**Tranquilizer Dart**

**Topic: The Church**

**Ephesians 2:20-22**

Supplies:

* Squirt Guns with different colored water in them
* 4 small tarps or sheets
* Cones to mark boundaries

Directions:

1. Mark off a large playing area with cones.
2. Within that area lay out your tarps or sheets, one in each corner.
3. Divide you students into four teams and give them a home corner sheet/tarp.
4. Choose one player from each team to be the shooter; they will be in the middle of the playing field
5. On go the teams start on their home corner and will have to run to any another corner to be safe.
6. The shooter will try and shoot members of other teams before they get there.
7. Friendly fire is in effect, so you can be tranquilized by your own team.
8. If you get shot it works like a tranquilizer dart; you are to fall onto your back with your arms and legs straight up in the air.
9. You are down until your team helps you.
10. On the next round, your students can attempt to carry you back to your HOME corner only, this will wake you up.
11. 4 student must carry you by your arms and legs.
12. Once students lift you, all four of them are safe for 10 seconds.
13. If they have not gotten you back to your HOME corner within the 10 seconds they can be shot and tranquilized at that time; they can drop you and return for another try later.
14. Once all your team is tranquilized, your team is out including the shooter.
15. The winning team is the last one left standing.
16. Play a few rounds to give others a chance at being shooter.

Say: Welcome to the jungle baby; that was fun and exciting. It was like shooting at wild crazy animals from the jungle. Not to kill them but just to give them a little nap. To the winning teams great job and excellent skills working together. This game took a lot of working together didn’t it? And it took you lifting each other up and carrying each other when one of you was down and out. This reminds me of the church, not the church as in (your church name) but the church as a whole.

Ask:

* What do you think of when you hear the word church?
* What do you think of when you hear the word church family?
* Have you ever thought of the church as people and not a building?
* What do you think when someone says Jesus’ church?
* How does Jesus want us to treat others outside of

(Your church name)?

* What if they go to another church?

Say: In the game when you were down and out you had to wait for others to come and help you. Then they took you back to a place where you were healed. Think about the world we live in. There are a lot of people out there that need help. There are ones even in your church and other churches that are in need of help.

Ask:

* How is serving the church like the game?

Say: When Jesus talked about the church He rarely was talking about a building; He was talking about His people. Let’s look at some places in the Bible that can give us some direction.

Read: Ephesians 2:20-22

Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus Himself. We are carefully joined together in Him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord. Through Him you Gentiles are also being made part of this dwelling where God lives by His Spirit.

Say: Here we are being shown that the church is not about bricks and walls; it is about Jesus and following Him. See Jesus is the cornerstone, or the thing that holds everything together. When we join together with Him we become part of that, and are called to serve others as Jesus served.

Ask:

* Did Jesus just serve the disciples?
* Who did he serve?

Read: Acts 20:28

So guard yourselves and God’s people. Feed and shepherd God’s flock-His church, purchased with His blood-over which the Holy the Spirit has appointed you as elders.

Say: We are called to help others like we did in the game. We are to help those in our church building but also others that may not go to a church at all. See God’s flock is everyone, and that is His church, everyone. If you remember one thing today remember this and begin to build on it in your lives.

The church in not about a building, it is about people!