

Keep Jesus Christ Dead-Center

Colossians is a message greatly needed--warning the saints from getting off course. It's always a danger for God's people to get sidetracked with less important things. Colosse was a meeting place of East and West trade routes. Consequently they had a mixed bag of ideologies; little bits and pieces from Jewish legalism and gnostic mysticism. Some were seeking a "new" experience. Paul provides the point that they, and we, should keep Jesus Christ as the center of our life so we won't swerve off course.

Let's find out what things can sidetrack us and how we can stay on course by playing a game of real life strategy.

Stay the course pilgrim

Objectives:	practice grace with our fellow Christians, be aware of the snares Satan sets for us, focus on Christ Gain insight into our own faith. Practice praying and communicating with each other. Praise God as a family. Have fun with our family.
Number of Players:	4 or more (Jesus, several Christians, enemies of God)
Length:	20 minutes
Set up:	Set up a simple obstacle course or track in your house or the yard (if nice outside). Basically you just want the Christians to be able to stay on track and to get from point A to point B with some obstacles along the way. The enemies of God will be responsible for the obstacles, so don't worry about those. Divide everyone into 2 teams. Team one are the Christians. Team two are the enemies of God (Satan and his demons). Take the teams into separate areas and give them their directions, then have them spend 10 minutes planning their strategies.



FAMILY STUDY

The Play: **Directions for the Christians:** This course is a parable of the Christian's life, point A is birth, point B is Heaven. Because you are Christians, Jesus will be going with you on this journey, the entire way. All of you will get to point B. However, you will encounter obstacles along the way that could steer you off course. The best possible situation is for you to stay on course and run a good race. You have a very real enemy who seeks to devour you and to see you fail. Keep the faith. Keep Jesus Christ at the center of you always and you will be able to stay on course. Just reach out for Him whenever you need Him; He will be with you for your entire journey. Now, spend 10 minutes discussing what obstacles you might encounter, and strategize on how you can stay on course.

Directions for the Enemies of God: There are several Christians who will be coming this way. You are to do all you can without physically harming them to try to get them off course, delay their time in getting to point B. If any of the Christians cries out to Jesus or reaches out for Him, you have no power and you must back down. Now, spend 10 minutes discussing what obstacles you think could get one or many of these Christians off course and plan how you are going to make that happen. (i.e. "hey Christians, look at this really cool thing!" or, "...take some, nobody will see")

Play ends when the Christians get to point B.

Discussion: What did you learn from the role that you played? Christians, would you do anything differently than you did? What was surprising to you about the enemies of God? What was surprising to you about the Christians. What have you learned that you can take into real life situations? What are some things that we as a family can do to stay on course this week?

Prayer: Close in prayer thanking God for His provision and for all that you have learned and the fun you had with your family.