



Receive the  
Crown of Life  
James 1:12



**LITTLE  
ATHLETE'S  
PLAYBOOK**



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Welcome to Jesus' Team

## LITTLE ATHLETE'S PLAYBOOK

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CROWNED: Winter Games VBS  
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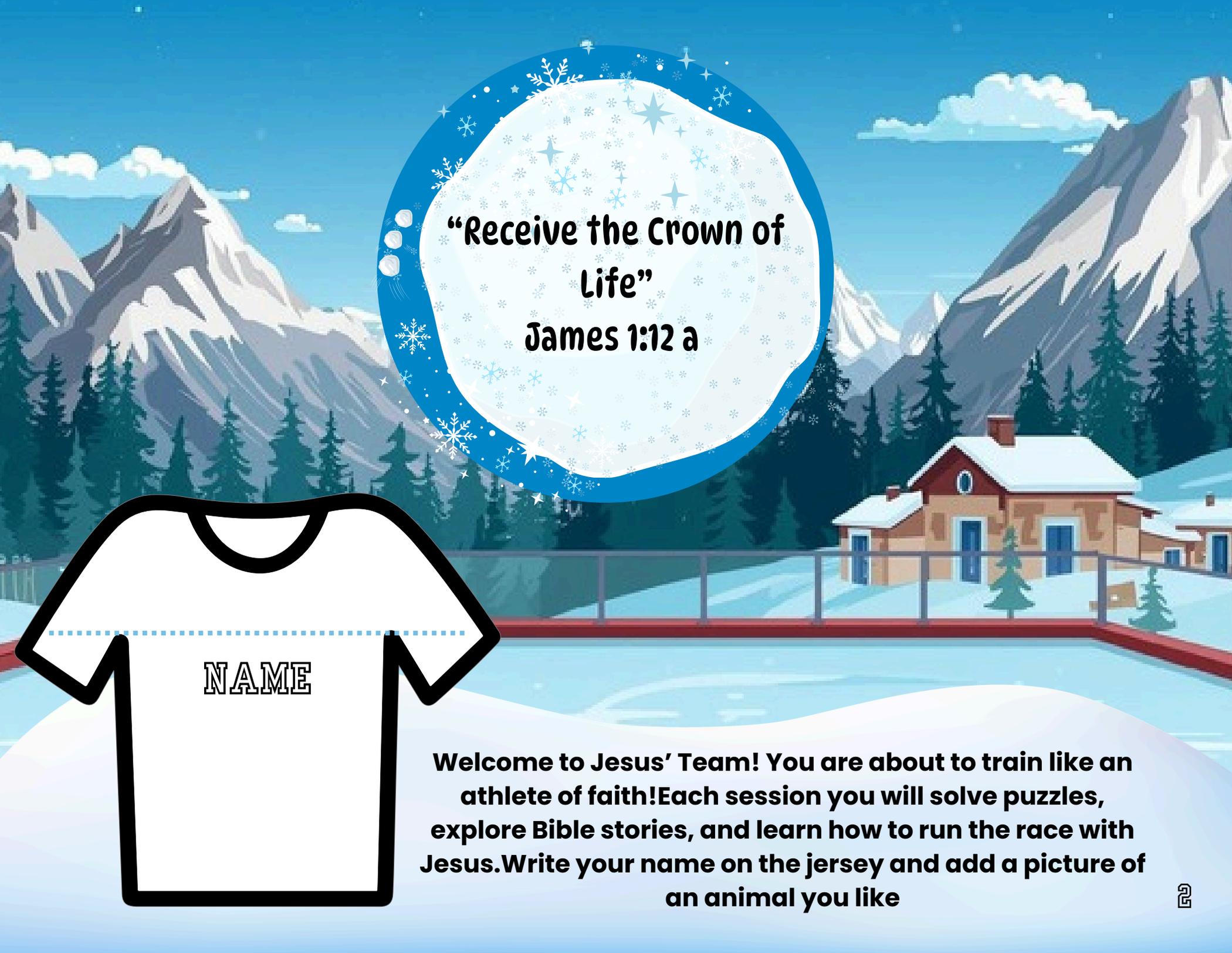
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**“Receive the Crown of  
Life”  
James 1:12 a**

**NAME**

**Welcome to Jesus’ Team! You are about to train like an athlete of faith! Each session you will solve puzzles, explore Bible stories, and learn how to run the race with Jesus. Write your name on the jersey and add a picture of an animal you like**



# STORY TIME

## BRUNO'S NEW TEAM

### MAIN MESSAGE

Jesus gives the Crown of Life to all who love him

Receive the  
Crown of Life  
James 1:12 (b)

Bruno is new. He came from far. A big storm hit his old home hard. The wind blew fast. The rain came down. His home was lost in Vantage Town. No one was hurt. His family was safe. But Bruno now needs a new place. So off they went, without a smile. To Aunt and Arlo, to stay a while. But Victory Village is loud and bright. The Winter Games are in close sight. Some skate on ice. Some ski the hill. Some race so fast It gives a thrill.

Bruno looks down at his short feet. "I'm small," he says. "I can't compete." Then Arlo runs up - full of glee. "Come on!" he grins. "Let's watch and see the race begin!" They walk past ice. They walk past snow. Then Bruno sees a gold crown glow. "Is that the prize?" "For those who win?"

Arlo says, "The crown is for all those who stay in."

The trials are hard. The Games are long. A crown for those who do stay strong. "But I'm too small,"

"There is no way." Bruno thinks about that day. Just then, a coach kneels down to say, "God made you just the way you are. You do not need to be a star. Jesus loves you. It's his dream. He calls each child to be on His Team.

Tall or small. Fast or slow. Jesus says, 'Come on, let's go.' You try. You fall. You rise once more.

That's how we run and follow the Lord. Some start the race but turn away. The crown is for the ones who stay." Bruno looks up at the bright crown. He takes one step. His fear goes down. "I'll try," he says. "I'll run this race." Then hope and joy filled his face.

**ASK: Do you know what it is like to be new? The first day at kindergarten or daycare? SAY: To Jesus you are already someone He loves and He knew all about you before you were even born. Staying close to Jesus can help us face days when we face something new.**





CIRCLE SPORTS THINGS IN BLUE.  
CIRCLE JESUS THINGS IN RED.  
COLOR WHEN YOU ARE DONE.

**MAIN MESSAGE**  
Jesus gives the Crown of Life to all who love him

Receive the  
Crown of Life  
James 1:12 (b)





ARLO IS BUSY! CIRCLE THE THINGS  
THAT HELP US FOLLOW JESUS.  
DRAW A LINE TO THE CROWN OF LIFE.

**MAIN MESSAGE**  
Jesus gives the Crown of  
Life to all who love him

Receive the  
Crown of Life  
James 1:12 (b)

**God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him James 1:12 NLT**





USE STORY STICKERS AND  
CUTOUTS TO COMPLETE THE  
SCENE

**MAIN MESSAGE**  
Jesus gives the Crown of  
Life to all who love him

**Receive the  
Crown of Life  
James 1:12 (b)**





# STORY TIME

## RACE OF DISCOVERY

**MAIN MESSAGE**  
Keep your eyes on Jesus  
to win the Crown.

Keep our eyes  
on Jesus, the  
Champion  
Heb. 12:2



The Winter Games roll on today. The mountain shines in bright white gray. Athletes laugh and stomp their feet. The snowy hill is tall and steep. Today is Mia’s special try. She lifts her board and waves it high. “I’ve trained so long,” she says with cheer. “I hope my best run comes this year.”

Up the mountain Mia climbs. The cold wind blows. She wants to get her best time. She straps her board. She takes a breath. Then down she rides the snowy crest. The slope turns rough. The trail will bend. Snow sprays up around the end. Mia slips — just for a beat. Her board slides sideways on her feet.

The slope turns rough. The trail will bend. Snow sprays up around the end. Mia slips — just for a beat. Her board slides sideways on her feet. She hears her Coach call from the side, “Look ahead! Enjoy the ride!” So Mia lifts her eyes once more. She looks ahead — not at the roar. Past trees and turns and flying snow, Down the winding hill she goes. The race is done. Mia stands tall. She smiles wide — she gave her all.

The Bible tells us what to do  
When life feels hard and paths feel new.  
We keep our eyes on Jesus’ face.  
He helps us run the race of faith.

**ASK: Have you ever tried something that was hard?**  
**SAY: When we keep our eyes on Jesus, He helps us stay strong and finish the race.**



JESUS IS THE TRUE CHAMPION!  
AS YOU COLOR USE YOUR EYES TO  
SPY FOR ALL THE CROSSES IN THE  
PICTURE

**MAIN MESSAGE**  
Keep your eyes on Jesus  
to win the Crown.

Keep our eyes  
on Jesus, the  
Champion  
Heb. 12:2





IT IS BRUNO'S FIRST DAY!  
HELP HIM FIND HIS WAY!

**MAIN MESSAGE**  
Keep your eyes on Jesus  
to win the Crown.

Keep our eyes  
on Jesus, the  
Champion  
Heb. 12:2





FIND AND COLOR THE LETTERS FOR  
A SPECIAL MESSAGE ABOUT JESUS

MAIN MESSAGE

Keep your eyes on Jesus  
to win the Crown.

Keep our eyes  
on Jesus, the  
Champion  
Heb. 12:2

JESUS THE  
CHAMPION



# STORY TIME

## BRUNO'S NEW NAME

### MAIN MESSAGE

God gives us skills to be part of his team.

Hold on to what  
you have, so no  
one will take your  
crown  
Rev 3:11



The games go on in Victory Town. Bright flags wave and snow falls down. Athletes race and crowds all cheer, but Bruno stands and watches near. He tried to skate both fast and well... but Bruno often tripped and fell. "My legs are short," he says with care. "I guess I don't belong out there." Just then Mia smiles and says, "Come with me—I know a room." She leads him to a quiet place where friends sit close and share the faith. They read a promise bright and true: "Hold on to what God gives to you." Not a crown of gold or fame, but Jesus' love that will remain. They read of Job through storm and hail. The winds blew hard, the sky grew pale. Yet God ruled the snow and sky—and Bruno smiles and wonders why. "If God made snow and stars above... then He made me—and calls me loved." His fear is gone. His heart feels light. God's crown is love that shines so bright. Bruno has a new home and new name. He does not need glory or fame. no's new name is Team Mate. Oh what a beautiful fate. Bruno is now on Jesus' team and that is enough of a dream.



COLOR THE PICTURE.  
THINK OF 3 PEOPLE WHO HELP  
YOU SERVE JESUS.

**MAIN MESSAGE**  
God gives us skills to be  
part of his team.

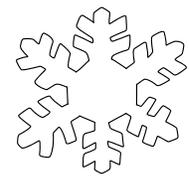
Hold on to what  
you have, so tno  
one will take your  
crown  
Rev 3:11



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BRUNO, MIA AND ARLO FOUND THE WAY TO A CROWN THAT LASTS FOREVER - IT COMES FROM JESUS. FIND THE CROWNS IN THE PICTURE.

**MAIN MESSAGE**  
God gives us skills to be part of his team.

Hold on to what you have, so no one will take your crown  
Rev 3:11





CONNECT THE DOTS TO SEE  
BRUNO'S PRIZE! COLOR THE  
PICTURE WHEN YOU ARE FINISHED

**MAIN MESSAGE**  
God gives us skills to be  
part of his team.

Hold on to what  
you have, so no  
one will take your  
crown  
Rev 3:11





## **KEEP RUNNING WITH PURPOSE**

Additional resources, activity downloads, and updates are available at:  
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**Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.  
Psalm 150:6**

Ana-Genesis®  
Ana-Genesis provides fresh encounters with our Savior, Jesus.