

“Family Mechanics” - Lesson 4

“Steering Clear Of Family Fights”

Main Focus:

Families must work to get along!



Power Verse:

“Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.”

- Romans 12:18



Whatchagaddaknow:

“No Matter How You’ve Done Me Wrong, I Know We Can Get Along!”

LEADER’S INFO

Family fights are nothing new! From the very first family in Genesis to modern households today, conflict has always been part of life. Kids argue, parents lose their tempers, and sometimes even little things like where to eat dinner can turn into World War III.

But while family fights might seem “normal,” they don’t have to become a regular part of a child’s home life. In this lesson, we’ll help kids discover that God has a better way — a path toward peace, forgiveness, and restoration.

Through the story of Jacob and Esau, kids will see how two brothers who were once bitter enemies found forgiveness and healing. And they’ll be challenged to take those same steps in their own families — to make the first move, ask God for help, stay humble, and celebrate peace.



“The Spark” Intro Video

“Family Fights”



“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Disco Dave teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Otto Mobile”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Noodle Joust”



Bible Story

“Jacob And Esau”



Power Verse Video

“Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.”

- Romans 12:18



Call To Action

“Steering Clear Of Family Fights”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

Families must work to get along!



Power Verse:

“Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.”

- Romans 12:18



Whatchagaddaknow:

“No Matter How You’ve Done Me Wrong, I Know We Can Get Along!”

Lesson 4 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 4 - The Spark” Intro Video

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow” Trigger Video

Character Skit

- “Otto Mobile” Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Noodle Joust” Graphic
- Two Styrofoam Pool Noodles
- Two Large Hats

Bible Story

- “Jacob And Esau” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 4 Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Steering Clear Of Family Fights” Graphics
- Two Volunteers Dressed Like Children (*One Boy, One Girl*)
- A Toy

Rewind!

- “Rewind!” Bumper Video
- “Rewind!” Lesson 4 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Emoji Print Piece
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Romans 12:18 Print Piece
- Bean Bag
- Paper
- Pen

“The Spark” Intro Video

“Family Fights”

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Disco Dave teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”

Character Skit

“Otto Mobile”

Offering Time

Game Time!

“Noodle Joust”

Bible Story

“Jacob And Esau”

Power Verse Video

“Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone.”

- Romans 12:18

Call To Action

“Steering Clear Of Family Fights”

Rewind!

Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! Today, we are continuing with our series called “Family Mechanics.” We are giving our families a Biblical tune-up to keep them running smooth!

Alright, quick question: have you ever gotten into a fight with your brother or sister over something completely ridiculous? Like who got the bigger slice of pizza? Or who breathed too loud in the car? Or maybe... who touched the remote first? *(allow response)*

Family fights can start over the tiniest things and before you know it, people are yelling, feelings are hurt, and things can look pretty ugly.

Today’s lesson is called “Steering Clear of Family Fights.” We’re going to learn how to stop the arguing and fighting and let God help us live in peace with our family members.

But first, let’s check in with Squeely McGee and see what he has to say about all this!

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 4”)

Leader: God didn’t create families to fight with each other. He wants us to live in peace, forgive each other, and work things out — even when we’ve been hurt.

That’s right! Even when it’s hard, choosing peace is always better than fussing and fighting. Today, we are going to see what God’s Word has to teach us today about “Steering Clear of Family Fights.”

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

(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: **“Otto Mobile”** *(He is a passionate car enthusiast! He loves ALL thins cars and can’t stop talking about them. He is dressed in loud colors, a hat, and sunglasses.)*

Otto: *(Enters excitedly with a new toy car)* Vroooooom! Look at this! Behold—the Mighty Mini-Monster Truck 3000! It has turbo wheels, snack storage under the hood, and a horn that honks in three languages!

Leader: *(Laughs)* That’s impressive. Looks like you’re ready for some serious racing!

Otto: Always! Cars are my pride and joy! Nothing can stop me when I’m behind the wheel!

Leader: Well, Otto, I’m glad you zoomed in, because we’re talking today about something really important.

Otto: Ooooh. Is it about how to install a spoiler without glue?

Leader: Not exactly. We’re talking about what to do when our family hits a rough patch. You know, when things get a little bumpy at home.

Otto: *(Tilts head)* Like when I hide the TV remote and everyone starts arguing because they don’t want to watch “Top 100 Racers,” even though it’s CLEARLY the best show ever?

Leader: Exactly like that. We’re talking about when the family breaks down—not the engine kind of breakdown, but when people are upset, hurt, or not getting along.

Otto: Yikes! That sounds worse than a flat tire on taco night!

Leader: It can be tough. But the truth is that every family sometimes goes through tough times.

Otto: Wait, wait, wait. You mean my family isn’t the only one having mechanical issues?

Leader: Nope! When families hit a rough spot, it just means it’s time for a little visit to God’s pit crew.

Otto: *(Gasps)* God has a pit crew?!

Leader: He sure does! When things go wrong, God is always with us to help and guide us.

Otto: Wow! So, next time my family argues over the TV, I can pray and God will show me who is right? Then I can rub it in everyone’s faces that “Top 100 Racers” really IS the best show!

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CHARACTER SKIT

(Continued)

Leader: Woah, woah, woah! Slow your roll, racer! God will help you know what to do, but you must also be humble. You can't be mean or rude, even if you are right. Instead, you should make the first move, talk to God, and humbly tell them you are sorry.

Otto: So I should take the remote out of the hiding spot and then tell them I am sorry for hiding it and making them watch my favorite show every day?

Leader: Yes! And when you do, your family might find something that everyone wants to watch, so you can all be together!

Otto: *(Thinking)* You're right! I don't want to push everyone away. I will stop hiding the remote so we can spend time together and stop fighting over the TV.

Leader: Now you're talking like a real family mechanic. And remember—you're not alone. God can help you know what the right move is!

Otto: WOOOOO! That's the best pit stop wisdom I've ever heard! I'm gonna be the peace car in my family's race! No more bumping bumpers!

Leader: That's the spirit! And when things get better, we celebrate, just like finishing a race strong.

Otto: Kids, remember—if your family hits a speed bump, don't panic. Just pray, listen, and let God do the driving. See ya soon, speedsters! Until next time, I am Otto Mobile! Always use your blinker! Bye now!

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Noodle Joust”

Items Needed For Game:

Two styrofoam pool noodles; two large hats

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Preparation:

Choose three boys and three girls to play the game.

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How To Play:

Choose one boy and one girl to compete against each other first. Place a hat on each of their heads, making sure it is not tight. Have the contestants stand approximately three to four feet apart from one another, facing one another. Give each of the contestants a pool noodle. Have them each hold the pool noodle in one hand and place the other hand behind their back.

When you say, “Go!” the contestants must use their pool noodle to try to knock the hat off of their opponent’s head. The first one to do so is declared the winner. This game is played in three rounds, allowing the other contestants to compete against each other. The team that wins the best two out of three is the winning team!



Bible Story

“Jacob And Esau”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 4; 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 Genesis 32-33; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today, we are going to look at two brothers in the Bible named Jacob and Esau. They were twins, but Esau was born first, so according to tradition, he was supposed to receive his father’s blessing and get all his father’s possessions when he died. His brother, Jacob, did a very mean thing to him.



Jacob tricked their father into blessing HIM instead of Esau. That meant that Jacob stole Esau’s birthright from him. Esau got more than just a little upset. (*show pic*) He threatened to KILL Jacob, so Jacob took all his things and ran for his life. Years and years went by, and the brothers never talked to each other or saw each other. They were in a huge family fight!



After many years of running from his brother, Jacob really wanted to apologize to Esau. Jacob heard that Esau and his family were close by, (*show pic*) so Jacob sent messengers to Esau and told him that he wanted to make up for what he did. He offered gifts, animals, and other things to let Esau know that he was serious. When Esau saw all of the gifts, he was surprised.



Jacob was excited when his messengers arrived back at his camp, but they came with some shocking news. The messengers told Jacob, “Esau is on his way here with an army of 400 men!” When Jacob heard this, he was terrified! Was Esau coming to kill him? Was he coming to make Jacob pay for what he had done many years ago?



There was only one thing Jacob could do—PRAY! That’s what he did. (*show pic*) He got on his knees and prayed to God, “Please rescue me from Esau, for he is surely coming to kill me.” Jacob knew he needed God to help end this family fight.

The next day, Esau arrived at Jacob’s camp. Jacob ran out to meet Esau. Instead of being mean to him like he had in the past and saying, “It’s about time you got here. You’ve been mad at me long enough. Get over it, already!” Jacob kept a humble attitude and went to greet his brother by bowing down before him like a servant. (*show pic*) Esau grabbed Jacob, pulled him close, and hugged him. He forgave his brother, Jacob, for all the things he had done.

Today, we are going to learn all about how God can help end any family fight - no matter how bad it may seem!



Call To Action

“Steering Clear Of Family Fights”

Materials Needed:

The “Steering Clear Of Family Fights” graphics; Two actors dressed like little children (*one boy and one girl*); A toy

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled “Steering Clear of Family Fights”; Have the actors rehearse and be ready to perform.

The Message: (*title slide*)



Today, we are learning about what happens when families fight. When we have hurt another member of our family, it is important to apologize. But it is equally as important for us to be willing to forgive our brother or sister if they are the ones who have hurt us. Being hurt is part of life. Things happen - at school, at church, at home. Have you ever seen a scene that looked like this...

(have the two helpers walk in; one of them has a toy the other one wants)

Boy: Hey! I had that first!

Girl: No, you didn't! I did!

Boy: Give it!

Girl: No! It's mine! MOM!

Boy: Fine! Keep it! I'm never talking to you again!

Girl: Fine! I don't care!

Boy: I hate you! (*stomps off stage*)

Girl: I hate you MORE! (*stomps off stage in the other direction*)

Look familiar? Fights are almost unavoidable in families or even among friends. Things happen, and we get in fights and arguments. But what should we do when that happens? Should we let the fight go on? Should we apologize? Well, we are going to look at the two brothers from the Bible that we learned about today and learn some important lessons about all of that.

Do you remember what happened when Jacob learned that Esau was close by? He sent some of his servants to go visit Esau and offer some gifts. He didn't wait for Esau to come to him. He was the one who had done wrong, so he made the first move. The lesson - when you have a family fight...



Call To Action (Continued)

Make The First Move (slide)



If you wait on the other person to come to you, the conflict may NEVER be over. When your sister makes you mad, YOU go to her and tell her you forgive her. When your brother is upset at you for making fun of him, YOU go to him and tell him you are sorry. Make the first move. Then, do what Jacob did...

Ask God For Help (slide)



When Jacob heard that his brother was definitely coming to meet him, he got down on his knees and prayed to God. Remember what he said? “He said, “God, I’m frightened. In fact, I’m scared to death that Esau is going to kill me and my family. God – please help me.”

When you have hurt someone, making the first move and talking to the person after a long time is pretty scary. You need to ask God for help. God will always help you have the courage, the strength, and the forgiveness you need to make things right. Then, you must...

Keep A Humble Attitude (slide)



Esau arrived at Jacob’s camp. Jacob ran out to meet Esau, kept a humble attitude, and greeted his brother Esau by bowing down before him like a servant. Jacob didn’t start yelling at Esau. He didn’t start listing all the things Esau had done wrong by not forgiving him. Jacob bowed before Esau in humility. That’s what we need to do. Don’t go to the person with a mean attitude. Go to them with a humble attitude and simply say, “I am SORRY.”

Esau ran towards Jacob and gave him a huge hug! He forgave his brother, and they both celebrated the family being brought back together. When two people who have been apart come back together, we call that “restoration.” So if you follow steps 1-3, you can move on to step four just like Jacob and Esau:

Celebrate Restoration (slide)



As Christians, we are not meant to be angry at each other. That’s why we have to follow the example of Jacob and make the first move, ask God for help, and keep a humble attitude, and then we can celebrate restoration when the fight is over and the family is living in peace again. Isn’t that awesome?

ALTAR RESPONSE: (play soft music)

Some of the kids may be fighting with members of their family right now. They may have hurt a sibling and have never apologized to them. Pray that God will help them make the first move and keep a humble attitude. When it is over, they can celebrate restoration and the fact that the relationship is back where God wants it to be.



Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 4 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: “No Matter How You’ve Done Me Wrong, I Know We Can Get Along!”

2. What were the names of the two brothers in our Bible Story?

Answer: Jacob & Esau

3. Who was the older brother?

Answer: Esau

4. How did Jacob steal Esau’s birthright?

Answer: He Tricked Their Dad

5. True or False: Esau was happy to give up his birthright.

Answer: False

6. According to our lesson today, “Make The _____ Move.”

Answer: First

7. According to our lesson today, “Ask _____ For Help.”

Answer: God

8. According to our lesson today, “Keep A _____ Attitude.”

Answer: Humble

9. According to our lesson today, “_____ Restoration.”

Answer: Celebrate

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Romans 12:18