

# SABBATH SCHOOL

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## Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

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Level 1 • Unit 10 • Week 3

### SETTLING ARGUMENTS

#### OBJECTIVE:

Using the story of Miriam's leprosy, the children will learn what God thinks about arguing and what Jesus says to do when someone wants to argue.

#### ATTENTION GETTER:

Supplies: Blocks, dominoes or small boxes (anything you can stack to build a tower)

Important: Before class, ask one of the students to be your helper. Tell him or her, "When I give you the signal, I want you to knock the tower down."

Do: Have the children sit on the floor in a circle around the tower building material. Be sure you've asked a child to knock the tower down at your signal.

Say: As part of our lesson today, I want us to see how high we can build a tower.

Do: The class can work on it jointly or can take turns adding to the tower. After the tower is successfully built, give the signal to have it knocked down. Be ready for angry or annoyed comments from the children.

Say: Don't be angry at [child's name]. I asked him/her to knock it down to help me with the lesson today. Now I want to ask you a few questions.

Ask: How did it make you feel when child's name knocked the tower down? [Mad, he shouldn't have done that.]

Have you ever had an argument with your brother, sister or friend?

Ask: How do most arguments or fights start? [By one person doing something the other person doesn't like. It makes them mad.]

### **BIBLE LESSON:**

Say: Today let's find out what the Bible has to say about arguing and how God feels about it. I want to read a story about two brothers and a sister.

Do: Read (or paraphrase) the story of Moses, Miriam and Aaron found in Numbers 12. As you read the story be sure to bring out these points:

- Verse 1 is like name calling and talking bad about someone.
- Verse 10 speaks of leprosy, a very bad disease. God must have been very upset with Miriam and Aaron to give such a harsh punishment.
- Afterwards Miriam and Aaron were sorry for what they had done and they were forgiven.

Discuss: How this story is similar to arguments, disputes and fights we have with our brothers, sisters or friends.

Say: I want to read a verse in the Bible that tells us how Jesus wants us to act when someone makes us angry.

Do: Read Luke 6:29 (TEV) "If anyone hits you on one cheek, let him hit the other one too; if someone takes your coat, let him have your shirt as well."

Ask: What do you think this verse means?

Do: Have a discussion about how this verse applies to us. (For example: If someone is trying to start a fight, don't fight back. It takes two to argue.)

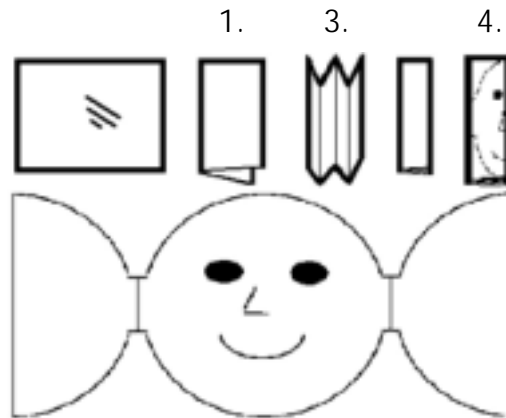
### **LESSON APPLICATION:**

Supplies: 9 by 12 inch piece of white construction paper (one per child)  
Wooden craft stick or 1 1/2 by 6 inch strip of cardboard for face puppet (one per child)  
Strips of paper with the memory verse printed on them (one per child)  
Crayons or colored markers  
Scissors  
Glue or paste  
Bible (child's or easy-to-read version)

Prepare: Make face puppets (see illustration that follows):

1. Fold the construction paper in half (short sides together) to find the center.
2. Unfold and bring each outside edge back to the centerline and fold.
3. Fold again in quarters.

4. Trace a face onto the folded card. The ears should touch the two outside folded edges.
5. Cut out the shape of the face but do not cut along the folded ear edges.
6. Glue the handle (cardboard strips or craft sticks) onto the face.
7. Make strips of paper with the memory verse printed on them. Make sure these strips will fit on the handle of the face puppet to glue on during class.



- Do:
1. Have each child draw a mad face on the outside of the face puppet you prepared prior to class. Have them make it look like themselves if possible.
  2. Then have them open the puppet and draw a glad face on the inside.
  3. Glue the strips of paper with the memory verse on it to the handle.

Say: Now that everyone is done making his or her puppet, let's play the Mad-Glad game.

- Do:
- Take turns having each child tell something that makes them mad. Have them hold the mad mask up in front of their face and make "mad sounds" (oooh, grrrr, growl).

Then have the group tell how to turn the "mad face" to a "glad face." (Example: If your brother takes your toys, talk to him about it, because if you fight, you'll both get into trouble. You could share them together.)

Finally, open the flaps of the mask and make it a "glad face." Continue around the group until everyone has on a "glad face."

- Say: Today we learned that God takes arguing very seriously. It only makes everyone sad. Jesus tells us how not to argue.

### Music:

Sing the following to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It."

When we argue, we get angry, (wipe eyes) and we're sad. Boo, hoo.  
When we argue, we get angry, (wipe eyes) and we're sad. Boo, hoo.  
We should turn the other cheek and be humble and be meek.  
When we argue, we get angry, (wipe eyes) and we're sad. Boo, hoo.

When we get along, we're happy, (clap, clap) and we're glad. Hoo-ray!  
When we get along, we're happy, (clap, clap) and we're glad. Hoo-ray!  
When we get along, we're glad and we won't make others sad.  
When we get along, we're happy, (clap, clap) and we're glad. Hoo-ray!

### **MEMORY VERSE:**

Luke 6:29 (TEV) "If anyone hits you on one cheek, let him hit the other one too; if someone takes your coat, let him have your shirt as well."

Do: Rehearse the memory verse a few times with the children repeating it. Form a circle. Take a small beanbag or balloon and toss it to one of the children. Have them try to say the verse or as much of the verse as they can and then toss the bag to someone else. Give everyone a turn.

# *family activity*

## **THE POINT:**

Using the story of Miriam's leprosy, we learned what God thinks about arguing and what Jesus says to do when someone wants to argue.

## **ASK ME...**

- About today's Bible story about Miriam, Aaron and Moses.
- How did the argument between the brothers and sister start?
- What did God cause to happen to Miriam?
- How does God feel when people argue and don't get along?
- What does Jesus tell us about arguing?

## **FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:**

Ask your child what is the opposite of someone who argues. (Answer: a peacemaker.) Talk about ways that we all can be peacemakers.

Use your Bible's concordance to look up words about arguing. Make a list of the verses you find. Also, look up verses about being peacemakers. Here's a verse to get you started: Philippians 2:14-15 "Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God...."

Ask your child about the mad-glad face puppet they made. Have them tell you how to play the game they learned in class. Have everyone in your family take a turn.

Instructions: Cut the strip off the bottom of this page. You will see this week's memory verse on the back. After your child has learned the verse, glue the two ends together, forming a link of a paper chain. Each lesson's memory verse will add a new link to their chain of Bible knowledge.

-----cut along dotted line-----

(Teacher's note: please write the memory verse on the back of this page at the bottom.)