

Game: **Flag Tag**

Discussion: **Following Jesus**

YOU WILL NEED: *Cones to mark boundaries and a bag of flag-football belts and tags. These can be ordered from US Games at www.usgames.com.*

Flag Tag

Instructions:

Help the students to put on a belt with two flags on it. In the game you are out only after BOTH of your flags are pulled. However, if you lose a flag and pull someone else's you cannot replace one that you have lost. Once you are out, have a seat off to the side, out of the playing area. Finally, you cannot tackle or grab the person or the person's shirt, and so forth, to get their flag and you cannot tuck your flags into your pockets, or tie them to your belt, etc. They have to hang freely...and preferably not in the front.

Team vs. Team, Version 1

Divide your group into teams. When you say "go" each team will be in a competition trying to pull all the flags of all the opposing teams. The last team left wins.

Spiritual Application

ASK: How many of you were out but your team still won?

SAY: You won because of what someone else did. In life, we can win and have REAL life and go to heaven because of what Jesus did. Jesus was God's perfect Son, who died on the cross and then rose from the dead.

ASK: Why did He do this? (Answer: Because if he hadn't, because of the wrong things you've done, you couldn't have a relationship with a perfect God, you couldn't be "saved" and there would be NO WAY that you could get yourself into heaven.)

ASK: What does it mean to be "saved"? (Answer: To have given your life to Jesus.)

ASK: What does Jesus save you from? (Answer: A life of emptiness, a lot of trouble and pain—if you walk with Him, and Hell which is the punishment that God made for the devil and the angels who rebelled against Him. But this also became our punishment when we did wrong things. [NOTE: Don't overly emphasize hell. Touch on it and move on.]

ASK: What did God save you for? (Answer: A relationship with Him, to know Him, to live for Him, to follow and serve Him.)

Play the Team vs. Team competition again...

Everybody vs. Everybody, Version 2

In this game, there are no friends and no alliances—everybody is against everybody and the last person with a flag wins.

Spiritual Application

ASK: When everyone was out for themselves, was it easier to win? (Answer: No. And living for yourselves isn't how to win in life either. You win when you follow Jesus.)