



LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

Like Moses, Big Heroes need to be humble.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that it's a good thing to be humble and admit when they need help.

KEY PASSAGE:

Exodus 18:9-27. Jethro Advises Moses.

MEMORY VERSE:

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." - Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)

SUMMARY:

Moses is one of the greatest names in all of the Bible and in all of history. Moses' story has many big moments: the burning bush, the plagues in Egypt, the parting of the Red Sea, the giving of the Ten Commandments. But even a big, important hero like Moses had moments where he recognized that he couldn't do it all. When his father-in-law Jethro, visited Moses, Jethro advised him to share the responsibilities of leading the Israelite people with other judges. Moses was humble enough to take Jethro's advice. When we are willing to be humble, like Moses, we can be heroes too.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

You have big plans for each of us. But we can't do any of it without you. Help us to stay humble and dependent on you.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



MEMORY VERSE

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." - Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)

"A huge cloud of witnesses is all around us. So let us throw off everything that stands in our way. Let us throw off any sin that holds on to us so tightly. Let us keep on running the race marked out for us." - Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)

LARGE GROUP:

Divide the room in half. Pick one side to start and have them all shout the first word, then the other side shouts the second word, and so on until they finish the verse.

SMALL GROUP:

Put each word of the memory verse on a card. Have the kids rearrange the cards and put the words in order.



SKIT

BIG HERO EMPLOYMENT AGENCY: HUMILITY

ITEMS NEEDED:

Desk
Phone
Chairs

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN: 2M, 1F

CHARACTERS:

Gladys - Secretary
Mr. Jones – Head of the Employment Agency
Thomas – Business Man

Gladys sits behind the desk. Thomas stands in the waiting room.

The phone rings. Gladys answers.

GLADYS: Big Hero Employment Agency. You've tried the rest. Now try the best. Do you have a position that you need to fill? Well, just call on us, and you know we will. We're always available, early or late. As long as it's a weekday and never passed eight. Now, what can I do for you? *(looks into phone)* Hello? I'm getting a little tired of this.

Mr. Jones enters.

JONES: Gladys, who is my next client?

GLADYS: That gentlemen over there, I think.

JONES: You're not sure?

GLADYS: You talk to him and tell me if you're sure. His name is Thomas.

SKIT

Mr. Jones goes over to Thomas.

JONES: Hello, are you Thomas?

THOMAS: I am.

JONES: Pleased to meet you. I'm Mr. Jones. Now what can I do for you?

THOMAS: Nothing.

JONES: Nothing.

THOMAS: Not a thing.

JONES: Oh, so you don't need to hire anyone?

THOMAS: Yes. I do. I am a business man and I am in need of a new assistant.

JONES: Well, that's just fine. We have many qualified people right here who would do nicely for you.

THOMAS: Thank you, but I don't need your help.

JONES: You don't?

THOMAS: No, I am a very successful person. I make big deals all day long. I make my company and my investors lots of money. I don't need help from you just to hire a little ol' assistant.

JONES: I see. Well, that's your choice of course. But can I ask you a question?

THOMAS: What?

JONES: Why did you come to an employment agency, if you didn't want to us to help you find you an employee?

THOMAS: Oh that. Well, I had a meeting earlier today in another office in this building.

JONES: And?

THOMAS: And I just sort of ended up here, somehow.

JONES: You're lost?

SKIT

THOMAS: I am not lost.

GLADYS: To get out of the building you just need to go left through-

THOMAS: I don't need your help. I can figure it out myself.

GLADYS: Do you mind if I make a suggestion, Thomas?

JONES: No Gladys. Not this time. Every time you talk to the customer, I lose a customer.

THOMAS: I am not your customer.

JONES: Oh yeah. In that case, Gladys. Go ahead.

GLADYS: Do you know what you need?

THOMAS: Yes, I need an assistant.

GLADYS: You need humility.

THOMAS: Humility?

GLADYS: Yes. I'm sure you're a very important and powerful businessman but that doesn't mean you never need help from others. There are always going to be people who are better at some things than you. And there is nothing wrong with admitting it.

THOMAS: I guess you're right.

GLADYS: And you know what else you need?

THOMAS: What's that?

GLADYS: You need an assistant. And I happen to have the name and number of someone who could do the job perfectly.

THOMAS: Well, what are you waiting for? Call them up.

JONES: I can't believe it, Gladys. For once, you actually brought in a client.

GLADYS: I have my moments.

SKIT

THOMAS: You've been so helpful. I can't wait to go out and tell everyone how great the Big Hero Employment Agency is.

JONES: Thank you.

Awkward silence.

JONES: Was there anything else?

THOMAS: Yes. How do you get out of here?

GLADYS: To get out of the building you just need to go left through...

Lights out. End.



OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

Crown
Sash
Scepter

Come out wearing the crown, sash, and scepter.

I've decided to change up my fashion a little bit. What do you think of the new duds?

When you see someone wearing a crown and carrying a royal scepter think about that person?

Give the kids a chance to answer these questions.

Today, we're talking about pride and humility. Which of those words – pride, humility – would you more likely associate with someone wearing a crown like I am? ^{what do you}

Pride says, "I'm pretty important. I'm amazing. You should look to me because I'm great." Pride is very showy. Just like this crown and sash and scepter are showy.

Humility is the opposite of that. Some people think humility is believing, "I'm terrible and unimportant." That's not it at all. Humility says, "I'm good at some things. I'm not so great at other things. And that's all okay. I don't have to pretend to be something that I'm not."

To the man full of pride, he himself is king. The humble person looks to God as her king. That's the kind of person God wants each of us to be. Which is fine by me, because this crown is getting a little heavy.



LARGE GROUP GAME

MAZE-ING RACE

ITEMS NEEDED:

Painters Tape

INSTRUCTIONS:

Beforehand, take some time to lay out a maze on your stage using the painters tape. The maze can have as many false trails and dead ends as you like, but there needs to be a clear starting point and ending point.

Choose three or four kids to be rats to run your maze. Time each kid as they crawl through the maze, remaining on the tape line at all times. Kids have to remain on all fours or risk being sent back to the starting point.

The kid with the fastest time wins!

VARIATION:

For a simpler game, give the maze one clear direction from start to finish.

For a more competitive version, place one kid at each end of the maze and place a prize at the center point. The first kid to reach the prize, wins it!

WHAT'S THE POINT?

Crawling on your hands and knees is kind of a lowly position. This shouldn't be confused with true humility, which is the ability to look at your strengths and weaknesses with honesty.



LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

Like Moses, Big Heroes need to be humble.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that it's a good thing to be humble and admit when they need help.

KEY PASSAGE:

Exodus 18:9-27. Jethro Advises Moses.

INTRO

We all have heroes. People that we admire, look up to, want to be like. People who have done amazing things and possess amazing qualities. Those qualities are what we call virtues. Qualities like faithfulness, obedience, and forgiveness.

Now we're going to talk about a virtue that you may surprise you. Usually when we think of heroes we think of courageous men and women, people with strength and power who can do it all. But today we're going to talk about the virtue of humility.

We've all heard of pride. Pride is when you think pretty highly of yourself – more highly than you ought to. Humility is the opposite of pride. Humility is not thinking low of yourself, but rather, seeing yourself for who you truly are – limits and all. Humility is the ability to say, "I can't do it all. I need help and that's okay."

Moses is one of the greatest names in all of the Bible and in all of history. Moses' story has many big moments. There's the moment God spoke to Moses through a burning bush, calling him to free God's people in Egypt. There are the plagues that God sent through Moses to show Pharaoh the power of God. There was the parting of the Red Sea, where the Israelites finally escaped from the Egyptians. There were numerous times that God spoke directly with Moses, like when God gave Moses the Ten Commandments when they were together up on the mountain.

God had done some pretty big and important things through Moses.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

No one would be surprised if Moses had been a little prideful about his position and his authority. But even a big, important hero like Moses had moments where he recognized that he couldn't do it all.

When the Israelites were moving through the desert on their way to the land God had promised them, Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, came to visit him. And what Jethro saw was that Moses couldn't do everything alone. He needed help.

READ Exodus 18:9-27.

MAIN POINT

When Jethro visited the Israelites in the desert, what he saw concerned him. From morning until night everybody would bring their problems and disputes to Moses, for him to decide what to do. There were a lot of Israelites at this time and Jethro realized that this would soon tire Moses out. Not only that, but it could potentially get in the way of other important things that Moses needed to do. Jethro advised Moses to give some of his work to other people, to let other people serve as judges for the Israelites.

Moses could have let pride get in his way but instead he chose humility. He was humble enough to hear his father-in-law's advice and consider it. He was humble enough to realize the truth of it – Moses couldn't do it all. He needed help. So, in humility, Moses appointed judges to help him do the work that needed to be done.

DRIVE IT HOME:

I'm here to tell you right now: You're pretty awesome. Each and every one of you. God loves you and delights in you and has big plans for your life.

But you can't do it alone. We all need help from time to time. We need to be humble enough to recognize that and embrace that. We can't let pride be our downfall.

You might be having trouble in a certain subject in school. Ask for help. You might know someone – a so-called friend – who is pressuring you to do things you know are wrong. Tell someone you trust. You may even be struggling with sadness or feelings you don't understand. Take them to God and to your parents or some other adult you trust.

It's okay. You don't have to have everything figured out. God wants you to be humble. He wants you to recognize that you need help. Why? Because God wants to be your helper. He wants to walk with you through this life and give you the strength and courage and comfort that you need. He wants you to turn to him and rely on him for everything that you need.

You can't do that if you think you're perfect. You have to let go of pride and embrace humility. Even big heroes like Moses were humble.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God,

You have big plans for each of us. But we can't do any of it without you. Help us to stay humble and dependent on you.

In Jesus' name, Amen



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER

If you could have one super power, what would it be?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Hebrews 12:1

Put each word of the memory verse on a card. Have the kids rearrange the cards and put the words in order.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Have the kids partner up and give each pair an inflated balloon. The kids need to stand back to back, or side to side, and hold the balloon between them (they cannot use their hands). Each group needs to successfully get from one side of the room to the other without the balloon falling to the ground.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Exodus 18:9-27.

Who was Jethro?

When Jethro saw Moses serving as the people's judge, what did he do?

Why was Jethro concerned?

How did Moses respond to Jethro's advice?

Why is humility important?

SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God,

We want to be like the great heroes of the Bible. Help us to stay humble and remember that we can only do great things with the help of others and with the power of God. In Jesus' name, Amen



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER

If you could have one super power, what would it be?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Hebrews 12:1

Put each word of the memory verse on a card. Have the kids rearrange the cards and put the words in order.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Get some rope or fabric to use as ties and have a three-legged race. Talk to the kids about the importance of relying on your partner and how you have to work together to win the race.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read Exodus 18:9-27.

Who was Jethro?

What was Jethro's concern for Moses?

Why was it important for Moses to listen to his father-in-law's advice?

Why do you think Moses hadn't already appointed other judges?

When was a time that you remained humble and accepted the help of someone else?

SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God,

We want to be like the great heroes of the Bible. Help us to stay humble and remember that we can only do great things with the help of others and with the power of God.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

TRUE or FALSE

Jethro and Moses were brothers.

FALSE (Jethro was Moses' father-in-law)

When Jethro heard about what had happened to the Israelites in Egypt, he praised God.

TRUE

Moses served as a judge for the people from morning until evening.

TRUE

When Jethro saw this, he said it was very good.

FALSE

Moses let his pride keep him from taking Jethro's advice.

FALSE



MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

Bible Heroes Lesson 4

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: MOSES



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Today we learned that big heroes remain humble. Moses's father-in-law, Jethro, witnessed Moses serving the people as judge all day long. He knew that this was too much for Moses and advised him to appoint other people to the position as well. Moses was humble enough to accept Jethro's advice and to accept help from others.



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Kids hear a lot about their weaknesses. So talk to your kids about their gifts and strengths. (After all, humility is not about thinking low of yourself; it's about seeing the truth about who you are – including good things.) Ask them about ways that they can use their gifts and strengths for God. Talk about how every good thing that we are and have comes from God, and how remembering that can keep us from becoming prideful.



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- Where did Jethro visit Moses?
- What advice did Jethro give to his son-in-law?
- What's the best piece of advice that you're ever taken?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." - Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)



PARENT TIME:

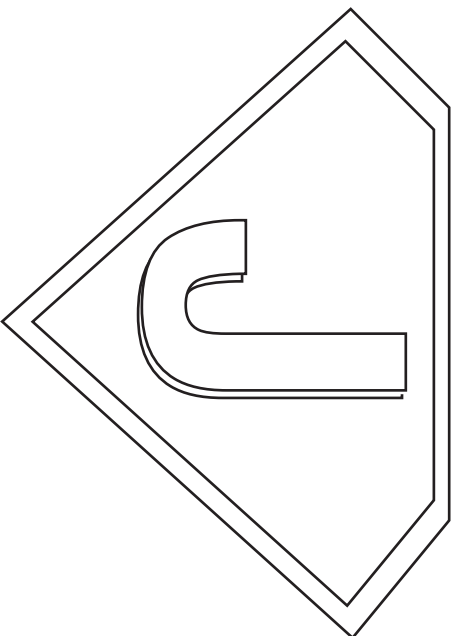
What you need to know:

How do you model humility for your kids? Work this week on admitting where you need help and asking for it. Look for places where pride has kept you in prison and ask God to destroy those strongholds.

Word Search

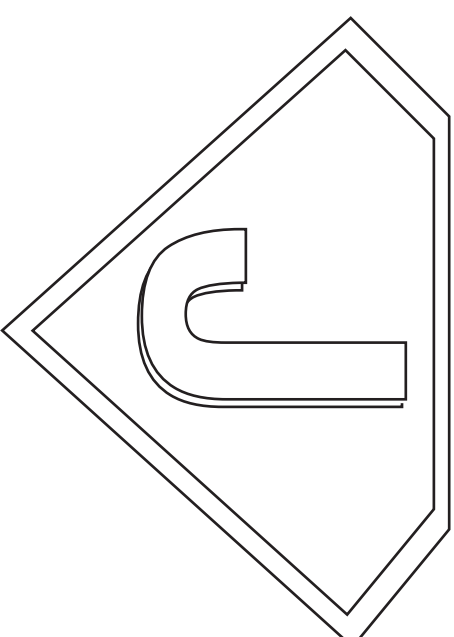
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R	P	W	D	C	W	T	C	N
J	Y	A	E	Z	D	I	H	K
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Desert
Humility
Israel
Jethro
Judge
Moses



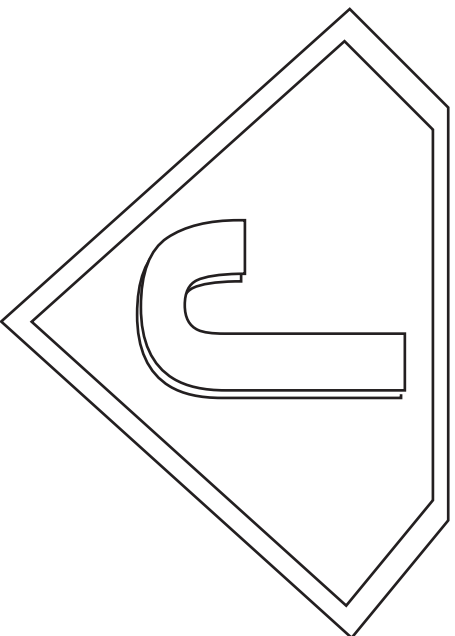
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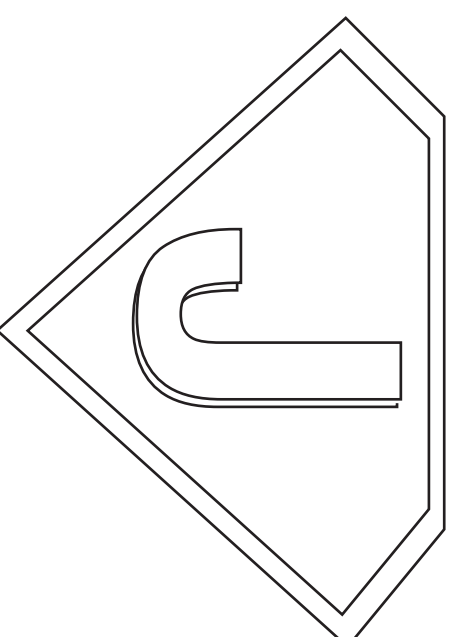
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