

# “Camp Wilderness” - LESSON 2

## “(Not So) Holy Cow!”

### Main Focus:

God can restore you when you fail!



### Power Verse:

“But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.”

– 1 John 1:9



### Whatchagaddaknow:

“God Will Give You A Second Chance!”

## LEADER’S INFO

We have all sinned, messed up, and failed God. We all know the pain and shame of sin. Sadly, Christians aren’t always the best at helping those who have sinned get back on track. Too often, we “shoot our wounded” instead of helping them and restoring them.

Moses’ brother, Aaron, made a HUGE mistake. He helped the people of Israel to worship a golden calf instead of worshipping God. Moses was NOT happy with him, and neither was God.

Instead of holding it over Aaron’s head for the rest of his life, Moses gave him a second chance. Moses restored him to a place of leadership and even made him the Chief Priest.

In this lesson, the children will learn that even when we fail, God will forgive and restore us if we are humble and repent.



### “The Spark” Intro Video

“Campfire BBQ”



### “Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Boudreaux teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



### Character Skit

“Ranger Rick”



### Offering Time



### Game Time!

“Name That Worship Tune”



### Bible Story

“The Golden Calf”



### Power Verse Video

“But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all wickedness.”

– 1 John 1:9



### Call To Action

“(Not So) Holy Cow!”



### Rewind!

Review Game



### Small Group Experience

**Main Focus:**

God can restore you when you fail!



**Power Verse:**

“But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.”

– 1 John 1:9



**Whatchagaddaknow:**

“God Will Give You A Second Chance!”

**Lesson 2 Materials Needed:**

**“The Spark” Intro Video**

- “Lesson 2 - The Spark” Intro Video

**“Whatchagaddaknow” Video**

- “Whatchagaddaknow - Lesson 2 - Teaching” Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow - Lesson 2 - Trigger” Video

**Character Skit**

- “Ranger Rick” Theme Graphic/Music

**Offering Time**

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

**Game Time!**

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video

- “Name That Worship Tune” Graphic

**Bible Story**

- “Lesson 2 - Bible Story” Graphics

**Power Verse Video**

- “Lesson 2 - Power Verse” Video

**Call To Action**

- “Lesson 2 - Call To Action” Graphics

**Rewind!**

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video

- “REWIND!” Lesson 2 Graphics

**Small Group Experience**

- Comic Print Piece

- Pencils, Crayons, Or Markers

- Cow Pieces Print Piece

- Game Board Print Piece

- Scissors

- Play Dough

**“The Spark” Intro Video**

“Campfire BBQ”

**“Whatchagaddaknow” Video**

Boudreaux teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”

**Character Skit**

“Ranger Rick”

**Offering Time**

**Game Time!**

“Name That Worship Tune”

**Bible Story**

“The Golden Calf”

**Power Verse Video**

“But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all wickedness.”

– 1 John 1:9

**Call To Action**

“(Not So) Holy Cow!”

**Rewind!**

Review Game

**Small Group Experience**



## **Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video**

**Leader:** Welcome back to Camp Wilderness, where we’re learning what it means to follow God - even when the path gets tough!

Let me ask you something: Have you ever done something REALLY dumb and then immediately thought, “WHY did I do that?!” Like maybe you accidentally broke something and tried to hide it. Or you told a lie to get out of trouble, but it made everything worse. Or maybe your little brother dared you to put ketchup in the toaster - which is a horrible idea, by the way!

We’ve ALL messed up. And when we do, it’s easy to feel like we blew it so bad that God could never forgive us. But do you think that is really the case? (*allow response*) You’re right! God is always willing to forgive us - no matter how bad we fail or mess up!

To help you learn a little more about this, I want you to check out this video...

**(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 2”)**

**Leader:** Everybody messes up. And, guess what? The Israelites messed up big-time in today’s Bible Story. While Moses was up on the mountain with God, the people got tired of waiting. So they did something so horrible, so wacky, so unbelievable...you’re just going to have to wait and find out what they did.

I know, I know! It’s hard to wait, but I promise it will be worth it. You’re going to learn about how God is ready and willing to forgive - not matter how horrible of a mistake you make!

But, before we get into that, we need to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

**(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)**



## CHARACTER SKIT

**Character:** “Ranger Rick” (*Dressed as a typical forest ranger, Ranger Rick is very confident in his ability to come in and save the day - even if it isn’t needed. He is very upbeat and animated, with lots of energy.*)

**Rick:** (*Enters holding a map upside down and scratching his head*) What? This is crazy.

**Leader:** Hey, Ranger Rick! Do you need help with that map?

**Rick:** (*Flustered*) Oh, no! This map is definitely not cooperating! It must be confused! Like when you try to read a raccoon’s thoughts!

**Leader:** (*Laughing*) Right... Well, today’s lesson is kind of about a time the Israelites got something confused! Not a map, but...

**Rick:** (*Cutting the leader off*) Yes! The lesson! I’ve got it all memorized! Did you know that if you lie down next to a bear, it will ignore you unless you squeak like a rubber chicken?

**Leader:** That’s an interesting fact, but that has nothing to do with the lesson! They made another god to worship out of gold!

**Rick:** (*Wide-eyed*) Gold? Like my trail mix but shinier?

**Leader:** Uhh, not quite. The Israelites built a golden calf to worship when they doubted God.

**Rick:** (*Scratching his head*) But why a baby cow? What’s so special about those little, stinky, milky animals?

**Leader:** (*Laughing*) I’m not sure why they chose a cow, but what they chose to make isn’t really important. What matters is that the Israelites were looking for something to worship because they felt lost and impatient instead of trusting in the REAL God and His timing!

**Rick:** (*Confused*) So, they put their trust in a baby cow instead? Pretty silly if you ask me...

**Leader:** Exactly! But here’s the good news: when Moses confronted them, God still offered second chances!

**Rick:** (*Pulling out marshmallows from his pocket*) So, even if you worship a cow made out of marshmallows, God will still forgive you?

**Leader:** (*Nodding*) Yep! If we confess our sins and turn back to Him, He restores us completely. We can always come back to God for help, just like the Israelites had to admit they made a mistake.

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## **CHARACTER SKIT**

*(Continued)*

**Rick:** So, if I accidentally set my map on fire while roasting marshmallows, I can still ask for a second chance?

**Leader:** Yes, but try not to set your map on fire! That would make finding your way back much harder! Maybe try using a GPS.

**Rick:** *(Seriously)* Good point! GPS may not always work out in the wild, but it will help me avoid flaming maps... I hope.

**Leader:** *(Playfully)* That's right! And remember, it's all about trusting God. No matter how big the mistake, He's ready to forgive!

**Rick:** I can do that! I won't let my mistakes weigh me down like an anchor made of chocolate!

**Leader:** Exactly! Wait, what? What does that even mean? Oh, never mind. Just remember to steer clear of idols! We only worship the REAL God who we can trust no matter what!

**Rick:** *(Pondering)* When in doubt, trust God, confess my mistakes, and stay away from shiny cows!

**Leader:** Sounds like you've got it now!

**Rick:** Yep! Now, I've got some important wilderness stuff to do. Gotta find a GPS that works in the woods! I am Ranger Rick, Guardian of the wilderness!

*(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)*



## GAME TIME

### “Name That Worship Tune”

#### Items Needed For Game:

CD Player/MP3 player; Sound system (*optional*); Several worship songs (*preferably songs that you do often in your services*)

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#### Preparation:

Choose an even number of songs to use for this game. Set them up in a playlist so you can easily move from one song to the next.

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#### How To Play:

Choose three boys and three girls to participate in this game. Tell them that you are going to play ten seconds of a popular worship song. They will have to take turns guessing the name of the song (*or at least be able to sing a bit of the song to prove they know what song it is*). The team that guesses the most songs correctly is declared the winning team.



# Bible Story

## “The Golden Calf”

### Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 2; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

### Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in *Exodus 32-35*; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

### The Story:

Today’s Bible Story is found in Exodus chapter 32. Moses had been called by God to climb Mt. Sinai in order to receive some very important instructions from God. Moses left Aaron in charge while the Israelites waited for Moses to return. And so they waited.. and waited... and waited. Finally, the Israelites got tired of waiting. They came to Aaron and said “Aaron! Make us a god to worship.” (*show pic*)



WOW! Can you believe the Israelites would do this? God had rescued them from slavery in Egypt, had parted the Red Sea for them to cross, and drowned Pharaoh and his army. How could they abandon God so quickly and want to worship an idol. What do you think Aaron did when they asked him to make a god for them? I will tell you what he did. Aaron told the people to bring all the gold earrings that the women and children were wearing. (*show pic*) He then melted them all and molded a golden calf out of the melted gold.



Aaron made the calf for the Israelites and they worshiped the calf and called it god. Then they built an altar where they sacrificed burnt offerings to their new god. Can you believe these people? They actually believed that the golden calf was their new god. Then, after they worshiped and burnt offerings they started partying and dancing.



It was during their crazy partying that Moses came down from the mountain with the Ten Commandments. (*show pic*) Do you think Moses was happy? No! He was so angry he threw the stone tablets that had the commandments on them and broke them on the ground. (*show pic*) Moses asked Aaron, “What have these people done to make you bring such sin upon them?”



Aaron had messed up big-time, and he knew it. No doubt he felt terribly about it. He had let Moses down. He had let God down. He had sinned. You would think that God was done with Aaron, wouldn’t you? You’d be wrong.

Just a few chapters later, we find God telling Moses that He has a special job for Aaron. (*show pic*) God told Moses to present Aaron to the people as the Chief Priest, the person in charge of leading others in worship of God. Even though Aaron had messed up, God forgave him and gave him a second chance. That’s the kind of God we serve. He’s a God of second chances. You’re going to learn all about that in your lesson today! It’s going to be amazing!



## Call To Action “(Not So) Holy Cow!”

### Materials Needed:

The “Lesson 2 - Call To Action” graphics; pair of scissors; a “Change Bag” illusion (a small bag with a hidden compartment; you can get one of these at your local magic store or online at [www.davidandteesha.com](http://www.davidandteesha.com)); two large “magic” silks of the same color (also available at magic store or [www.davidandteesha.com](http://www.davidandteesha.com))

### Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled, “Lesson 2 - Call To Action - Title”; place one of the silks in the hidden compartment BEFORE the service begins

### The Message: (title slide)



In today’s Bible Story, we learned that Aaron did something REALLY bad. Does anyone remember what Aaron did? (allow response) That’s right! Aaron decided to listen to what the Israelites were saying and he made a golden calf and claimed it was a “god.” Can you believe he and the Israelites thought this cow they had just made out of golden earrings and jewelry was actually a god? I guess you could say they thought it was a “holy cow.” (pun intended) In making this cow out of gold and worshipping it like a god, did Aaron go against the REAL God? Yes! He sinned big-time. God doesn’t want us to worship false gods. That’s called idol worship. Aaron had committed sin against God. Things were not good.

Aaron was not alone. The Israelites all sinned as well by worshipping the idol. The truth is...

### Everyone Has Sinned (slide)



The Bible says in Romans 3:23 that we “all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Every time we do something that is against what God’s Word teaches— that is called sin. When we lie, when we steal, when we talk about others behind their backs, when we make fun of other people, when we hurt others...those are just a few things that go against God’s character and ultimately are sin.

(take the other “magic” silk that is NOT already in the Change Bag and hold it up for everyone to see) Let’s let this silk represent you and me. The Bible says that we ALL have sinned. Sin messes our lives up. (take the scissors and begin to cut the silk into many pieces) It ruins our lives. When we give in to sin, we hurt our relationship with God and we destroy God’s plan for our lives. Sin is a terrible thing with terrible consequences. (pick up all the many pieces of the silk and show how destroyed and tattered it is)

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## Call To Action (Continued)

God did not want us to remain this way. That’s why He sent His Son, Jesus, to pay the price for our sin on the cross. Because Jesus took our punishment on the cross...

### If You Confess Your Sin, God Will Forgive You *(slide)*



It’s true! All you have to do is be humble and confess it to God and ask for forgiveness. *(as you say the next few lines, place all of the “broken” pieces of the silk into the main compartment of the Change Bag - NOT the hidden compartment where the other silk is hiding)* Tell God, “I am sorry for my sin. I have failed you, God. Please forgive me of my sin.” Our PowerVerse teaches, “But if we confess our sins to him, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all wickedness.”

Not only will God forgive you, but...

### God Will Fully Restore You *(slide)*



God will restore you. *(as you are speaking, secretly turn the lever on the Change Bag, causing the hidden compartment with the “whole” silk to be accessible and the “broken” silk to become hidden)* What does it mean to restore? It means that what once was “broken” is made totally “brand new” again. *(as you say “brand new,” reach into the Change Bag and pull out the “whole” silk and show that what the kids thought was broken is now made whole)* That’s what God does for us when we confess our sin. Even though we failed Him. Even though we sinned, God restores our broken lives and makes us whole again.

How do we know? That’s what He did with Aaron. Remember, Aaron was the guy who led the Israelites in worshipping a golden cow? Much later, God restored him to his rightful place as a leader. Not only was he a leader, but God put Aaron in charge of all of the priests. He was the Chief Priest in charge of leading others in worshipping God. Talk about restoration. God took what was broken and made him whole again. He did it for Aaron, and He will do it for you! He is a God of second chances!

### ALTAR RESPONSE *(play soft music)*

Pray for the children who have sinned and feel “broken.” Pray a prayer of forgiveness for their sin. Pray that God will restore their broken lives. God can and will give them a second chance.



**Materials Needed:**

“REWIND!” Lesson 2 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

**Preparation:**

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

**1. Whatchagaddaknow today?**

**Answer:** “God Will Give You A Second Chance!”

**2. Where did Moses go at the beginning of the Bible Story?**

**Answer:** Mount Sinai

**3. What did the Israelites ask Aaron to help them do?**

**Answer:** Make A God To Worship

**4. What shape did Aaron mold the gold into?**

**Answer:** A Cow

**5. What position did God give Aaron later in the Bible Story?**

**Answer:** Chief Priest

**6. According to our lesson today, “\_\_\_\_\_ Has Sinned.”**

**Answer:** Everyone

**7. According to our lesson today, “If You \_\_\_\_\_ Your Sin, God Will Forgive You.”**

**Answer:** Confess

**8. According to our lesson today, “God Will Fully \_\_\_\_\_ You.”**

**Answer:** Restore

**9. Does God ever decide He is “done” with us?**

**Answer:** No

**10. Where was our Power Verse found?**

**Answer:** I John 1:9