

Boomerang Game Clues

Directions

There are two ways to play this.

1. Give each person a Boomerang Game Pattern, a game piece, and a die. You can use just one die for the teacher, but it works better for each player to have a die.
2. Play as a class, dividing into two teams (boys and girls) and using the Boomerang Game Poster, two game pieces, and one die.

Read the examples below in any order. You won't have time for all of them, so choose the ones you want to talk about.

If playing individually, each person should give either a thumb up if God would say the person acted in a way that valued life, or thumb down if the person acted in a way that didn't value life. If playing as teams, the team decides.

After they've decided, share the Scripture and the explanation.

They will each roll (or the teacher rolls) and move according to the following:

- If they got the answer right, they move forward the number on the die, either 1, 2, 3, or 4—5s and 6s don't count.
- If they got the answer wrong, they have to go back to the start. (They may get them all right. The questions are easy.)

Play as time allows. If playing as teams, winners are which ever team finishes first. If playing individually, the winners are when all the girls or all the boys finish first.

If playing with individual boards, tell the mates this is on the honor system. It is not honoring to God to cheat to win.

Clues

1. My name was John Newton. I was a slave trader. I captured people and sold them as slaves. Later, God saved me and I learned that slavery was wrong. I then worked to end slavery.

Thumb up—God created each person in his image; we are all equal. We should not buy or sell other people. When we see injustice happening, we should work to bring it to an end.

Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free: but Christ is all, and in all. Colossians 3:11

2. My name was Corrie ten Boom. I chose to forgive the man who hurt me when I was in prison camp during World War II.

Thumb up—Corrie forgave an enemy who had treated her badly. We show that we have been forgiven by God and value others when we forgive people. Is there anyone you need to forgive?

Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. Colossians 3:13

3. I volunteer with the Special Olympics, encouraging the athletes as they play their sports. The Special Olympics are for people with intellectual disabilities. I enjoy making friends with the athletes and learning from them, finding out what we have in common.

Thumb up—All people are made in God's image and are of great value. We show we value others when we look for ways to be friends with other people.

That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate. 1 Timothy 6:18

4. My name was Adolf Hitler. I ordered the killing of millions of people. I felt that the German "race" was better than others.

Thumb down—There is only one race of people—the human race (Acts 17:26). We are all part of Adam and Eve's family and all made in God's image. All people groups are related—one is not better than another.

For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Romans 13:9–10

5. When I see someone who isn't "cool," I send messages to my friends so we can laugh at them.

Thumb down—Every person is made in the image of God. The way we treat others reflects how we feel about our Creator. Do we see every person as a precious image-bearer of God? Do we treat them as fellow image-bearers? Do we defend those who can't speak for themselves?

Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. James 3:9–10

6. My name was Amy Carmichael. I started an orphanage in India to rescue children from a bad life.

Thumb up—God loves for us to defend the defenseless—to help those who may not be able to take care of themselves, such as orphans and widows and those who are oppressed and mistreated.

Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world. James 1:27

7. Over 3,000 years ago, I was a Hebrew midwife—I helped to deliver the babies of Jewish women. When Pharaoh said to kill the baby boys, I chose to hide them instead. I would do the same thing today if someone told me to kill a baby.

Thumb up—This happened when Moses was a baby. The Hebrew midwives risked their own lives to save the lives of babies. They were brave and their actions pleased God! Can you be brave to stand up for those who can't speak for themselves, including babies?

But the midwives feared God, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive. Exodus 1:17

8. When I see someone who has more stuff or money than I do or things that I want, I think it's okay to steal from them.

Thumb down—Stealing is a sin. We show we value others when we respect what they have and don't try to take it. We can learn to be content with what God has given us and to be happy for others for what God has given them.

Thou shalt not steal. Exodus 20:15

9. I was a Roman father about 2,000 years ago. When my child was born, if I didn't want to keep him, the baby would be killed. This was our culture's custom.

Thumb down—Murder is a sin because we are harming someone who is made in God's image. God is the giver of life—we are not to take the life of another image-bearer. It is also a sin to harm someone emotionally (bully him) or to harm his reputation (make others think badly about him).

Thou shalt not kill. Exodus 20:13

10. I am praying for my enemies who put me in prison because I said I believe in Jesus.

Thumb up—It can be hard to show love toward others when they are mean to you or treat you unjustly. Yet God wants us to pray for those image-bearers who hurt us. (However, we also need to get help when others hurt us by telling a teacher or trusted adult. If you are living with someone who is hurting you, please let a trusted adult know.)

But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you. Matthew 5:44

11. My name was Jim Elliot. I was willing to risk my life to share the love of Jesus with a group of people, who were made in God's image, called the Huaorani. They lived in the jungle of Ecuador. They killed me, but after my death, they eventually became Christians.

Thumb up—Even though he knew this group of people was dangerous, Jim valued them and cared enough about them to go and tell them how they could have eternal life through Jesus.

Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13

12. My name was William Hornaday. I was the director of the Bronx zoo in the early 1900s. I put a man (Ota Benga, an African pygmy [a very short person]) in a cage on display at the zoo, along with a monkey, as an exhibit of someone who was close to a supposed ape-man.

Thumb down—There are no ape-men. God made different kinds of apes and then God made Adam and Eve in his image on the same day as he made the apes. We do not show that we value others when we treat them like animals. People are made in God's image; they are not just another animal.

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. Genesis 2:7

13. I live in Malawi, Africa, and believe widows to be the lowest class of society, so I do not care for them in any way.

Thumb down—God wants us to care for widows and defend those who aren't able to speak for themselves.

Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Isaiah 1:17

14. I collect boxed and canned foods from friends and family to give to the local food pantry.

Thumb up—God wants us to help the poor, the hungry, and those who aren't able to provide for themselves. We show that we value all people when we treat them kindly. We show that we know they are made in God's image when we do things in the name of Jesus to help.

For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in. Matthew 25:35

15. When someone is mean to me, I choose to be kind to them.

Thumb up—Choosing kindness, even in the face of meanness, shows that we value people because they are made in God's image.

A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. Proverbs 15:1

16. My name was James Blake. I was a bus driver in 1955 who asked Rosa Parks to give up her seat on the bus because she had a darker shade of skin than I had. Others felt they were better than Rosa and should have her seat because of their lighter skin shade.

Thumb down—We are all related—people with a lighter skin shade, people with darker skin shades, and people with every shade in between! We should value each person because each person is made in God's image with great care and purpose.

And hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation. Acts 17:26

17. I am a baby in my mommy's tummy. My mommy is going to get rid of me before I am born.

Thumb down—We are fully human from the moment of fertilization. We need to stand up for those who can't speak for themselves like tiny babies in the womb.

For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them. Psalm 139:13, 16

18. I am a scientist who is working on the cure for cancer. My son lives with intellectual disabilities. He is gifted in ways that I am not and I have learned a lot from him. God made each of us in his image with great care and purpose.

Thumb up—God creates each person the way he wants them to be with the gifts and talents he wants them to have. Every person is wonderfully made in his image. We are all equal before our Creator. We can celebrate our uniquenesses and look for ways to learn from others who may have different abilities than we do and also find out what we may have in common.

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. Genesis 1:27

19. My name was Harriet Tubman. I escaped from slavery and then led other slaves to freedom because I wanted them to be free as well. I risked my life to help others.

Thumb up—Harriet could have stayed safe in the north once she made it to freedom but she cared about other people and wanted to help other slaves gain their freedom. She was a defender of those who couldn't defend themselves. She spoke out for what she knew to be right and helped to bring an end to slavery. Standing up for others can be difficult but we always need to do what is right, no matter the cost.

Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. 1 John 3:16

20. I am old and sick, living in a nursing home. Some think I am not worth the time and money it takes to care for me, so they are planning to let me die.

Thumb down—We are made in God's image from the beginning of our lives to the time of natural death. Because each person is made in God's image, everyone has value, no matter how old or young or what abilities we have or don't have. We need to care for others and honor those who are older than we are. We need to be defenders of those who can't care for themselves or defend themselves.

But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. 1 John 3:17–18

21. I make fun of homeless people who are cold and hungry.

Thumb down—Every person is made in the image of God, including those who are poor and struggling. God wants us to have compassion on others and treat everyone with kindness and respect. We need to be defenders of those who may not be able to defend themselves.

Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. Psalm 41:1

22. My name is Joni Erickson Tada. I use a wheelchair to get around because I was paralyzed in a diving accident. I started a ministry called Joni and Friends to help people who live with disability. They need to be loved and know their life has purpose.

Thumb up—Joni knows that each person is made in God's image. She values those who are nonverbal, who use wheelchairs to get around, and who tend to be cast aside by society. She has been an advocate for people who live with disability, speaking up for those who aren't able to speak for themselves and working to bring a better quality of life for many people living with disability. She is a defender of the defenseless. Part of her ministry is giving wheelchairs to people who need them. Maybe you could help raise money for Wheels for the World!

Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. 1 John 4:7

23. I am missionary who started a school in Guatemala for children who live in the city dump. We feed these children, teach them a skill so they can find a job and get out of the dump, and teach them about Jesus and his love.

Thumb up—Jesus calls us to tell others about him so they can receive the gift of eternal life. We show that we value others when we share this gift with them. This includes friends at school, family members, neighbors, and people who live in other countries. Every person is made in God's image and needs to hear about their Creator and Savior. Who can you tell about Jesus?

Whosoever shall receive one of such children in my name, receiveth me: and whosoever shall receive me, receiveth not me, but him that sent me. Mark 9:37