




GOOSE'S'D

Living God's Happily Ever After



Leader
Guide



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Introduction

*Once upon a time
In Jerusalem, far away
There was a young boy
Left behind but not afraid
When they found him in the temple
Not sad or even bothered
He asked "did you not know
I would be in the house of my father?"
The teachers in the temple were amazed To say the least
That he spoke such things
Though neither scribe nor priest
Yes, this Jesus was human
But also God who became man
He lived a perfect life
According to the Father's plan
He died, rose, and left
For a place to prepare
He'll return to take us home
And we'll live forever there
The boy Jesus grew
In wisdom and in favor
With God most of all
But also his neighbors
Like all healthy boys
He grew also in stature
If we follow his example
We'll live God's happily ever after*

The citizens of Gooseville have a big problem: they can't seem to get along! Judge Davy Jones takes his seat at the courthouse and opens Mother Goose's Code of Conduct for Gooseville as he listens to cases between disgruntled fairy tale characters accusing one another of foul play. In each of these instances, the "happily ever after" they seek is found in something quite different than they often have in mind.

Luke's account of the boy Jesus at the temple provides a basis for instructing these confused and angry citizens on how to change their hearts and actions and grow into the example of the greatest life ever lived. Only then can they experience God's happily ever after. Join Humpty, Goldy, Foo Foo, Hansel, Gretel, and the Three Little Pigs, as they learn to grow in wisdom, stature, and favor with God and man. You've never experienced these fairy tales quite like this. So, grab your Bibles, hold on tight, and consider yourself Goos'd!

1-Day Scope of Learning

Jesus Connection

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH GOD

Theme verse

PROVERBS 3:5-6

Assembly Skit

THE BROTHERS PIG VS. GERALD PIG

Goon Guard
Academy Learning
Center

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH GOD- SEEKING FIRST HIS KINGDOM

Goldy's Games

PRIORITIES BOX

Dumpty's Diner

SNACK SORTING

Piggy Puppet
Playhouse

THE "DRAW NEAR" DISASTER

2-Day Scope of Learning

Day 1

Day 2

Jesus Connection

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH GOD

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH MAN

Theme verse

PROVERBS 3:5-6

EPHESIANS 4:31-32

Assembly Skit

THE BROTHERS PIG VS. GERALD PIG

GOLDY VS. THE BEAR FAMILY

Goon Guard
Academy Learning
Center

**JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH GOD- SEEKING
FIRST HIS KINGDOM**

**JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH MAN- HEALTHY
RELATIONSHIPS**

Goldy's Games

PRIORITIES BOX

SMILING CONTEST

Dumpty's Diner

SNACK SORTING

GIVEAWAY COOKIES

Piggy Puppet
Playhouse

THE "DRAW NEAR" DISASTER

BRIAN THE BULLY

3-Day Scope of Learning

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

Jesus Connection

JESUS GROWS IN WISDOM

**JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH
GOD**

**JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH
MAN**

Theme verse

PSALM 119:105

PROVERBS 3:5-6

EPHESIANS 4:31-32

Assembly Skit

FOO FOO VS. THE GOOD FAIRY

**THE BROTHERS PIG VS.
GERALD PIG**

GOLDY VS. THE BEAR FAMILY

Goon Guard
Academy Learning
Center

**JESUS GROWS IN WISDOM-
LEARNING FROM GOD'S WORD**

**JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH
GOD- SEEKING FIRST HIS
KINGDOM**

**JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH
MAN- HEALTHY
RELATIONSHIPS**

Goldy's Games

**TODDLER/PRESCHOOL: FIND
THE BIBLES**

PRIORITIES BOX

SMILING CONTEST

**K-HIGH SCHOOL:
FINISH LINE TRUE/FALSE**

Dumpty's Diner

**TODDLER/PRESCHOOL: GIVE
ME S'MORE BIBLE**

SNACK SORTING

GIVEAWAY COOKIES

**K-HIGH SCHOOL: LEARNING
ABOUT JESUS IS SWEET QUIZ
GAME**

Piggy Puppet
Playhouse

SMARTY PANTS

THE "DRAW NEAR" DISASTER

BRIAN THE BULLY

4-Day Scope of Learning

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

Day 4

Jesus Connection

JESUS GROWS IN WISDOM

JESUS GROWS IN STATURE

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH GOD

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH MAN

Theme verse

PSALM 119:105

PROVERBS 25:28

PROVERBS 3:5-6

EPHESIANS 4:31-32

Assembly Skit

FOO FOO VS. THE GOOD FAIRY

HANSEL & GRETEL VS. THE WITCH

THE BROTHERS PIG VS. GERALD PIG

GOLDY VS. THE BEAR FAMILY

Goon Guard Academy Learning Center

JESUS GROWS IN WISDOM- LEARNING FROM GOD'S WORD

JESUS GROWS IN STATURE- SELF-CONTROLLED SERVANTS OF GOD

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH GOD-SEEKING FIRST HIS KINGDOM

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH MAN- HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Goldy's Games

TODDLER/ PRESCHOOL: FIND THE BIBLES

HUNGRY HENRY FOOD TOSS

PRIORITIES BOX

SMILING CONTEST

K-HIGH SCHOOL: FINISH LINE TRUE/ FALSE

Dumpty's Diner

TODDLER/ PRESCHOOL: GIVE ME S'MORE BIBLE

HEALTHY SNACK BUILD

SNACK SORTING

GIVEAWAY COOKIES

K-HIGH SCHOOL: LEARNING ABOUT JESUS IS SWEET QUIZ GAME

Piggy Puppet Playhouse

SMARTY PANTS

FOOD FACE

THE "DRAW NEAR" DISASTER

BRIAN THE BULLY

5-Day Scope of Learning

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

Day 4

Day 5

Jesus Connection

JESUS OBEYS HIS PARENTS

JESUS GROWS IN WISDOM

JESUS GROWS IN STATURE

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH GOD

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH MAN

Theme verse

EPHESIANS 6:1

PSALM 119:105

PROVERBS 25:28

PROVERBS 3:5-6

EPHESIANS 4:31-32

Assembly Skit

HUMPTY VS. THE CITY OF GOOSEVILLE

FOO FOO VS. THE GOOD FAIRY

HANSEL & GRETEL VS. THE WITCH

THE BROTHERS PIG VS. GERALD PIG

GOLDY VS. THE BEAR FAMILY

Goon Guard Academy Learning Center

JESUS SUBMITS TO HIS PARENTS IN JERUSALEM

JESUS GROWS IN WISDOM- LEARNING FROM GOD'S WORD

JESUS GROWS IN STATURE- SELF-CONTROLLED SERVANTS OF GOD

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH GOD- SEEKING FIRST HIS KINGDOM

JESUS GROWS IN FAVOR WITH MAN- HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Goldy's Games

TODDLER/ PRESCHOOL: COPYCAT

TODDLER/ PRESCHOOL: FIND THE BIBLES

HUNGRY HENRY FOOD TOSS

PRIORITIES BOX

SMILING CONTEST

K-HIGH SCHOOL: READ MY LIPS

K-HIGH SCHOOL: FINISH LINE TRUE/FALSE

Dumpty's Diner

EDIBLE PARENTS

TODDLER/ PRESCHOOL: GIVE ME S'MORE BIBLE

K-HIGH SCHOOL: LEARNING ABOUT JESUS IS SWEET QUIZ GAME

HEALTHY SNACK BUILD

SNACK SORTING

GIVEAWAY COOKIES

Piggy Puppet Playhouse

SUPER MEGA BUNNIES

SMARTY PANTS

FOOD FACE

THE "DRAW NEAR" DISASTER

BRIAN THE BULLY



ASSEMBLY
SKITS

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The Brothers Pig vs. Gerald Pig

PROPS NEEDED:

-Stage setup (see Scene Setting below)

-Box TV Prop- decorate a refrigerator box as a large TV set. Cut out the back side for a person to be able to get inside. Cut out a screen portion in the front so that the tv anchor can be seen through it. It should look similar to a small puppet stage. Cut out buttons and labels like "Power", "Volume Up", "Volume Down", etc. from different colored construction paper to attach to the front. get creative! Cut a hole on either side of the prop so that the anchor inside can stick his/her arms through to pick up the box and walk.

-Character Costumes (see Cast List below)

-Gavel

-Typewriter or computer prop for "transcribing" the court scene

-Toy/stuffed Parrot that will stand up on its own.

-egg (real or pretend)

-blanket

CHARACTERS:

-TV Anchor (well-dressed for broadcasting)

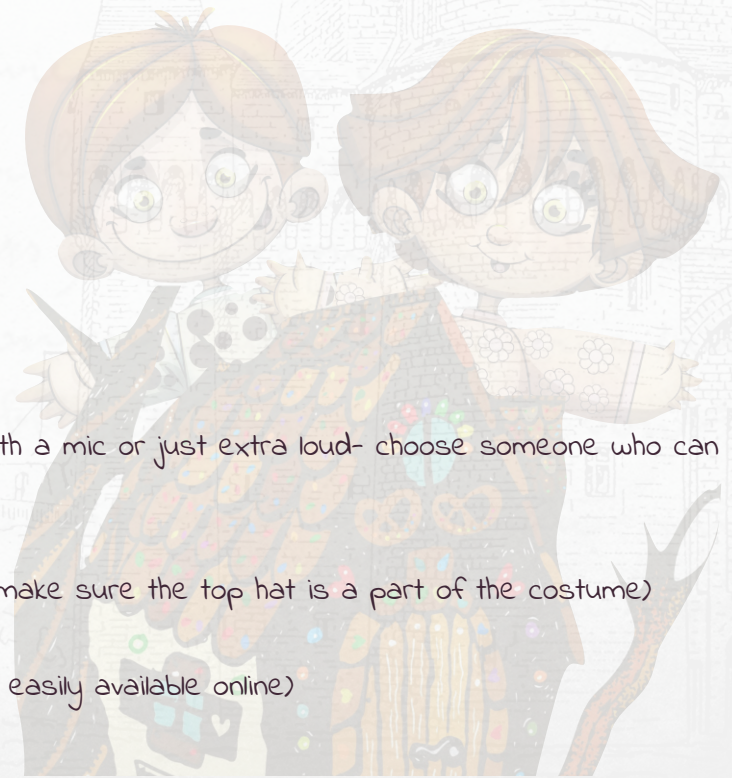
-Court officer (in Police uniform)

-Judge Davy Jones (in Pirate costume)

-Parrot voice (this voice can be off stage with a mic or just extra loud- choose someone who can do a good parrot impression)

-Mad Hatter (these are easy to find online- make sure the top hat is a part of the costume)

-Chicken Little (chicken or rooster outfits are easily available online)



-2 Brothers Pig (pig costumes or masks are easily available online)

-Gerald Pig (pig costumes or masks are easily available online)

-Mrs. Wolf (wolf costumes or masks are easily available online)

-Tim Wolf (wolf costumes or masks are easily available online)

SCENE SETTING:

The performance area should be decorated to look like a castle, a courtroom, or similar venue. You may choose to also add some fairy tale flare to be more enticing for the children. A judge's chair and table/stand should be centered and face the audience. It should have room for at least a chair on either side of the judge for Chicken Little to sit transcribing the court session on one side and the other side for a witness stand. You could have one long table with three chairs behind it, the center chair being taller than the other two. Alternatively, you could have separate tables or stands, whatever works best for your setup. Two tables should be placed on either side of the performance area closer to the audience than the judge's stand. Chairs should be placed behind the tables so that the prosecuting and defending individuals can sit behind the tables and face each other. If tables are placed so that the defending and prosecuting individuals face the judge (like a normal courtroom), the voices of the players will be carried away from the audience, making it difficult to hear. The box TV prop should be standing off to the side so as not to block the rest of the players, but also still visible to the audience. Chicken Little should be seated beside the judge's chair with a typewriter, computer, or whatever you have available for pretending to transcribe. The two Brothers Pig and the Mad Hatter should be seated behind the prosecuting table. The Brothers should have their arms crossed and look unhappy. Gerald Pig should be seated behind the defense table with a similar expression. The scene begins with the news anchor seated behind the box TV.

SKIT:

ANCHOR: Citizens of Gooseville, we interrupt this broadcast to bring you breaking news from the city court. The two younger brothers Pig are suing their older brother, Gerald Pig. They claim that their houses were recently destroyed because of Gerald. When the City of Gooseville uncovered that the houses had indeed been blown down by the Big Bad Wolf, the brothers argued that it would never have happened had their brother shared his bricks with them to make their houses stronger. One made of straw and the other made of sticks, neither house stood a chance against the blustering blows of the wolf. Gerald says they never asked for bricks and did nothing but play around instead of take their houses seriously. All

the older pig ever did was work, so his brothers called him a real boar. But now, after not sharing his bricks, they're calling him a hog. Will the whole trial blow over like their houses? Or will Gerald face the cold, hard blows of justice? We turn now to the courtroom where Judge Davy Jones is entering.

Court officer enters by the judge's seat.

COURT OFFICER: All rise for the honorable judge Davy Jones.

All characters should stand while Davy Jones enters with toy or stuffed parrot in hand and perches parrot beside him on the table/stand (whichever your setup allows). As Davy reaches his seat, he should tell everyone to be seated.

DAVY: We're here today to judge the case of The Brothers Pig vs. Gerald Pig.

PARROT: *Squawk* Gerald pig.

DAVY: Don't start in already, bird. I'll put you in the freezer.

PARROT *Squawk* In the freezer.

DAVY: I mean it! Close your mouth.

PARROT: *Squawk* It's a beak.

DAVY: Are you being smart with me?

Silence.

DAVY: I said, "are you being smart with me?"

PARROT: *Squawk* You said "close your mouth".

DAVY: I did. So, close your mouth.

PARROT: *Squawk* Close your mouth.

DAVY: You close YOUR mouth.

PARROT: *Squawk* Close your mouth.

DAVY: Why, you little...



Davy grabs the bird in his hand and starts to shake it. The Court officer puts his hand on Davy's shoulder.

COURT OFFICER: Um, sir. we're in court. People are watching.

Davy realizes he has gotten carried away and looks around at all the people before letting out an embarrassed laugh and putting the bird back.

DAVY: I was just playing around with him. Nice bird.

Davy sits in silence awkwardly before clearing his throat and proceeding.

DAVY: Mr. Hatter, please begin with your opening remarks.

The Hatter stands and approaches the middle of the play area.

HATTER: Absolutely, your honor. My clients have suffered at the hands of their selfish, no-good, filthy, brother, Gerald.

DAVY: Easy on the insults, Hatter, or I'll throw you out.

The Court officer leans over to Davy.

COURT OFFICER: You can't do that, sir. He's the only lawyer we have.

DAVY: Fine. But can you stay on task with these pigs, please?

HATTER (winking at the audience): I think I can HAM-die it.

PARROT: *Squawk* Food joke.

DAVY: Zip it, bird. or you'll be food. And that's no joke.

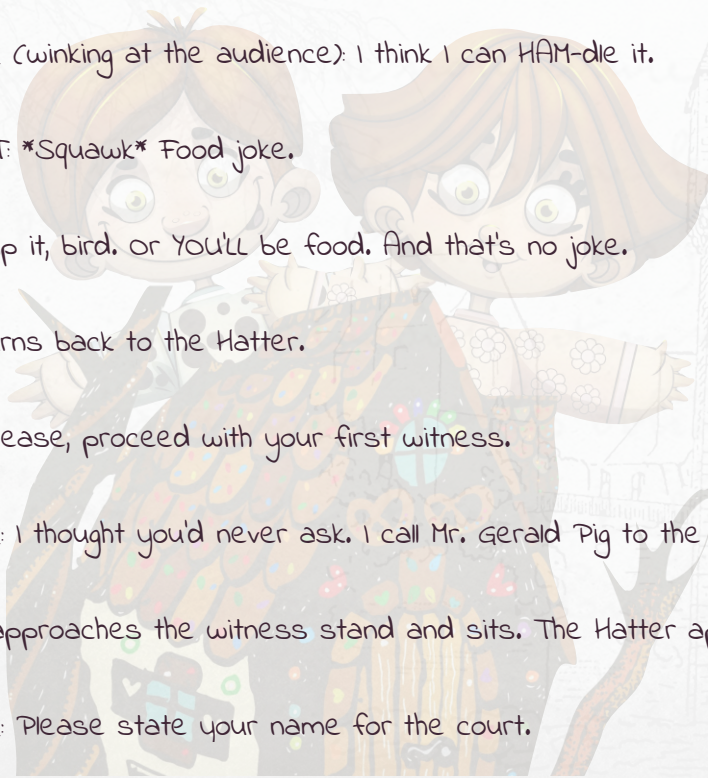
Davy turns back to the Hatter.

DAVY: Please, proceed with your first witness.

HATTER: I thought you'd never ask. I call Mr. Gerald Pig to the stand!

Gerald approaches the witness stand and sits. The Hatter approaches Gerald.

HATTER: Please state your name for the court.



GERALD: You already said it.

The Hatter takes off his hat, takes a quick step backward toward the Brothers Pig and raises a finger.

HATTER: I object!

The Hatter puts his hat back on, steps back to the witness stand and raises his finger again.

HATTER: So do I, your honor!

Davy rolls his eyes and looks to the Court officer.

DAVY: Are you sure these guys...I mean...this guy is the only lawyer we have?

COURT OFFICER: we would have to pull Pinocchio out of jail, sir. But you remember last time he tried to be a lawyer. He lied so much, his nose was so long, we couldn't get him out of the courtroom and had to wait three days for it to get back to normal size.

DAVY: oh, yes. Let's not do that again. Nevermind. Mr. Hatter, please try to stay on task.

HATTER: Yes, your honor. Mr. Pig, your brothers are accusing you of being responsible for the destruction of their houses. Are you aware of this?

GERALD: Yes.

HATTER: And do you remember them building their houses from straw and sticks?

GERALD: Yes.

HATTER: Now, you're an expert builder. Is that correct?

GERALD: Yes.

HATTER: How long did it take your brothers to build their houses?

GERALD: Less than a day.

HATTER: And what did they do afterward?

GERALD: They just ran around playing.



HATTER: And what did they play?

GERALD: I don't know. I didn't pay that much attention. I was building my house.

HATTER: Did they play checkers or chess?

GERALD: You don't run around to play checkers or chess.

HATTER: Right. Did they play cards?

GERALD: Again, you don't run around to do that.

HATTER: Then, what did they play!?

GERALD: I said I don't know!

The Hatter gets closer to Gerald and throws up his hands.

HATTER: Then why are we talking about this!?

Gerald pig says nothing. He looks at the judge.

DAVY: Ignore that last question. Move on, Hatter.

HATTER: Fine. Do you remember what you were thinking about your brothers' houses?

GERALD: Yes. That they weren't very strong.

HATTER: And how would you have made them stronger?

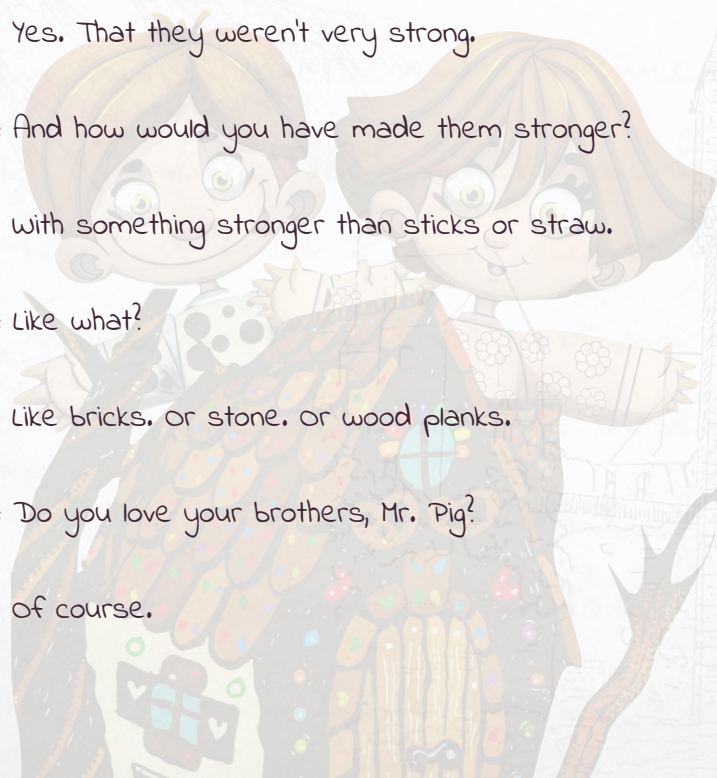
GERALD: with something stronger than sticks or straw.

HATTER: Like what?

GERALD: Like bricks. or stone. or wood planks.

HATTER: Do you love your brothers, Mr. Pig?

GERALD: of course.



HATTER: But even though you knew their houses needed bricks and you had bricks, you didn't even bother to offer them!?

GERALD: That's not fair! They knew the risks. I would have given them bricks. But they never asked. If you want something, you have to ask for it. You can't expect it to just fall out of the sky!

Chicken Little promptly shoots to her feet and screams.

CHICKEN LITTLE: Fall out of the sky!?

Chicken Little starts running around screaming and then runs out of the room.

CHICKEN LITTLE: The sky is falling! Everyone run! Get out of here! Save yourselves!

DAVY: Can we PLEASE be more careful with your choice of words! Now we'll have to record of what was happening here!

PARROT: *Squawk* An egg.

Davy notices something in Chicken Little's chair.

DAVY: Oh, wait.

Davy leans over and picks up an egg from Chicken Little's chair.

DAVY: She laid an egg.

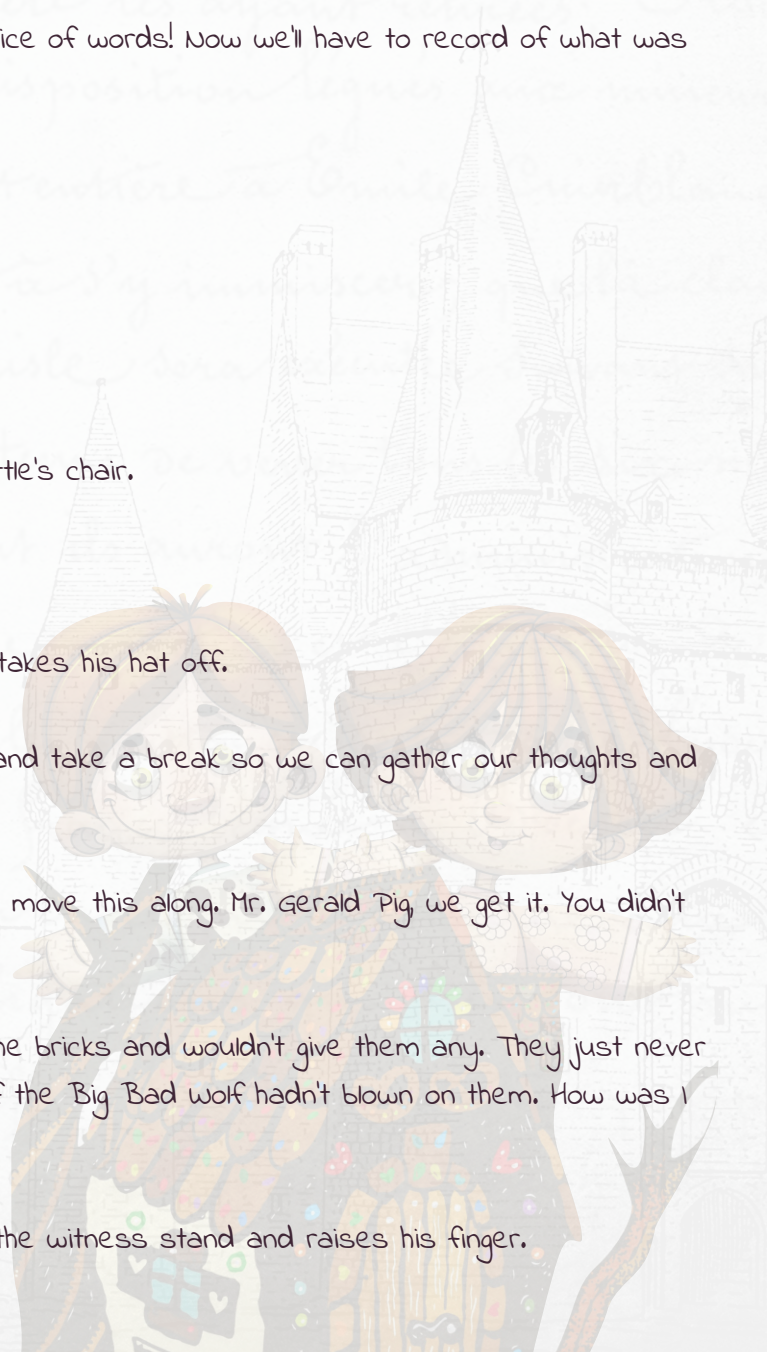
The Hatter steps over toward the Brothers Pig and takes his hat off.

HATTER: Your honor, I would like to call for a recess and take a break so we can gather our thoughts and cook this egg.

DAVY: As much as I would like to do that, we need to move this along. Mr. Gerald Pig, we get it. You didn't share the bricks. Go back to your seat.

GERALD: But wait! It's not like I was just keeping all the bricks and wouldn't give them any. They just never asked. Besides, their houses would have been fine if the Big Bad wolf hadn't blown on them. How was I supposed to know he was going to come around?

The Hatter puts his hat back on, steps over toward the witness stand and raises his finger.



HATTER: I object!

DAVY: On what grounds?

HATTER: My witness, your honor. I call Mrs. Abigail wolf to the stand!

Gerald pig stands up quickly and protests.

GERALD: Your honor, he can't bring a wolf in here! She'll eat us!

HATTER: You just don't want her in here because you know what she has to say!

GERALD: Not true, your honor! You have to keep her out of here! It's not safe!

HATTER: Mrs. wolf is as safe as they come, your honor!

DAVY: Alright, that's enough. Mr. Pig, go back to your seat. I'll allow the witness. But these two younger pigs are clearly still in shock from their last encounter with the Big Bad wolf. Look, they're shaking in fear.

The Brothers Pig should be shaking in fear.

DAVY: officer, please get these pigs in a blanket. Then bring in Mrs. wolf.

Gerald Pig returns to his seat while the Court officer walks quickly out of the play area and back in immediately with a blanket and Mrs. wolf trailing him. He spreads the blanket over the Brothers Pig, then returns to his spot. The Hatter should begin speaking even while the officer is spreading the blanket to prevent too much silent time. Davy should be sure to place the egg back on Chicken Little's seat.

HATTER: Mrs. wolf, thank you for coming. Could you please tell me where your husband is. The one they call Big Bad.

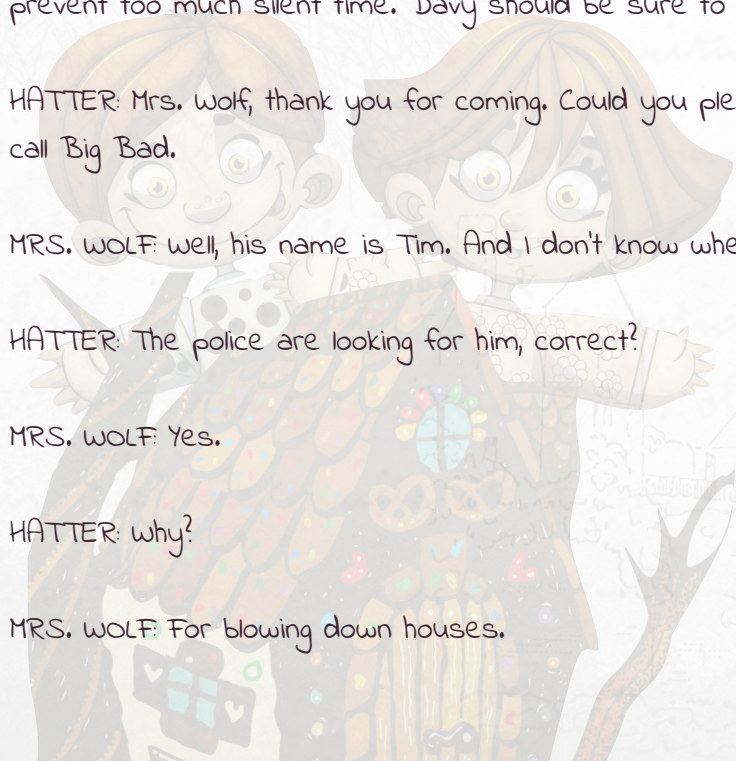
MRS. WOLF: well, his name is Tim. And I don't know where he is right now.

HATTER: The police are looking for him, correct?

MRS. WOLF: Yes.

HATTER: why?

MRS. WOLF: For blowing down houses.



HATTER: Mrs. wolf, is this the first time your husband has blown down houses?

MRS. WOLF: No. He's been in jail more than once.

HATTER: And did he try to blow the jail down to escape?

MRS. WOLF: No.

HATTER (surprised and off topic): well, why not? Seems perfectly logical to try.

DAVY: Mr. Hatter!

HATTER: Sorry, your honor. Mrs. wolf, do you recognize these Pigs in a blanket?

The Hatter points to the Brothers Pig.

MRS. WOLF: Yes.

HATTER: And do they look delicious?

The Brothers Pig scream.

DAVY: Mr. Hatter!

HATTER: I'm getting to my point!

MRS. WOLF: I'm actually a vegetarian.

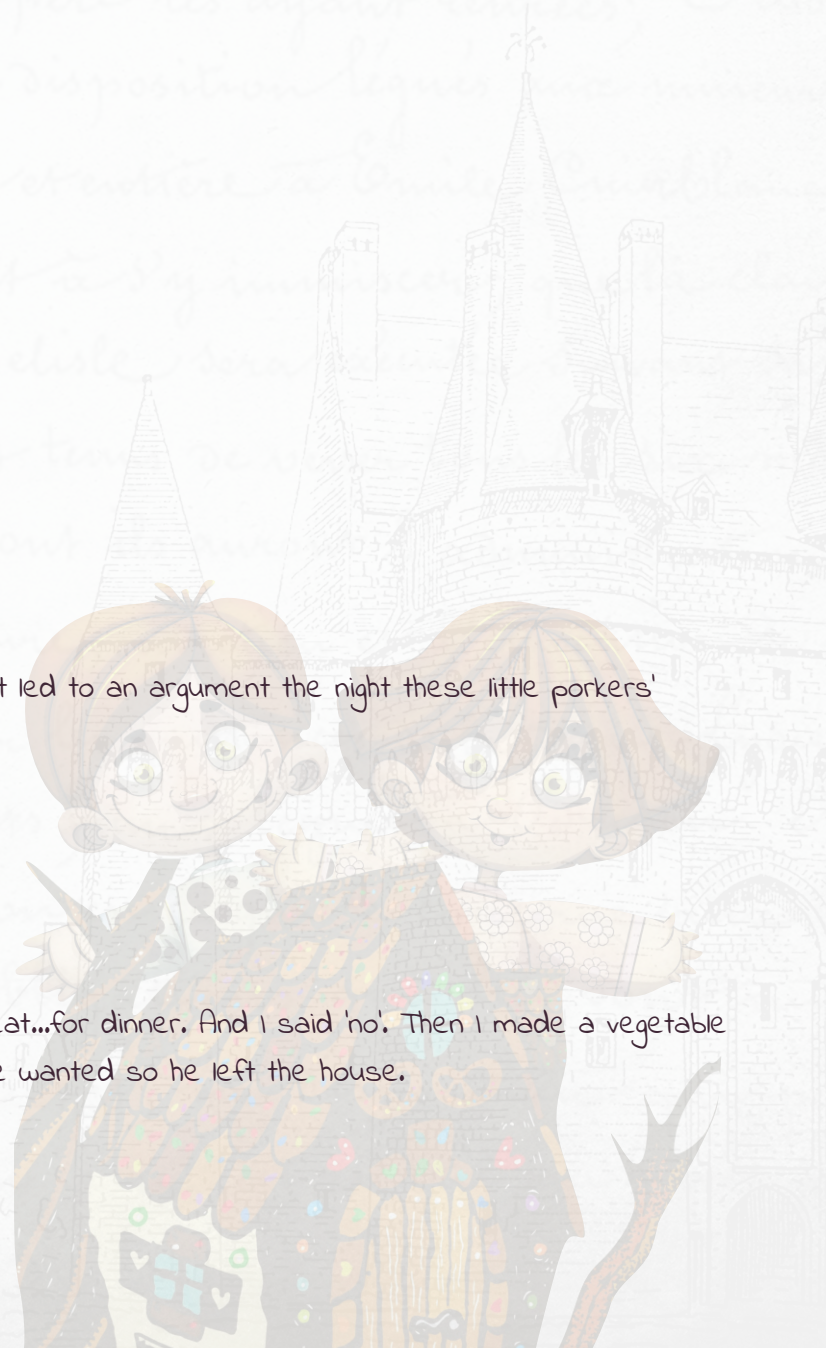
HATTER: Precisely. And it was that exact fact that led to an argument the night these little porkers' houses were blown down, correct?

MRS. WOLF: Yes.

HATTER: Please describe.

MRS. WOLF: well, Tim wanted to have a certain...meat...for dinner. And I said 'no'. Then I made a vegetable stew. He was furious that I wouldn't make what he wanted so he left the house.

HATTER: And what did you do?



MRS. WOLF: well, based on the type of...meat...he wanted, I went over to the nearby neighborhood where I thought some people might be in danger.

HATTER: what people? Are they in this room?

MRS. WOLF: Yes. It was the Brothers Pig. All three of them.

HATTER: And were they home?

MRS. WOLF: only one. The other two were out playing.

gerald Pig should be looking nervous.

HATTER: And which of the Pig brothers was home?

MRS. WOLF: gerald.

HATTER: And what did you tell him?

MRS. WOLF: I said that Tim had left the house angry. And that he said...

HATTER: Said what, Mrs. wolf? what did you tell Mr. gerald Pig that your husband, Tim, the Big Bad wolf, said he was going to do?

MRS. WOLF: Blow off some steam.

Everyone in the courtroom should gasp except for gerald Pig and Mrs. wolf.

DAVY: Alright, I've heard enough! Mrs. wolf, thank you. You may leave now.

Mrs. wolf leaves.

DAVY: I'm dismissing this case.

THE BROTHERS PIG (in unison): what!?

DAVY: That's right. we don't have any major broken laws here. However, we do have some issues I'd like to discuss. gerald, you clearly could have done more to help your brothers. But you seem to have some mixed up priorities. Sure, they didn't come ask for bricks. But you could have offered them, especially knowing that the Big Bad wolf was out and about.

Davy turns to the Brothers Pig.

DAVY: Brothers Pig, I have a bone to pick with you, too. You would never have had any issues if you didn't have mixed up priorities. Playing around was more important to you than building a strong house. That's what having good priorities means: putting the right and best things first. Because you didn't, your houses fell, just like the foolish man that Jesus talked about.

GERALD: who, your honor?

PARROT: *Squawk* Jesus.

DAVY (yelling at the parrot): I thought I...

Davy stops his shouting at the parrot.

DAVY: Actually, I'm not going to get on to you for saying Jesus. We all should talk about him more.

Davy turns back to Gerald Pig.

DAVY: Jesus, in the Bible. Jesus was God's son. He came to earth to teach us about God and then give his life as a sacrifice to save us. While he was here, he told a parable, a story, about a wise man and a foolish man. They both built houses. One built it on a rock.

GERALD: Sounds like a solid plan.

DAVY: Yes. The other built his house on sand.

GERALD (accusing his brothers): Probably so he could run off and play.

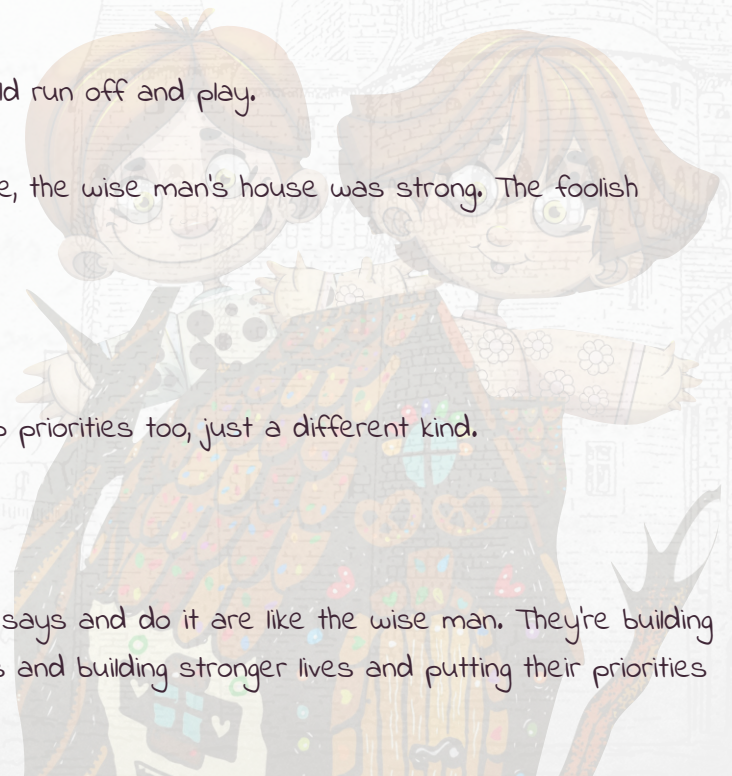
DAVY: who knows. Either way, when the storms came, the wise man's house was strong. The foolish man's house was destroyed.

GERALD: Saw that one coming.

DAVY: That's enough, Mr. Pig. You had some mixed up priorities too, just a different kind.

GERALD: Sorry, your honor.

DAVY: Jesus said that people who listen to what he says and do it are like the wise man. They're building their house on a rock. They're making good decisions and building stronger lives and putting their priorities



in the right place by doing what God wants us to do. And if anyone knew how to do that, it was Jesus.

PARROT: *Squawk* Tell them why.

DAVY: From the time Jesus was a boy, he was always doing the Father God's will. He always had the right priorities. Once, when his parents accidentally left him behind in the city of Jerusalem, they found him at the Temple, the house of God at that time. He was about his father's business. He was in the Father God's house, talking about God's law. And Jesus didn't stop the rest of his life. He always put God's will and business first. If we do the same thing, we'll be able to live God's happily ever after.

GERALD: How do we do that?

DAVY: Well, that leads me to your assignment. No major laws have been broken here. But even still, there are some recommendations for this kind of thing as laid out in Mother Goose's Code of Conduct in Gooseville. So, I want you to follow some homework and thereby consider yourself Goos'd. And this is not a punishment because reading God's word is never a punishment. This is an assignment. Are you ready?

GERALD AND THE BROTHERS PIG (in unison): Yes, your honor.

DAVY: I want you to spend some time reading the end of Matthew chapter seven in the Bible with the parable of the wise and foolish builders. Think about how you can better sort your priorities to serve your brothers and to spend time doing the most important and best things like God wants.

off stage the Big Bad wolf should howl loud and long. As soon as he does, the pigs all scream and jump to their feet.

DAVY: Get those pigs to safety!

All characters rush the three little pigs off the opposite side of the play area from where the Big Bad wolf is off stage. Everyone should be panicking and yelling to run. As soon as they are out of view, the Big Bad wolf should run in and jump into the center of the play area and howl, then sniff around.

TIM WOLF: I smell bacon!

The wolf should catch their scent in the direction they ran.

TIM WOLF: Aha!

The wolf should dash off in their direction and out of sight. As soon as he is out of sight, Chicken Little should sneak up on stage and get her egg. As she starts walking away in the opposite direction from

where the wolf ran off, the wolf should run back into view and howl. Chicken Little sees and starts running.

WOLF: winner, winner, chicken dinner!

The wolf should chase Chicken Little off stage. All characters return to the stage and bow.

Scene.





GOON GUARD ACADEMY



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Jesus Submits to His Parents in Jerusalem

WARM-UP:

A Thousand words game- Most of us are familiar with the phrase "a picture is worth a thousand words". You're going to start class with a warm-up exercise of drawing terms and trying to "draw" a connection between them.

Have someone volunteer to pull one of the following words from a box and draw it on a whiteboard, chalkboard, or even a large poster board without talking. The audience will try to guess what they are drawing. You may choose to set a timer for them to guess if you wish:

- chicken coop
- breakfast
- bird nest
- baking
- fairy tale

Have volunteers draw each of the terms. After each one, write it on the board. When all of the terms have been drawn, ask the class what connection they think you are trying to make with these terms.

The answer- they're all places you'll find eggs! However, the last one might seem surprising...

MAIN CONTENT:

Is it strange that we find an anthropomorphic egg in a fairy tale nursery rhyme? Maybe not, since fairy tales tend to be a bit strange. But in some ways, it's a little odd to think about an egg sitting on a wall. In all truth, it's not exactly known to what Humpty Dumpty refers. Different theories abound. In regard to the egg, the rhyme does not appear to have always necessarily envisioned one. In an illustration from Walter Crane's *Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes* (1877), Humpty Dumpty is shown as a boy. The details are obscure and the VBS skit scrambles them even more (pardon the pun).

In the VBS skit, Humpty was told by his parents to get off the wall. It wasn't until he finally fell that he realized the value of their words. He failed to honor them. Jesus was different. How do we know?

Jesus showed us what true honor to parents and to others looks like. When Jesus was found by his parents in Jerusalem as a boy (Luke 2), he submitted to them and went with them. He had been about his Father's business in the temple, though he was still a child. Even while he began to grow into his important role and mission on this earth, he continued to honor and obey his parents. From the cross, one of Jesus' last acts was to entrust the care of his mother to his disciple, John (John 19:25-27).

What does it mean to you that one of the things on Jesus' mind, even from the cross, was the care of his mother?

What does honor mean?

To honor something means to assign it value and to give it weight. By contrast, to dishonor something means to treat it lightly or as insignificant. Honor is expressed in both action and in attitude. Why are both crucial?

When it comes to honoring our father and mother, it's not just a command given through Moses but one that is repeated by Paul in the New Testament (Ephesians 6:2). It's a midway commandment within the ten commandments themselves. The first four are directed more toward God. Then, we have the fifth commandment to honor father and mother before the following five that are directed toward our relationships with each other.

How do we honor our parents?

Here's a different question- why do we honor our parents?

Though it's primarily seen as being addressed to children, this commandment is never outgrown. This can be a sore spot for many. Perhaps you didn't have the best parents. The natural tendency is for us to want to repay evil with evil. Why is this not an option?

We are specifically commanded to avoid repaying evil for evil (1 Peter 3:9). We are also challenged to love our enemies (Matthew 5:44). Perhaps that has included your parents at times. Even then, showing honor to them is an obligation of Scripture. Because of the difficulty involved in this, what can we do to help?

-we need to pray for the strength to accomplish this. God will help to equip us to fulfill the commands he gives us.

-we need to remember our own faults as well. What we have received in the way of mercy from Jesus is not of our own doing (Romans 5:8).

-we also must realize that showing honor to our parents doesn't mean we excuse their poor

behavior. We choose to honor them, not because of their character, but because of their position. It's not because we think they deserve it but because God has commanded it and ultimately, we are honoring him. The hope is that our compassion and resilience will change even the hardest of hearts and soften the sorest of relationships.

Showing honor to others goes beyond parents. Where else should our honor be directed?

In India, a gesture of honor is that you greet with the Namaste which is hands in prayer position and a bow while saying the word 'namaste.' The thrust of the phrase actually means "I bow to the divine in you." Now, they mean something slightly different with the concept of the divine spark but they're headed in the right direction. Each of us has the divine mark on us because we were created in God's image.

Showing honor to each other, whether parents or otherwise, honors God by honoring the image of God in each other. We honor the image of God in others by the way that we treat them and whether we objectify them or see them as valuable beings loved by God all the way to Calvary. Do we see their value? Do we honor it? How can we tangibly honor the image of God in others?

REINFORCE:

Using the phrases from Bible verses at the bottom, one-at-a-time, draw lines on the board for each letter, making a puzzle to be guessed. Divide the class into two sides to make two teams. Have someone from team one guess a letter. If the letter is on the board, write it above all the lines that correspond to it, filling in the words. Record a point for team one on the board. If the letter that is guessed is not in the puzzle, record a point for the opposing team. Write the guessed letter at the bottom of the board regardless so that everyone remembers what has already been guessed.

Move to team two and have someone guess another letter. Repeat this process until a team can solve the puzzle instead of guessing a letter. Teams should not yell out the solved puzzle until it is their team's turn. Also, if a team guesses the puzzle incorrectly (saying any part of it incorrectly), their team loses that round. The goal is to be the team that solves the puzzle.

After each puzzle is solved, discuss where this passage of Scripture comes from and how it relates to the lesson on honor. How can we learn from this passage?

GAME PHRASES:

Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him (This is Genesis 25:9a)

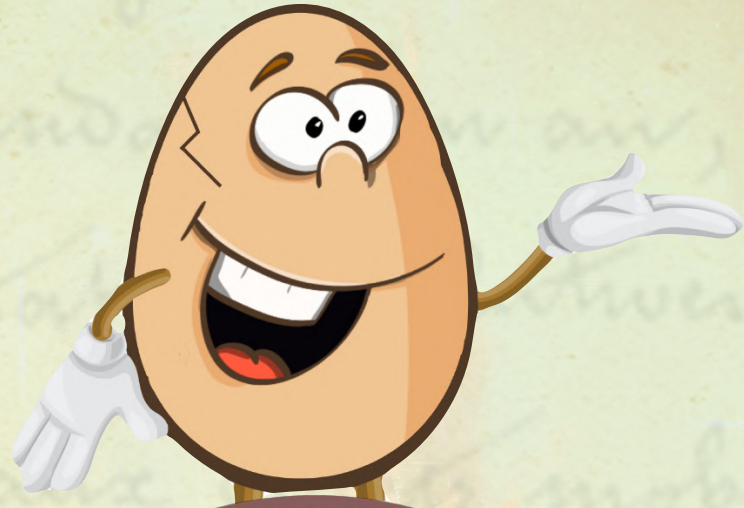
that you may live long in the land (This is Ephesians 6:3b)

And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive (This is Luke 2:51a)

our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name (This is Matthew 6:9b)

pray for those who persecute you (This is Matthew 5:44b)





DUMPTY'S
DINER

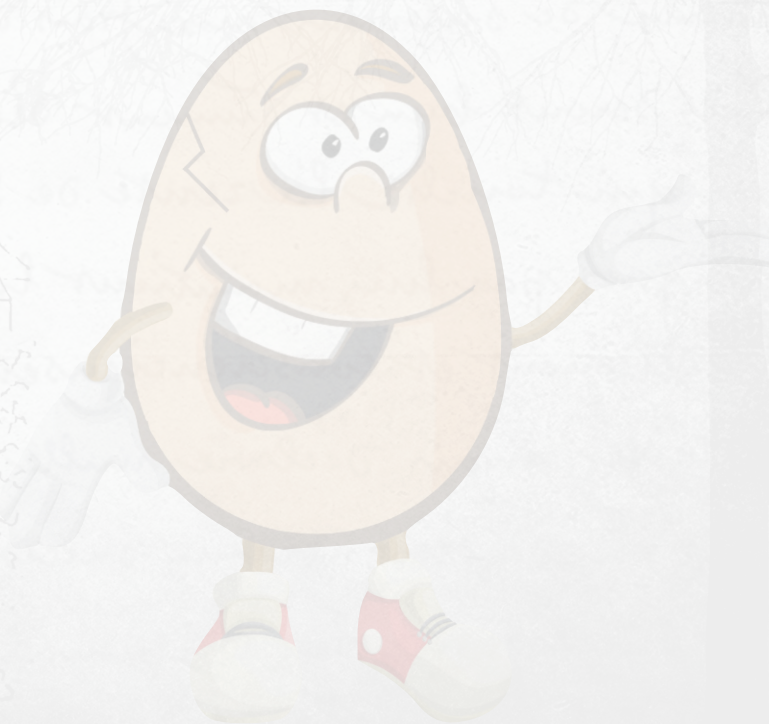


Older
Kids

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Healthy Snack Build

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- graham crackers (1 sheet per student)
- pretzel twists (2 per student)
- raisins (8 per student)
- apple sticks (apples peeled and sliced into 3-4 inch matchsticks)(4 per student)
- plates, napkins, cups for water/drink of your choice

ADVANCED PREP:

- cut the apple sticks
- divide out or have ingredients prepared to distribute

EXPLAIN THE ACTIVITY:

Ask the students to tell you their favorite food. After students answer, ask them to tell you foods they absolutely don't like.

Tell the students that God made food to taste good. It's a blessing how we can create delicious meals! But God also created food as a tool. In what way?

After they answer, tell them that food can be used as a tool in different ways. It can be used to show hospitality, show kindness by bringing someone food, or other ways. But one way that food is a tool is that it is fuel for our bodies.

Good nutrition is part of how we live healthy, full lives and take care of the gift that our bodies are.

Jesus grew in stature, which is his body (Luke 2:52). We want to take care of our bodies and be as healthy and strong as we can so we can serve God as well as we can for as long as we can.

Tell the students that today, instead of a sweet snack or dessert-type food, you are going to make a healthier snack. It's okay to have sugary foods, but in moderation. So today, we're going to have a healthy snack.

But before we do, there's another way we take care of our bodies: we exercise! So, we're going to play a game about different foods we eat that gets us some walking in.

ACTIVITY TIME:

Have the students stand up in a cluster in the middle of the space. You are going to list a choice of two things. When you do, point to one side of the room for the first item and then to the other side of the room for the second. Students should make a choice and walk to the side that represents the item they would prefer between those two choices. After all students have gone to one side of the room or the other, give another two choices, pointing to the sides of the room that represent them. Students will either stay put or switch sides, depending on their preference between the two choices. Do this with the following list (feel free to add your own!):

- cake or pie
- chocolate or vanilla
- pizza or burger
- hot dog or burger
- pepperoni or cheese pizza
- Mexican or Italian
- chicken or beef
- carrots or peas
- green beans or broccoli
- fruity or chocolate
- sour or sweet
- salty or sweet
- juice or soda
- banana or apple
- strawberries or blueberries
- popcorn or chips

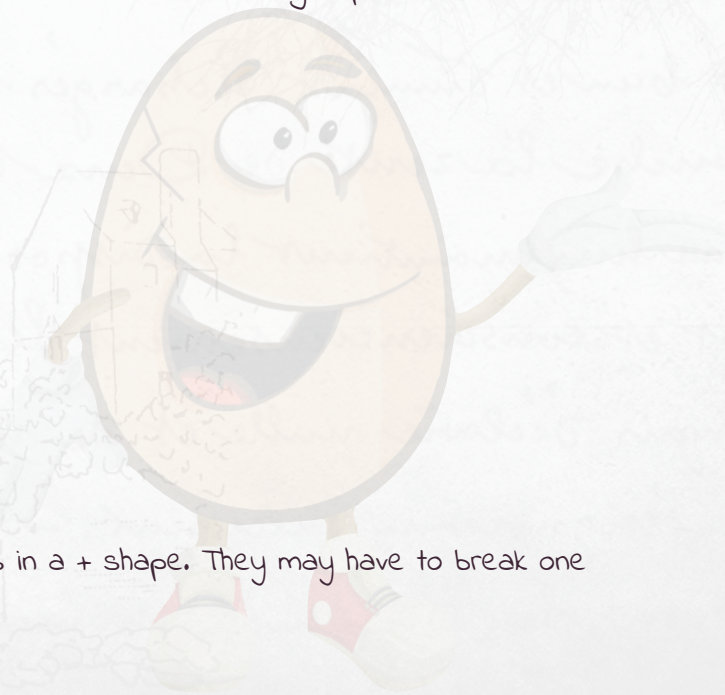
After you've finished getting in your "exercise" with the different food and beverage options, have the students be seated to assemble their healthy snack.

Distribute the following to each student on a plate:

- 1 graham cracker sheet
- 2 pretzel twists
- 8 raisins
- 4 apple matchsticks
- napkin and cup of water (or beverage of your choice)

Have them break the graham cracker sheet in half.

On each square, they should arrange two apple matchsticks in a + shape. They may have to break one



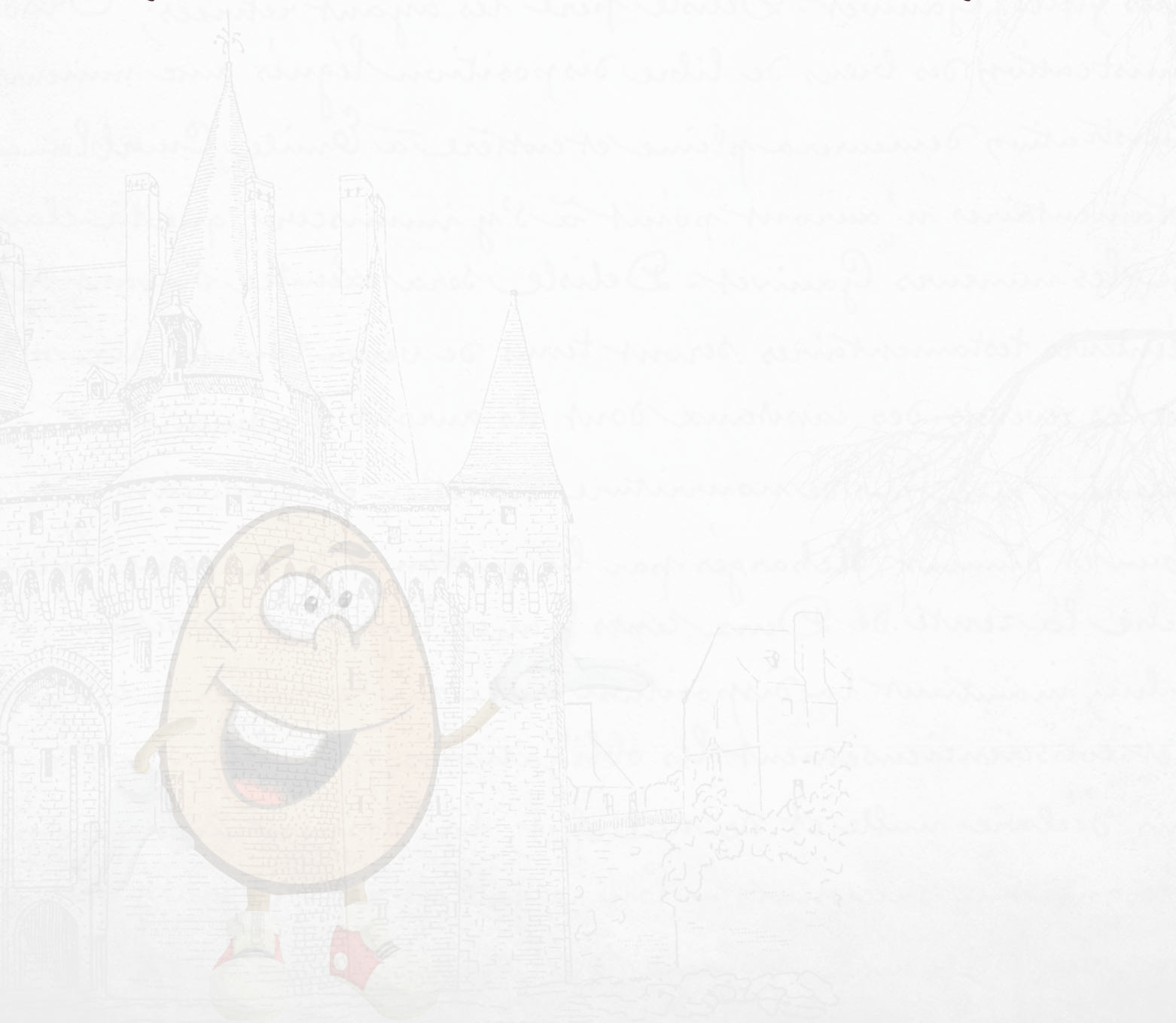
matchstick in half to place the halves on either side of the other matchstick to lay flat.

They should then place a raisin in each of the four squares created by the matchsticks on each of the graham cracker squares (8 total quadrants).

Then, have them place a pretzel twist at the top of each graham cracker square to resemble the bow of a present.

When the students have completed their snack, ask them what they think the food resembles. Let them know they are supposed to resemble wrapped gifts. Connect this to the fact that our bodies are gifts from God and we should take care of them.

Let them eat their snack and review the lesson. Remember to connect the snack project to the fact that Jesus grew in stature and our need to be disciplined and take care of the bodies God gave us.





GOLDY'S GAMES



Toddler and
Preschool

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Find the Bibles

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- various books of different shape and color
- "Find the Bibles" cutouts from the Digital Resources

ADVANCED PREPARATION:

Print and cut out the "Find the Bibles" cutouts from the Digital Resources. Before your center, hide (or have an assistant hide) the Bibles in different places around your space.

EXPLAIN THE GAME:

Show the children the different books you brought. Ask them what they think or notice about each one (color, size, new or old, etc.).

Tell the children that there are all kinds of books in the world. But there is one book that is the most important book of them all. What book do you think that is?

The Bible! Holding a Bible, tell them that the Bible is a very special book. The Bible is God's book! In it, he tells us all about how he loves us and how we can be good and kind and love him too. When we read it every day, we will get smarter and grow like Jesus did.

Tell them that the devil doesn't want us to read the Bible because he doesn't love God! So, we're going to play a game and pretend the devil hid the Bibles but we have to find them! Because learning the Bible helps us grow like Jesus!

PLAY THE GAME:

Have the students go on a hunt to find the Bibles!

When the students find them, you could have an assistant secretly hide them again while you sing some songs if you have time to go on another hunt.

Remember to connect the activity with the lesson and growing like Jesus by reading the Bible and doing what God says.



PIGGY PUPPET PLAYHOUSE



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Smarty Pants

PUPPETS AND PROPS NEEDED:

-Male puppet for the Quiz Bowl Host

-Sarah puppet

-Tony puppet

-Ben puppet (this is a narrator puppet- if you so choose, you can exchange it for another puppet and even change the name to suit available puppets)

-Allen puppet

-2 friend puppets

-additional boy puppet for the "New Friend" puppet

-Solomon puppet

-someone to be the voice of God

-3 Microphone Rubber Band props- print the Microphone Rubber Band props from the Digital Resources on cardstock. Cut them out and attach them to a rubber band by using duct tape to attach one side of the rubber band to the back of the Microphone cutout. You can wrap this rubber band around the hand of the puppets to have them hold the item.

-Bathroom Stall and Sink stick props- print these files from the Digital Resources on cardstock. Cut them out and attach them to wooden paint stirrers.

SKIT:

on one side of the stage, the Quiz Bowl Host puppet should rise, with his microphone prop attached to one hand. on the other side, the Sarah puppet should rise, with her microphone prop attached to one hand. Puppets should raise their microphones to speak.

HOST: Ladies and gentlemen, welcome back to the world's Smartest Kid Quiz Bowl! We're in the final round and we have two contestants left: Sarah and Tony. Sarah, this next question is for you.

SARAH: Okay, I'm ready.

HOST: What is the fastest land animal?

SARAH (after thinking for a few seconds): Um...I'm going to say...Cheetah.

HOST: That's correct! Let's bring out Tony.

Sarah puppet lowers and Tony puppet rises near where she was with a microphone prop attached to one hand.

HOST: Alright, Tony, Sarah got her question correct. Now, it's your turn. Are you ready?

TONY: I'm ready.

HOST: Tony, what is a group of wolves called?

TONY (after a few seconds of thinking): Um...I think it's...a pack.

HOST: That's correct! Very good, Tony. Let's bring out Sarah.

Tony puppet lowers while Sarah puppet raises.

HOST: Sarah, Tony got his question right, so the round continues. Here's your next question. Periwinkle is a color between which two other colors?

SARAH (after thinking for a few seconds): Um...I'm going to say...blue and...purple.

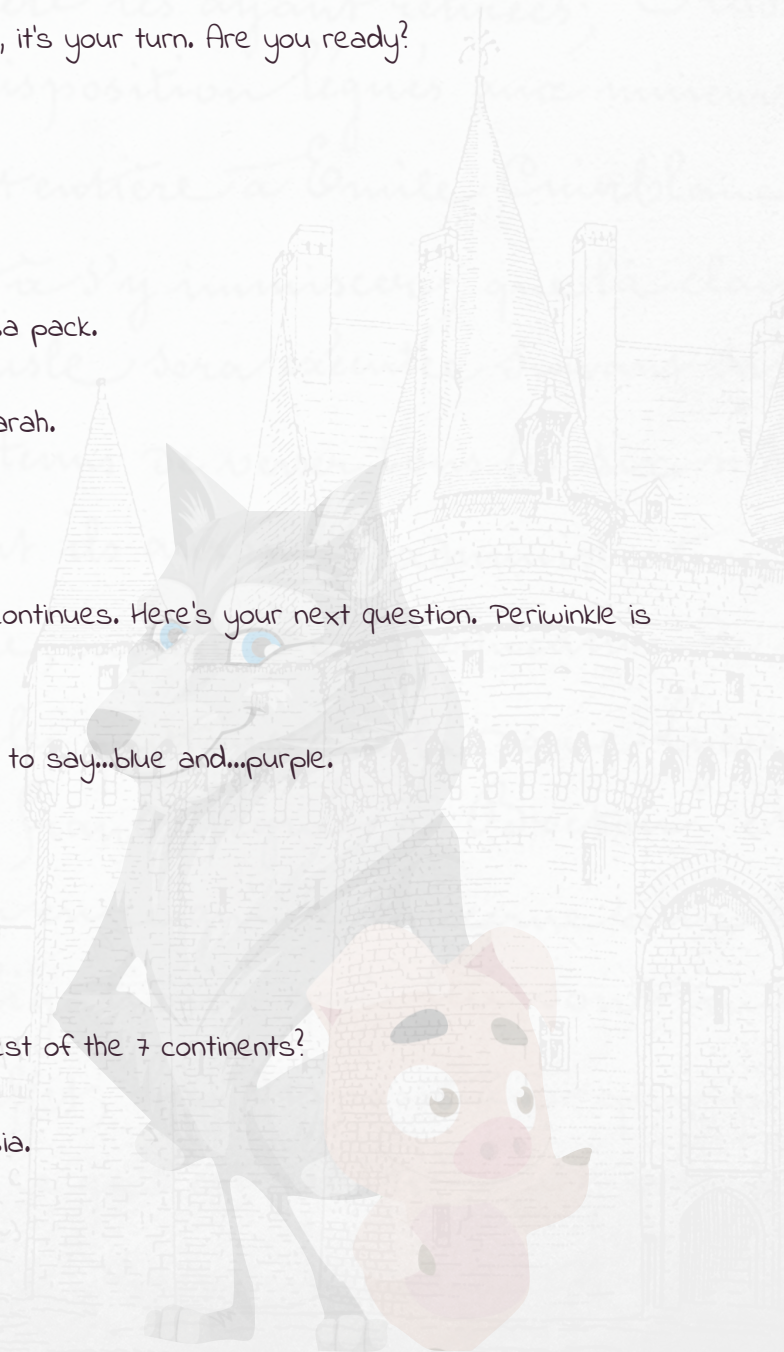
HOST: You got it! Great job. Let's bring out Tony.

Sarah puppet lowers and Tony puppet rises.

HOST: Tony, here's your next question. What is the largest of the 7 continents?

TONY (after thinking for a few seconds): Um...I'll say...Asia.

HOST: Bingo! Fabulous. Let's bring out Sarah.



Tony puppet lowers and Sarah puppet rises.

HOST: Sarah, here's your next question. Which of the following colors is not in the rainbow: red, green, or brown?

SARAH (after thinking for a few seconds): Um...I think...green.

HOST: Oh, no! Sarah, that's incorrect. Let's bring out Tony.

Sarah puppet lowers and Tony puppet rises.

HOST: Tony, Sarah missed the last question. That means if you get it correct, you win. Are you ready?

TONY: I'm ready.

HOST: Which of the following colors is not in the rainbow: red, green, or brown?

TONY (after thinking for a few seconds): Um...um...I think...gr-" (as Tony is talking, he looks to the audience. He stops his answer and then gives another one. In reality, he has seen someone in the audience who mouths the answer, which we discover later): "actually, no, I think it's brown."

HOST: That's correct! Tony is the winner! Bring out Sarah!

Sarah puppet raises beside Tony.

HOST: Congratulations to both of you for a game well played!

Tony and Sarah both respond with "thank you".

All puppets lower. Tony puppet comes in from one side of the stage followed by two other friend puppets. Allen puppet raises up on the other side of the stage. Tony brags as his friends follow.

TONY: I'm basically the smartest kid in the world. I'm probably smarter than a lot of adults. I knew I was going to win the quiz bowl.

FRIEND 1: You weren't worried you would miss a question?

TONY: worried? Me? Never! I'm too smart for that. I should probably even be the one asking the questions. I'm smarter than that host

FRIEND 2: Really? Man, that's smart! I hope I can be as smart as you one day, Tony.

TONY: Don't hold your breath, kid.

ALLEN: Tony, I need to talk to you.

TONY: okay. I'll see you guys later.

The other friend puppets exit.

TONY: what's up, Allen?

ALLEN: You're being pretty braggy to those other kids.

TONY: whatever. I'm just telling the truth. You know how smart I am.

ALLEN: You're smart. But maybe you're not as smart as you think you are.

TONY: Give me a break. You saw the quiz bowl. I didn't miss a single question.

Tony starts walking away.

ALLEN: Thanks to Taylor!

Tony stops walking and slowly turns around to Allen.

TONY: what did you say?

Allen starts walking away. Tony speeds up to follow him.

TONY: Allen! Tell me what you meant!

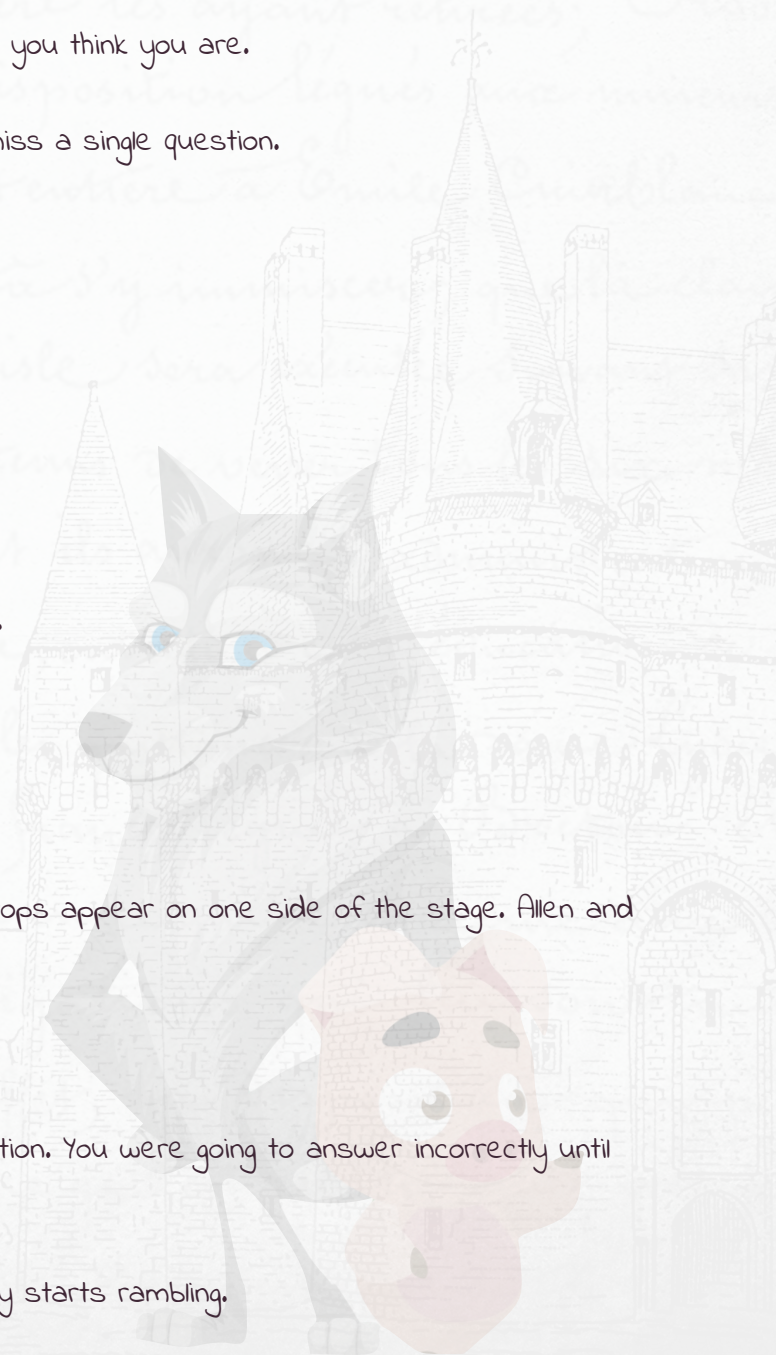
ALLEN (still walking): I think we better talk privately.

Allen and Tony exit. The sink and bathroom stall stick props appear on one side of the stage. Allen and Tony reappear as they enter the restroom to be alone.

TONY: Alright, what's this all about?

ALLEN: I saw you look at the crowd during that last question. You were going to answer incorrectly until you saw Taylor mouth the right answer.

Tony and Allen are quiet for a few seconds before Tony starts rambling.



TONY: I don't think you saw that correctly. I don't know. I don't really remember. Maybe I looked at the crowd. I don't remember Taylor. Well, I do, but I don't know if...if...

ALLEN: Tony, stop. Tell the truth.

Tony hangs his head and sighs.

TONY: Alright, alright. Why didn't you say anything when it happened?

ALLEN: I wanted to give you the chance to do the right thing.

TONY: I guess for someone so smart, that was a pretty dumb thing to do, huh?

ALLEN: It wasn't wise, that's for sure. You know a lot of facts but that doesn't mean you'll always do the right thing. Or the wise thing.

Suddenly, another puppet of your choice should enter the bathroom, humming. The puppet sees Allen and Tony and stops walking.

NEW PUPPET: Um...am I interrupting something here?

TONY: Kind of.

NEW PUPPET: I just need to wash my hands.

TONY: Can you do it somewhere else?

NEW PUPPET: Well, I'm already here. And I have frog guts on me from biology class.

Tony and Allen both make a noise of disgust.

TONY: Fine, hurry up.

The new puppet hums while washing his hands. Tony and Allen stare awkwardly and silently. They look at the crowd and shake their heads. The new puppet finishes and walks out.

ALLEN: Well, that was awkward.

TONY: I don't know what to do now. I feel like a failure.

ALLEN: You need to tell the truth.

TONY: But then everyone will know I'm not that smart! And that I lied!

ALLEN: Just because you don't know the answer to everything doesn't mean you're not smart. And we all make mistakes. A person who is truly wise knows when to admit they're wrong and learn from it. Even Solomon made mistakes. A lot. There's a difference between having wisdom and acting on that wisdom.

TONY: who is Solomon?

ALLEN: Solomon was a king in Bible times. He became king when he was young. God came to him and told him to ask for anything he wanted.

TONY: whoa! what did he ask for?

ALLEN: well...

Tony and Allen puppets lower. Solomon puppet rises and lies down on his side on the stage to be sleeping. Solomon snores a few times before the voice of God starts.

GOD: Solomon.

Solomon rises up slowly. He's in a dream but feels like he is awake.

SOLOMON: who is that?

GOD: It is I, the Lord.

Solomon gasps and quickly bows to the ground.

GOD: Solomon, ask me what you would like for me to give you.

SOLOMON: Lord, you have shown my father, David, so much love. He followed you and you blessed him and gave him a son, me, to sit on the throne after him. I am so young. I don't know what I'm doing. And I'm supposed to be king over your great people that you have chosen. What I want is wisdom to be able to rule your people, so I can know what's right and wrong. For who is able to properly rule your great people?

GOD: Your wish makes me very happy. Because you asked for this instead of a long life or riches or for me to defeat your enemies, but instead have asked for wisdom, behold, I will give this to you. I will give you a wise mind so that no one before you or after you shall ever be so wise. And because you asked for such a good thing, I'll give you riches and honor too so that no other king will be like you all your days. If you obey me and keep my commandments, just like your father, David, then I will give you long life."

Solomon puppet lowers. Tony and Allen puppets rise.

ALLEN: when Solomon woke up, he went and made sacrifices to God. God gave him that wisdom.

TONY: whoa! He must have been the greatest king ever!

ALLEN: well...not always. He did some good things. But he also did a lot of bad things. He had great wisdom but that doesn't mean he always acted on that wisdom.

TONY (disappointed with himself): Like me.

ALLEN: Tony, this is a chance for you to grow in wisdom. You made a mistake. But if you choose to do what's right, you can learn from this and grow. You can be like Jesus.

TONY: Jesus?

Suddenly, the same student from before walks into the bathroom. Tony immediately points and speaks firmly.

TONY: Nope! Get out!

NEW PUPPET: Alright, fine!

New puppet turns and exits.

TONY: Now, where were we? oh, yes. Jesus.

ALLEN: Jesus is God's son. when he came to earth to live as a man, the book of Luke in the Bible says he grew in wisdom from the time he was young. But unlike Solomon, Jesus never made any mistakes! He always chose to obey the Father. If we want to live the best life we can, we'll choose to follow Jesus' example.

TONY: You're right. I'm going to tell the truth, no matter what the consequences. I'd rather be on God's side than have a trophy.

Tony and Allen start walking toward the bathroom exit.

ALLEN: You know, maybe you should also apologize to the frog kid for yelling.

TONY: Do I have to?

ALLEN: You ToADally do.

TONY: Alright, alright.

Tony and Allen puppets exit along with the sink and bathroom stall stick props. Ben puppet rises.

BEN: The end!

Ben goes on to ask review and discussion questions (be sure to adjust the language for the age group coming into your center).

what did Tony do during the quiz that he should not have done?

what did Allen tell Tony he should have done?

How did Tony feel about Allen confronting him?

who was Solomon?

who was Solomon's father?

what did God offer to give Solomon?

For what did Solomon ask?

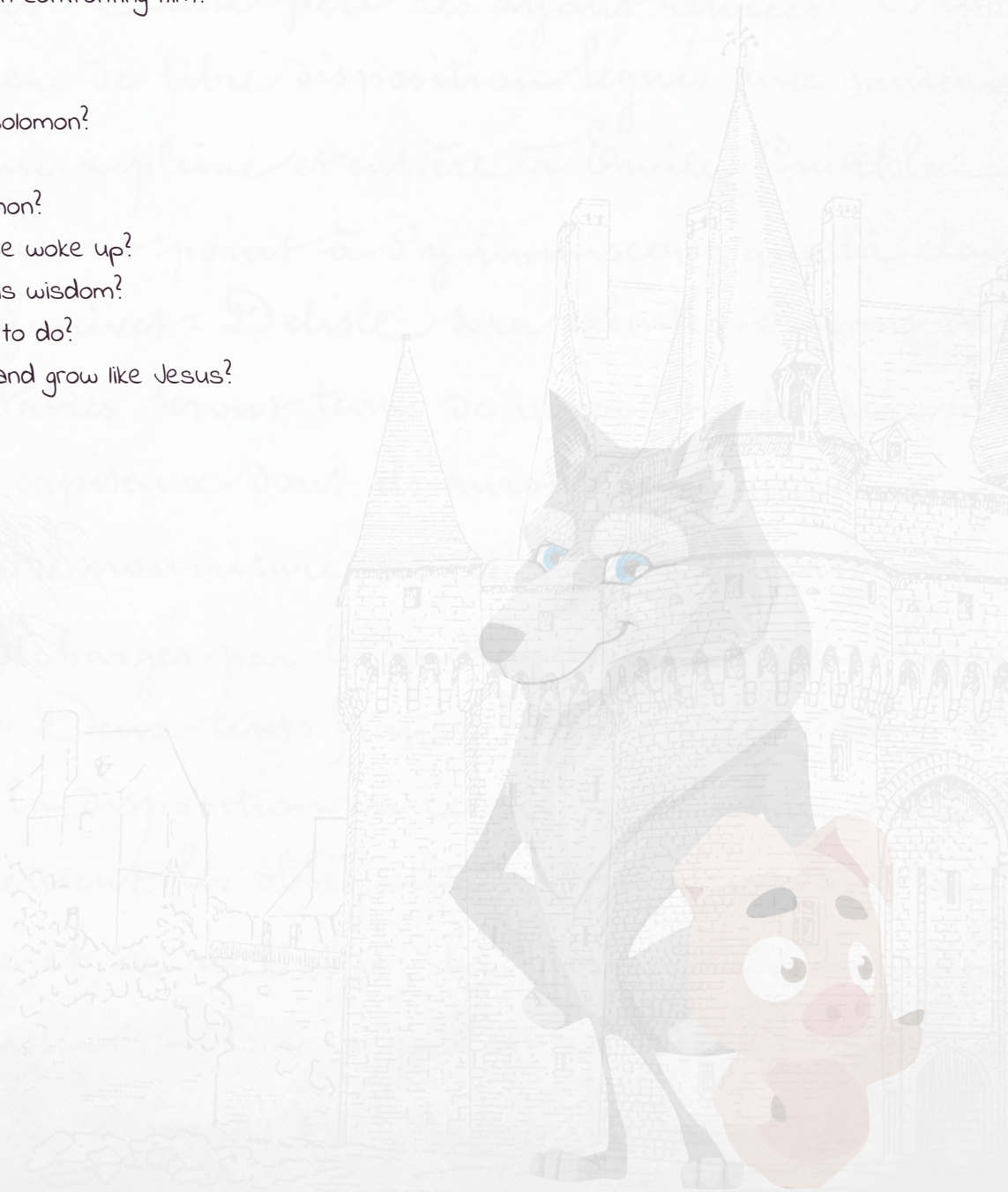
what did God also give Solomon?

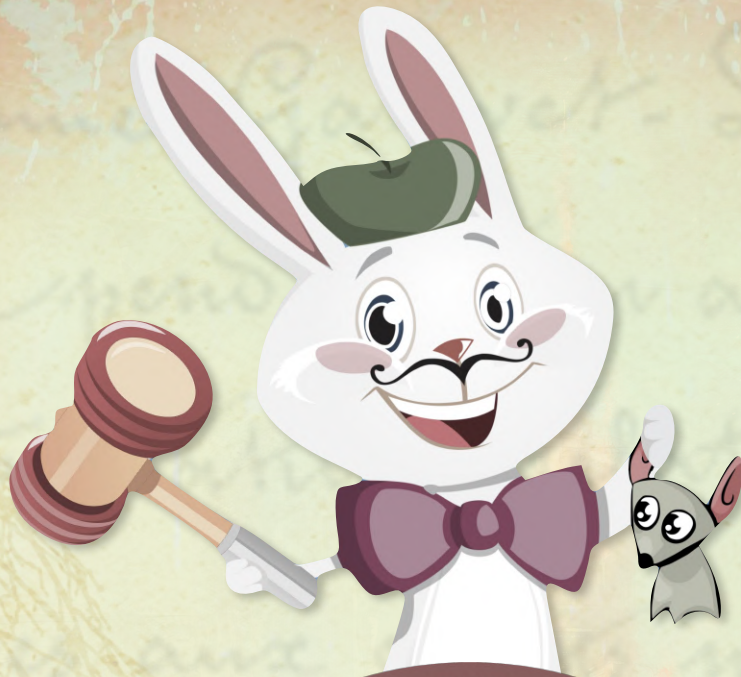
what did Solomon do when he woke up?

Did Solomon always follow his wisdom?

what did Tony finally decide to do?

How can we be wise today and grow like Jesus?





GOON GUARD ACADEMY



Younger
Kids

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Jesus Grows in Favor with Man

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

-none

WARM-UP:

Tell the students you are going to start off with a little group interaction. You're going to give them a few minutes (your choice) to get up and move around. They are to give two or three different people a compliment. After the time is up, they are to be seated again.

MAIN CONTENT:

Ask the students how it felt to give compliments. Then, ask them how it felt to receive them. There are things we do that hurt others. There are also things we do that make others feel good and help us to gain favor with them: kindness, helping them, being loyal and trustworthy, being respectful, etc.

In the VBS skit, Goldilocks isn't too respectful of the bears. How so?

First, she goes into their house without permission. Then, she eats food and uses their stuff. You don't have to be a bear to see the audacity. Being respectful of others and treating others well is paramount to what it means to be a follower of Jesus. How do you know?

Jesus showed us exactly what treating others well looked like. 1 Peter 2:22 says that "He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth". Jesus never used his words to sin against others. Jesus never used his actions against others either. As the sinless son of God, his actions toward others were perfect. Can you give me some Biblical examples of times where Jesus' behavior towards others produced favor with them?

Jesus didn't wait until he was grown to discover these principles. One of the ways that Luke 2:52 says Jesus grew as a boy was in favor with man. It's difficult to gain the favor of others without engaging them with love and respect. But that's not always easy. Why?

We really only have three choices when it comes to the way we treat others. We either treat them worse than they treat us, the same as they treat us, or better than they may treat us. Obviously, treating them worse isn't good. But treating them the same as they treat us isn't good enough either. God calls us to

more than that. we are to respond to people according to our principles and not according to their actions toward us. Jesus doesn't tell us to do to others as they do to us. He says, "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets" (Matthew 7:12) (ESV).

The way we respond to others has a lot to do with how effective we can be for Jesus as well. How so?

The effects are profound and can ripple out. If we respond poorly, we hurt ourselves in the process. we hurt the onlookers who lose respect for us. we hurt those who look up to us. we damage our credibility and favor with others, meaning it will be difficult to preach the Gospel to them and have them listen to us.

Throughout the day, you and I may be tempted to dehumanize, treat as an object or inconvenience another person made in the image of God. we may choose to label them or the situation in a way that makes us feel better about doing it. Like what?

Here are some examples:

- "it's just good business"
- "they were asking for it"
- "they had it coming to them"
- "I'm just telling it like it is"

Jesus never labeled people in ways that allowed him to feel justified in dehumanizing or treating others like obstacles or objects, even when many of us would have chosen to do it. what are some times Jesus might have been tempted to lash out at someone?

Jesus didn't justify lashing out at people or refusing to go to the cross for them by reducing them down from beings made in the image of God all the way down to the "spitters", the "mockers", the "soldiers", the "betrayers", or the "self-righteous". Even if these labels were true to their character or behavior, it wasn't the valuable part of them that compelled him to go to the cross for them anyways. If Jesus did not use my behavior and theirs as an excuse to lash at them or treat them as objects, as his follower, I am never with excuse toward others in that regard.

If we want to grow in favor with others the way Jesus did, we'll need to take the instructions of Romans 12.

READ: Romans 12:9-18.

If you had to point to one of the commands in that passage as the most difficult to carry out, what would you say?

How can we help to improve on our fulfillment of this passage in our lives?

REINFORCE:

Tell the students you are going to repeat the warm-up activity. You're going to give them some time (your choice) to get up and move around. They are to give two to three different people a compliment. However, this time, challenge them NOT to use compliments that have to do with someone's appearance. You may need more time for this. Be aware and try to make sure everyone is receiving a compliment. You may give some yourself if needed.

After the time is up, they are to be seated again. Tell them that even though it was harder to give compliments that weren't just about appearance, those often mean more because they're about more important things. In the same way, if we really want to build healthy relationships with others, we'll go beyond the surface things and really get to know people and show genuine concern for who they are, most especially, who they are in God's eyes.

Remember to connect the activity to growing in favor with others and Jesus in Luke 2.

