



Grace Church Elementary

Camp Grace

LESSON 28 SKIT

Principle: We reap what we sow, even if it takes a while. Following God's plan and not our own.

Bible Character(s): Samson

Scripture Reference: Judges 15-16



PERSONAL PREPARATION: Before this weekend, read through Judges 15 and 16.

Samson chose to live for himself, rather than follow God's plan for his life. His life was miserable because of his sinful choices, yet God used him to accomplish His plan. The Lord has a purpose for each of our lives, just as He did for Samson. Regardless of our sin, God's sovereign plan will be carried to completion, but He wants to bless us with an abundant life of joy and peace as we trust in Him. Samson faced consequences of his sin. He ended up blind, imprisoned, and alone. How often do we find ourselves in miserable situations and wonder how we got there? Do we seek to follow God's plan for our lives or do we choose to follow our own plan and struggle with those consequences? How often do we respond to God in the same way that Samson did with arrogance and a self-centered attitude? God's purpose will be carried out. Do we choose to be a part of that plan by following Him or do we live for ourselves?

BIG GROUP TIME - 35-40 minutes

1) Run-through/Prayer

Run-through order of service (assigned parts, transitions, slides for music and skit, video if applicable, etc), assign door greeters, pray, mic check)

2) Welcome Cabins

Band member says, "Welcome to Camp Grace!" before intro song

3) Intro Song

4) Camp Competition

A Colorful Sort

This competition involves everyone. Give each cabin a cup of 50 small, colorful items (pony beads, Legos, etc). Explain that as a group, they must separate the items into separate color piles on their rug. When they are finished, everyone must stand up. The first cabin to finish wins the Camp Banner for the week. (Please have camp counselors make sure ALL items are put back into their cup for the next service.)

5) Worship Set

Worship Connector

How many of you have ever planted a flower seed before? What do you have to do to take care of it and help it grow into a beautiful flower? That's right – water it, give it sunlight, and give it time to grow. So what if you decided you wanted to give it coke instead of water and kept it inside, away from the sunlight? Would it turn out to be what it was meant to be? Probably not. It would probably not grow and would just die. Well this is a good illustration of what we are going to learn about today. We will see what happened when Samson continued to choose his own plan for life instead of following and trusting in God's plan. He experienced different consequences that made him have a miserable life, instead of a life of joy like God wanted for him. Samson reaped what he sowed. Let's sing one more song and think about how we can trust God's plan.

6) Skit

Sowing Seeds God's Way

ProPresenter:

Slide: 3 seeds on ground – seed 1 “Used gifts for selfish purposes,” seed 2 “Didn’t respect the authority God placed over him,” seed 3 “Bragged about the gifts God gave him.”

Characters:

Staff Member #1

Staff Member #2

Props:

Garden trowel

Package of seeds

Script:

(Two staff members make their way to the stage after worship. Staff member #2 is carrying garden tools and a package of seeds.)

Staff Member #1: **Good morning and welcome to Camp Grace! I'm ____ and this is my friend, ____** (introducing Staff Member #2). **We're here for the best part of Camp Grace!**

Staff Member #2: **It's not canoeing.**

Staff Member #1: **It's not swimming.**

Staff Member #2: **It's not the zipline.**

Staff Member #1: It's not even hiking on Mount Whack-A-Mole. We're here for...

Staff Member #1 and Staff Member #2: The Bible lesson!

Staff Member #1: Last week, we talked about Samson.

Staff Member #2: I remember Samson. He was a guy who God made the strongest guy around. He was chosen by God to deliver the Israelites from the Philistines.

Staff Member #1: Samson was special. He had strength and he was chosen by God. But, based on last week's story, it seems like being special kind of went to his head.

Staff Member #2: You're so right. Do you guys remember what happened when he saw a pretty girl he wanted to marry? (Give time for response.) Right. His parents told him it was not a good idea to marry her because she didn't worship the one true God. He didn't listen to them. He wanted to marry her anyway. He didn't respect his parents' authority. Remember what we learned last week? Obeying the authority that God places over us is obeying... who? (Wait for answer from the kids.) God.

Staff Member #1: Samson seemed to do what he wanted when he wanted. There were times when he used the gifts God gave him for his own pleasure. Well, today, we're going to find out more about Samson. But first, I have to stop and ask you - why are you carrying those garden tools and those seeds?

Staff Member #2: These? Well, I planted some mammoth sunflower seeds in the Camp Grace garden two weeks ago. Every morning I go out and check to see if the sunflowers are growing yet. Everyday, it's the same thing - no sunflowers. So, today, I decided to start over. I plowed up the spot and I planted new seeds.

Staff Member #1: Let me get this straight. You've been checking the seeds each day for two weeks and because you haven't seen a plant yet, you started over?

Staff Member #2: Yep. I'm pretty sad. I wanted everyone at Camp Grace to see mammoth sunflowers. They are the coolest; they grow up to 9 feet tall and like all sunflowers, they follow the sun! I like that because it's a reminder to us to follow the Son, too. We should follow Jesus, the Son of God, like sunflowers follow the sun in the sky.

Staff Member #1: The sunflowers sound cool, but we're going to have to wait even longer to see them now. See, you didn't give the seeds enough time to sprout. There are directions on the packet that tell you how long you need to wait before you see plants sprouting from the seeds.

Staff Member #2: (Looks at seed packet.) You're right. There *are* directions on the seed packet. I didn't wait long enough. I haven't been very patient. I should have followed the directions instead of trying to do things my own way.

Staff Member #1: I'm sorry you made a mistake with your sunflower project. But you know what? Your seed story is a great way to tell about the rest of the Samson story.

Staff Member #2: Yeeeahhh, I see what you mean. Samson didn't always follow God's plan for his life. He tried to do things his own way.

Staff Member #1: Samson was supposed to be set apart for God. Instead, he used the special gifts God gave him for selfish purposes. He didn't respect his parents, the authority God placed over him. He even bragged about how strong he was. He sowed some pretty bad seeds. (Slide)

Staff Member #2: Samson fell in love with Delilah. What Samson didn't realize was that Delilah was working for the enemy. The Philistines asked Delilah to try to find out the secret of his strength. She nagged and nagged. Finally, she told him that he couldn't really love her if he wouldn't tell her the secret of his strength. He gave in and told her that if his head was shaved, he would be as weak as any other man. So, when Samson fell asleep, Delilah shaved his head.

Staff Member #1: Without his strength, the Philistines were able to capture Samson. They gouged his eyes out. Then, they made him work in their prison. I'm sure Samson realized that he had sinned against God by doing things his own way. His sin had consequences. He reaped the bad seeds he sowed by losing his strength, he lost his sight, he was living his life as a prisoner to the Philistines, and he lost relationships to everyone he loved.

Staff Member #2: One day when the Philistines were worshiping their god, they brought Samson into the temple to make fun of him. While there in the temple with 3,000 Philistines, Samson prayed for God to strengthen him once more. He put his hands on the pillars of the temple and pushed with all his might. The temple came down on the 3,000 Philistines, killing everyone, including Samson.

Staff Member #1: See, Samson was set apart by God to conquer the Philistines with his incredible strength. But many times in Samson's life, he did what he wanted and not what God wanted. This had terrible consequences for him. But God still loved Samson and listened to Samson's prayer. God still used Samson to conquer the Philistines, despite Samson's disobedience. Samson still had to face the consequences of his sin; he died along with the Philistines.

Staff Member #2: It's a sad story, but it is a reminder to us that there are consequences for our sin. We reap what we sow, even if it takes a while.

Staff Member #1: It's important for us to follow God's plan. We need to use the gifts He gave us for His purpose and not our own. I hope your sunflowers sprout soon so that we can all see them following the sun as a reminder to us to follow God's Son, Jesus Christ. Let's pray.

Father, You want all of us to be set apart to do special things for You. You've given each of us special gifts. Help us to follow Your plan for our lives and not our own. Help us to sow good seeds. Amen.



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