

Small Group Experience

LESSON 2 - “Dumb & Dumber”



Watt's Up:

“I Will Keep A Good Attitude And Not Complain!”



Power Verse:

“In everything you do, stay away from complaining and arguing.”

- **Philippians 2:14**

Retelling The Bible Story

SUPPLY LIST:

- * “Bible Story Name Cards” Print Piece (provided; print enough for all group members to have a part to play)
- * Scissors
- * Tape

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before small group begins print and cut out the Bible story name cards. Print enough copies so that everyone will have a part to play. When you assign parts there will be one Moses, one Aaron, and one Korah. The rest of the group should be assigned one of the other two name tags. There can be as many of these as needed since Korah had 250 men and the Bible doesn’t mention how many were in the second group of complainers. Once small group begins assign parts to everyone. Tell them that it is their job to re-tell the Bible story by acting out the events. Give the group time to come up with a plan and rehearse together. Once they are prepared have them re-enact the story for you. Fill in any gaps as needed.

Say - “Welcome! I’ve been told that today’s story has holes in it. That’s right, holes! To refresh my memory on why there are holes in the lesson I will need your help. I have some name tags that represent people from our Bible story. I am going to pass out the name tags, one for everyone in the group! Once you receive a tag tape it to your shirt. After all the name tags have been handed out I will give you a few minutes to chat with your group. What are you chatting about? I will tell you! You are chatting about how you will act out the story for me so that I can recall why there are holes in the lesson! Once you have a game plan let me know and we will get started. I will be here as needed to fill in any gaps in the story line.”

-Pass out the name cards and allow the group time to come up with a plan-

Say - “Ok! Now that you all have had time to come up with a plan, show me the story, holes and all!”

-Allow the group time to act out the story, fill in any gaps as necessary-

Say - “Wow! Korah and four of his men were swallowed up by a hole in the ground. That sounds crazy, but it’s true! The rest of his men didn’t meet with a very pleasant ending either. Fire from heaven took them out. Complaining ended with some pretty serious consequences.”

Ask - Why do you think God punished Korah and his men?

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Game/Activity

SUPPLY LIST:

- * Styrofoam cups (one per team)
- * Dried beans (a couple of bags)
- * Bowl or pitcher (two per team)
- * A way to keep time

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before small group begins punch out or cut small holes in the Styrofoam cups. Make sure that the holes are large enough for the dried beans to fit through. Also, make sure that the cups have enough holes that once filled with beans they “leak” them pretty easily and quickly. Once activity time begins divide the group into teams and have them line up single file. Give each team a holey cup and bowl of dried beans. Place the empty bowl across the room from each team’s line. Tell them that their goal is to not spill the beans. They must get as many beans to the empty bowl as possible; however, they must complete this task by using the holey cup! This will be like a relay race. The first team member will scoop a cup full of beans and race to dump them in the empty bowl. They will then race back and hand the cup to the next person in line who will do the same process. The team with the most beans in the empty bowl at the end wins! Set the time for as much or as little as you see fit. The game can be played multiple rounds as time allows. This game will serve as a part of the object lesson for group sharing and as a fun reinforcement of the lesson concepts!

Say - “I have a fun game for us to play. It’s called, “Don’t spill the beans!” I am dividing you all into teams. Each team will have a bowl full of beans and an empty bowl. Your goal is to get as many beans as you can from the full bowl to the empty bowl as fast as you can. Sounds pretty simple, right? Well, there is one small catch. You must use this cup full of holes to get the beans from one to bowl to the other. Take turns with your teammates going one at a time. When time runs out, the team with the most beans in the empty bowl wins!”

- Play the game as many rounds as you would like or as time allows. -

Group Sharing

SUPPLY LIST:

- * “Spill The Beans” Print Piece (provided; print one copy per kid)
- * Bibles (several for the group to share)
- * Pencils, Crayons, or Markers

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before class begins, print and cut the “Spill The Beans” print piece. Once group sharing begins give each kid a print piece, something to write with, and divide them into three smaller groups. Give each small group a Bible.

Say - “Have you ever heard the term, ‘Spill the beans?’ It means to tell or say something that you shouldn’t really tell or say. That’s exactly what Korah and his men did; they spilled the beans at the wrong time and to the wrong person. Korah was upset and started complaining.”

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Ask - Is it wrong to complain to others?

Say - “The more we complain the worse and worse our attitudes become. Complaining isn’t a fix for the problems or troubles we face. In fact, complaining is really a pretty selfish choice to make.”

Ask - Why is it selfish to complain?

Say - “When we choose to complain we really aren’t hoping for a solution to our problem or feelings. When we complain we are hoping that others will feel sorry for us or take our side. In the end the feeling or problem we are facing is still there, nothing is resolved! Life is going to be full of things that we don’t like. There will be things that hurt us and situations that seem unfair. God doesn’t expect us to ignore our feelings but he does expect us to handle them the right way! Each of you has been given a page that has some scripture references on it. Each group will look up one verse and discuss it with their group. After a few minutes we will discuss these verses together as a large group.”

-Assign each group and verse and allow them time to complete this task-

Ask - Who had Proverbs 29:11? Please read it aloud.

Ask - What are our thoughts on this verse? What word goes in the blank?

Say - “CONTROL! That’s right. We don’t want to be like a fool who spills the beans everywhere on everyone when something doesn’t go our way. A wise man keeps himself under control! Write CONTROL in the blank.”

Say - “Ok, so you might be wondering... who should I talk to when I feel like things aren’t going my way? That brings us to the next can.”

Ask - Who had Psalm 55:22? Please read it aloud.

Ask - What are our thoughts on this verse? What word goes in the blank?

Say - “Cast your cares on the LORD! Write that answer in the blank. So here’s the big news, God tells us right there in that verse... it is OK to spill the beans on HIM! Seriously, we can tell God when we are hurt, frustrated, or mad. He will not be disappointed by our feelings because He already knows them! He already knows what we are going through and is right there ready to meet our need. God has the answers to our issues and wants to help us!”

Say - “Why does God want to help us when we are upset? That brings us to our final can.”

Ask - Who had 1 Peter 5:7? Please read it aloud.

Ask - What are our thoughts on this verse? What word goes in the blank?

Say - “He cares for you! Write that in the blank. God cares for you! That is why you can tell God your troubles. He cares about what you are going through. He loves you and he wants to help you! Instead of complaining to others, spill the beans to God!”

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Prayer Time

Say - “There may be some of you who have made it a habit of complaining. When things don’t go your way you are sure to let it be known. If that is you, ask God to forgive you as we pray. Complaining is a habit that is way too easy to slip into. Let’s all pray that God will show us when we are choosing to be complainers. Ask God to help you go to Him FIRST!” (PRAY)

Closing

Say - “Korah wasn’t happy with the way things were going and he chose to complain. Korah’s choice was selfish. He and his followers paid a huge price for their complaints. It cost them their lives. Complaining didn’t solve anything; it only caused hurt and destruction. When you are hurt and feel upset, don’t forget to go to God FIRST! You can spill the beans to Him. He loves and cares for you! He has answers to the problems you are facing. I am proud of you guys! I can’t wait to see you again next week!”



