**Tough Questions**

**Lesson 4**

**Big Point:** God Can Turn Things Around!

**Big Verse**: Philippians 3:13 (NIrV), “I forget what is behind me. I push hard toward what is ahead of me.”

**Big Story**: God Blesses Job: Job 42

**Countdown Video**

**Worship**

**Icebreaker**

***PROPS: Overalls, Train Hat, Handkerchief***

***VFX: Title Slide***

***SFX: Steam Whistle***

**Facilitator**

*(VFX: Title Slide)* Welcome to the Train Station, Jr. Conductors! My name is Engineer *(Insert your name)*. We’ve been learning the answers to some tough questions the last few weeks. Let’s review what we’ve learned and find out if you remember. If you think the answer to the question is yes, I want you to stand up. If you think the answer to the question is no, stay seated. Is God only good sometimes? *(Give the kids time to stand, remind them to stand or sit depending on what they think the answer is)* No! We learned that God is good all the time! Does God always love us? *(Give the kids time to stand, remind them to stand or sit depending on what they think the answer is)* Yes! We learned that God will always love us! Does God make us weak and wimpy? *(Give the kids time to stand, remind them to stand or sit depending on what they think the answer is)* No, we learned that God makes us strong. Today we’re going to discover the answer to one more tough question. If you are ready to learn with Conductor Carl and his friends say, “Choo-choo!” *(SFX: Steam Whistle)*

**Conductor Carl & Friends, Part 1**

**Engage 1**

***PROPS: Overalls, Train Hat, Handkerchief, Yellow Paper Plate (1 Per Child), Black Oval Sticker (2 Per Child), Smile (1 Per Child), Brad (1 Per Child)***

***VFX: Title Slide, Big Point Video, 8 Minute Timer***

***SFX: Steam Whistle***

**Facilitator**

*(VFX: Title Slide) (SFX: Steam Whistle)* It sounds like there’s a big storm today at the Train Station. Some of the people at the Train Station wonder if it will ever stop. I think our Big Point will help them, let’s practice it together, *(VFX: Big Point Video)* **God Can Turn Things Around!**

Sometimes bad things do happen. Everyone has problems that they have to deal with from time to time. The good news is that we serve a really powerful God who can do what seems impossible. He can turn bad into good. In your Small Group you are going to talk about some ways that God can turn something around.

**Small Group Leader**

*(VFX: 8 Minute Timer) Pass out supplies to the kids and show them how to make a smiling emoji face. Use the oval stickers for eyes and use the brad to attach the smile so that it can turn from a smile to a frown. Once everyone is finished, talk about each scenario and how God could turn the situation around. Have the kids change the frown to a smile as you talk about each scenario and how God can help.*

* Someone says something unkind to you that makes you sad. *God could send someone to say something kind to you.*
* You fall down and scrape your knee. *God can heal your knee so that you feel better.*
* You have a bad dream. *God can bring you peace and comfort.*

**Facilitator**

*(VFX: Title Slide)* Jr. Conductors, I’m so thankful that God will help us when bad things happen. Let’s check in with Conductor Carl and see how he’s doing in the storm.

**Conductor Carl & Friends, Part 2**

**Engage 2**

***PROPS: Overalls, Train Hat, Handkerchief, Engage 2 Activity (1 Per Group), Cars (15 Per Group)***

***VFX: Title Slide, Big Point Video, Big Verse Slide, 5 Minute Timer***

***SFX: Steam Whistle***

**Facilitator**

*(VFX: Title Slide) (SFX: Steam Whistle)* Conductor Carl is staying brave in the middle of a scary storm. I’m glad that he knows the Big Point is true. Let’s practice it together again, *(VFX: Big Point Video)* **God Can Turn Things Around!**

Conductor Carl shared a helpful verse from the Bible. Let’s look at it. *(VFX: Big Verse Slide)* Philippians 3:13 (NIrV) says, *“I forget what is behind me. I push hard toward what is ahead of me.”* That verse means that instead of thinking about bad stuff that has happened, we can think about all the good things God can do. We don’t have to give up and quit because something bad has happened. God always has a way to help us. Turn to your Small Group Leader now to find out what your next activity is.

**Small Group Leader**

*(VFX: 5 Minute Timer)* *Have the kids sit in a circle. Open up the big activity sheet in the middle of the Group. Give each child a car. Have the kids drive their car on the road on the activity sheet. When they run into a problem on the road ask them if they think they should just quit and give up or is there a way to keep going? Talk about how just like our Big Verse says, we can forget about what tried to stop us and keep going.*

**Facilitator**

*(VFX: Title Slide)* Jr. Conductors, were you able to figure out a way to keep going? Good job! Now it’s time to hear a true story from the Bible. Let’s turn on our listening ears and watch.

**Big Story Video**

**Respond**

***VFX: Title Slide, 1 Minute Timer***

***SFX: Soft Instrumental Song***

**Facilitator**

*(VFX: Title Slide) (SFX: Soft Instrumental Song)* God is so good, and He will always help us. Let’s take a moment in your Small Groups now to thank God for turning things around for us.

**Small Group Leader**

*(VFX: 1 Minute Timer)* Let’s all close our eyes and bow our heads. “Dear God, thank You for helping us by turning bad things around to good. We love You.In Jesus’ name we pray,Amen.”

**Conductor Carl and Friends, Part 3**

**Closing**

***PROPS: Overalls, Train Hat, Handkerchief***

***VFX: Title Slide, Big Point Video, Big Do Slide***

***SFX: Steam Whistle***

**Facilitator**

*(VFX: Title Slide) (SFX: Steam Whistle)* The storm is over. Whew, that’s a relief! Conductor Carl never stopped believing our Big Point. Let’s say it together one more time, *(VFX: Big Point Video)* **God Can Turn Things Around!**

*(VFX: Big Do Slide)* This week’s Big Do is to have a backward walking race with your family. Who do you think will win? *(Allow for answers)* I hope you will remember that when bad things happen, they don’t have to stay that way. That’s because we serve a God who can do incredible things.

**Big Review**

1. Did our Big Point say God Can’t Turn Things Around or **God Can Turn Things Around**?
2. I’m going to describe an animal to you. Can you figure out what kind of animal I’m talking about? It has a hump, walks in the desert, it’s brown, and it spits. Yep, it’s a camel. Who gave Job animals? **God** Did God give Job back a lot of animals? **Yes**
3. Can you show me some things that a baby does? What are some things that babies say? Who gave more kids to Job? **God** Did God give Job lots of kids? **Yes**
4. What is the name of your best friend? What do you call your grandma or grandpa? Do you know your mommy or daddy’s name? Do you think that God can help them when they have a problem? **Yes** If something bad happens to you, can God help you? **Yes**
5. Stand up and pretend to push something heavy. Push really hard. What are you pushing that is so heavy? What does our Big Verse say? Philippians 3:13 (NIrV), *“I forget what is behind me. I* (pull / **push**) *hard toward what is ahead of me.”*