of calling for aid and endangering the other medics' lives, he treated his own wounds and waited to be picked up. But even when he was picked up after waiting five hours, he gave up his stretcher to a soldier who had been shot in the head. While waiting for aid to return, his arm was hit by a sniper's bullet. Determined to get back, he made a splint for his arm out of a broken rifle stock and with all the strength he had left, crawled back to the medical area.
- According to records, "Doss saved the lives of many soldiers. His name became a symbol throughout the 77th Infantry Division for outstanding gallantry far above and beyond the call of duty."<sup>1</sup> He even ended up saving the lives of the two officers who had tried to court-martial him.
- On November 1, 1945, Desmond Doss became the first conscientious objector to ever receive the Medal of Honor. As President Truman awarded him the medal he said to Desmond, "You really deserve this. I consider this a greater honor than being president of the United States."

### OUTRO:

Desmond was impressed by God that he was never to kill anyone. His trust in God and unwillingness to compromise produced miracles in the hardest circumstances. He depended on God's Word for his strength, not the friends around him. His determination to not kill, made him strong enough to make it through countless battles without compromising and gave him the endurance to save 75 men in one day, showing more kindness and fortitude on the battlefield than every other officer willing to carry a gun.

The Medal of Honor is the HIGHEST military decoration awarded by the United States government and is only given to the most undisputedly courageous individual serving in the armed services of the United States.

<sup>1</sup> United States Congressional Medal of Honor official citation: [www.history.army.mil/html/moh/wwII-a-f.html](http://www.history.army.mil/html/moh/wwII-a-f.html), listed under "Doss, Desmond T."

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# HANDOUT

## THE SUPERKID CREED



**Memory Verse:** *As pressure and stress bear down on me, I find joy in your commands.*

Psalm 119:143

### SUPERKID HANDOUT GRADES 1-3

Today, we learned that a creed is a way of doing things, or a belief. Following the Superkid Creed is simply following God's way of doing things. Without a creed, our ways of doing things develop from habits.

List three of your habits.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Do those habits line up with the Word of God? Look up scriptures for each habit, and decide yes or no about whether your habits are godly or not.

- |                    | YES                      | NO                       |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Scripture _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Scripture _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Scripture _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



Also available on the CD-ROM and [superkidacademy.com](http://superkidacademy.com)



# HANDOUT

## THE SUPERKID CREED



**Memory Verse:** *As pressure and stress bear down on me, I find joy in your commands.*

Psalm 119:143

### SUPERKID HANDOUT GRADES 4-6

Today, we learned that a creed is a way of doing things, or a belief. Following the Superkid Creed is simply following God's way of doing things. Without a creed, our ways of doing things develop from habits.

List three of your habits.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Do those habits line up with the Word of God? Look up scriptures for each habit, and decide yes or no about whether your habits are godly or not.

- |                    | YES                      | NO                       |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Scripture _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Scripture _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Scripture _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |



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## DINNERTIME DEVOTIONAL

## THE SUPERKID CREED



**Memory Verse:** *As pressure and stress bear down on me, I find joy in your commands.*

Psalm 119:143

**Ask** Your Superkid to name the chapter and verse of the above memory verse.

**Superkid Creed**—a system of God’s way of doing things.

God wants us to do things His way, not our way. [Proverbs 3:5-6](#)

Obey the Lord, and live The Sweet Life! [Deuteronomy 28:1-14](#)

Jesus had already decided to be led by God and do things His way. [Matthew 3:15](#)

When He was under pressure to do things Satan’s (or the world’s) way, the Word came out of His mouth. [Matthew 4:1-11](#)

### Family Discussion:

A *creed* is a system or formula of belief. The Superkid Creed is based on the WORD of God, the Bible.

What other systems are out there in the world?

Do they conflict with the Word of God?

Are you experiencing pressure from other systems that are trying to push you away from God’s way of doing things?



**Tips for Parents:** This Dinnertime Devotional can be used at any mealtime, and is designed to reinforce the truths being taught at Superkid Academy.

Make sure you set the example by reading the verses out loud from your Bible. (We use the *New Living Translation* with most of our lessons, but reading from other translations can also provide a great teaching opportunity.)

Take a few minutes to read any other scriptures listed in the lesson so you can reinforce the main theme.

Let your questions guide the discussion time. In other words, allow your kids to do most of the talking. We’ve provided some questions here, but feel free to add more, using examples from your own life. (Remember to avoid asking questions that only require yes or no answers, since they do not foster conversation.)



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## SUPPLY LIST

## THE SUPERKID CREED!

### Game: In Plain Sight

- Blindfold
- Soccer ball
- Small prizes for ALL participants
- Duct tape

### Academy Lab: The Superkid Creed

- 1 Tall (at least 1 liter) water bottle
- Picture/drawing to tape to the back of the water bottle
- Pen cap with a pocket clip
- Paper clip
- Poster tack
- Thin, plastic Army man (not too heavy)

### Offering: More Than Enough

- Picnic basket
- Loaf of bread
- 2 Cans of tuna
- Mayonnaise
- Bowl
- Spoon
- Can opener
- Butter knife
- Plate

### Real Deal: Desmond T. Doss

#### Costumes:

- Army-green slacks
- Army-green shirt
- White arm band with a red cross (sign of a medic)
- Green Army helmet with medic cross on it
- Medal of Honor (replica or picture)

#### Supplies:

- Pictures of Desmond's company
- Map of Okinawa
- Picture of Hacksaw Ridge
- Desmond's comic book



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