Bonus Activities

All Ages

Enjoy a Special Snack: Bring in your favorite snack (or a favorite snack of one of your ministers), plates, napkins and water. Share with the children what this special snack is and why it is special. Talk about their own favorite snacks as they eat.

All Ages

Run an Obstacle Course: Gather cones or chairs, jump ropes, hula hoops, a timer and blindfolds. Create an obstacle course for the children to run. Encourage children to line up and go one at a time through the obstacle course. Time them and see who is the fastest. As time allows, encourage children to go through the obstacle course backwards, and in teams with one person blindfolded. Talk about how life can be an obstacle course, where we don't always end up doing what we think we will.

All Ages

Paint with Recyclables: Provide sponges, bubble wrap, empty bottles, lids, and other recyclables, paint, disposable plates and construction paper or cardstock. Encourage children to experiment with painting with various items. Dip the recyclable into the paint and see what patterns they can make. Talk about how these recyclables were originally designed for something else but can also be used for other things.

Pathlight

www.cbf.net/pathlight

CBF's *Pathlight* curriculum helps children explore the Good News of Jesus through stories, scripture and activities.

cbf

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Pathlight

Your word is a lamp that gives light wherever I walk. **Psalm 119:105 (CEV)**

Theme Overview

Dr. Telika McCoy spent years working to become a military chaplain. But then, when her church invited her to be the youth pastor, she discovered that God was calling her to a different kind of ministry than she originally thought. This session focuses on the theme of following God's call.

Bible Verse

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all come from the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve the same Lord, and we can each do different things. Yet the same God works in all of us and helps us in everything we do.

Session Outline

Prepare

- Make copies of the Student Handout.
- Review the Story and Bible Verse.

Welcome

- Greet students as they arrive.
- **Ask**: "What do you do well?"

Engage

- Distribute the Student Handout.
- Read and discuss the Bible Verse.
- Work on the Handout Activity.
- Transition to Story Time.

Share

- Tell the Story, "Following God's Call."
- Share the photo and caption.
- Discuss the Story and pray.

Conclude

- Lead students in Bonus Activities as time permits.

Following God's Call

"Telika, thanks so much for taking a few minutes with us today," Brian Foreman, CBF's coordinator of congregational ministries, said. "Our CBF family would love to hear how you have followed God's call in your life." "Thanks for asking, Brian," Telika said. "It's funny, but I never thought about ministry as a calling for me. I became a banker because a lot of people told me it was good to go to school, get a good job, and stay put. And then God got involved. I felt called to ministry, but I thought it would be as a chaplain. I earned my Master of Divinity degree and Ph.D. while working for the school system and the bank. I was busy juggling school, work, and volunteering at church when God threw a big wrench in my plans. My church invited me to be the youth pastor. And I just couldn't say no. Youth work is just who I am. I have worked with youth in every church I've attended. Plus, I had worked with kids in the school system. It's like I was born to it. I am a multi-vocational minister. I work with the youth, but I also teach, and I lead a global ministry of encouragement. I stay busy, but I know I am doing what God has called me to do. As a little girl, I never dreamed that life would look like this. But I am thrilled that it does!"

Discussion and Prayer ✱

- **Ask**: How has Telika McCoy followed God's call?
- **Ask**: Was there anything that surprised you in her story?
- **Ask**: Think about the things you are good at, the things that you love. What might God be calling you to do?
- **Say**: Telika McCoy followed God's call into youth ministry. But that's not where she started. After she graduated from college, she went into banking and eventually worked for the school system. But she also volunteered at her church in youth ministry. Then she heard God's call and started studying to become a chaplain. But God had different plans for her. Now she is a youth minister, a professor at Shaw University Divinity School, and heads a global ministry of encouragement to fellow Christians. Her story reminds us that God sometimes calls us to a lot of different things. God also uses the things we are good at to help us in the things God wants us to do.
- **Pray**: Dear God, thank you for helping Telika McCoy follow you. Help us to know what you would like us to do as well. Amen.

Dr. Telika McCoy

Dr. Telika McCoy spent years working to become a military chaplain.

STUDENT HANDOUT
MARCH 22, 2026

Pathlight

Your word is a lamp that gives light wherever I walk. Psalm 119:105 (CEV)

Learn About

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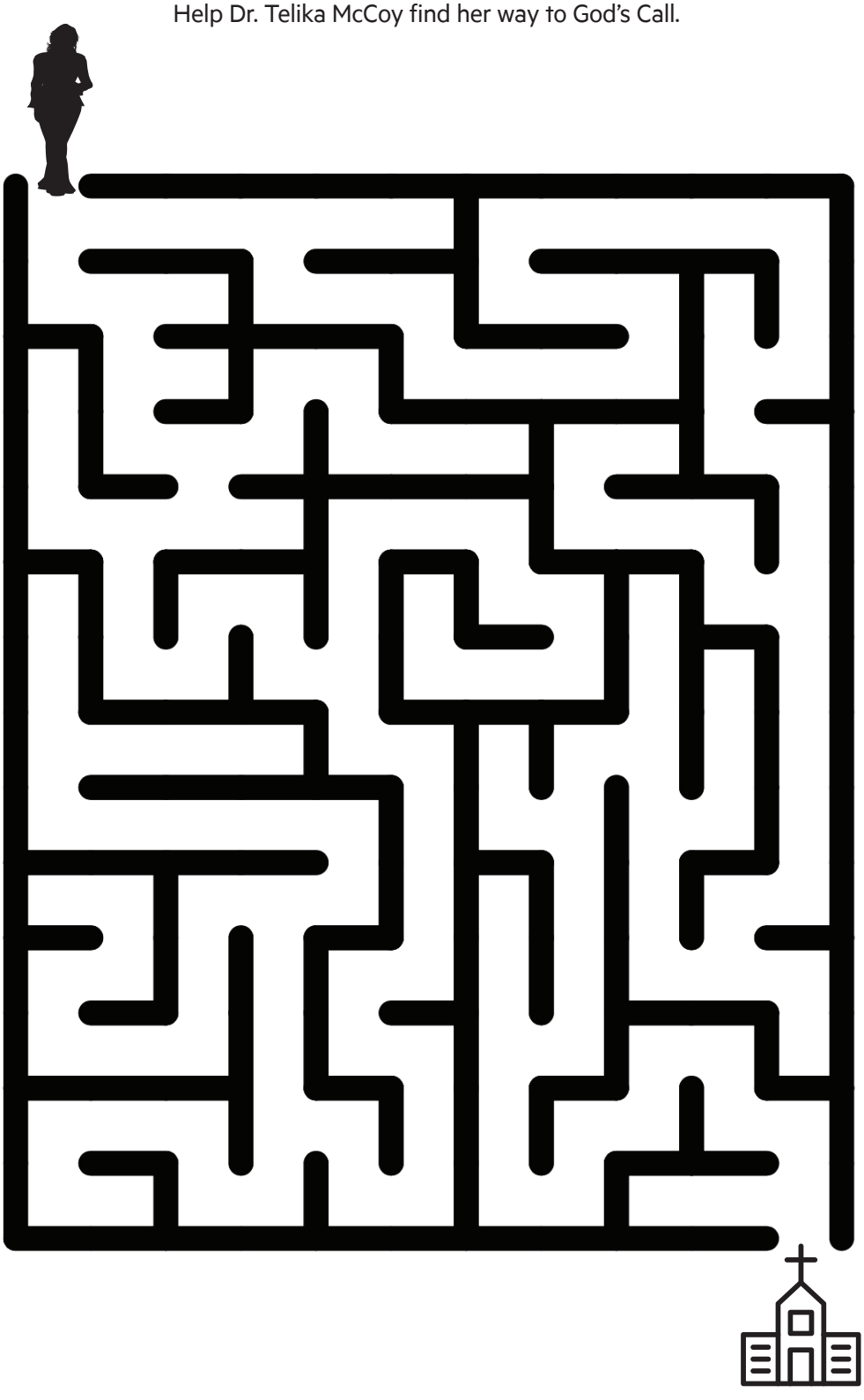
Maze

Help Dr. Telika McCoy find her way to God's Call.