



Grace Church Elementary

Camp Grace

LESSON 44 SKIT

Principle: Facing tough times, even when we're living right.

Bible Character(s): Job

Scripture Reference: Job 1-2, 42



Personal Preparation: Before this weekend, please read through Job 1-2 and 42.

These chapters reveal Job as a righteous, wealthy man who trusted and worshipped God even through devastating losses. More importantly, we see that God is sovereign and that Job's holiness is more important to God than his comfort or happiness. God calls us to trust in Him during times of loss and grief as well as joy and security. Ultimately, God is more concerned with our heart attitudes than with our physical circumstances.

Have you ever felt like Job? How do you respond to pain in your life? Is your focus to have a comfortable life or to be like Christ? Meditate on 1 Peter 4:12-13 as you study Job this week.



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

2) Welcome Cabins

3) Intro Song

4) Camp Competition

Coin Flip

Each cabin has a coin to flip. They flip with the host on the count of three. If the cabin matches the host coin, they remain in the competition (stay standing). If the cabin does not match the host coin, the cabin is eliminated (sit down). The last cabin standing wins.

5) Worship

Worship Connector: How many of you have had tough things happen in your life? What kinds of things? (Allow responses.) Did you feel like you were all alone and no one knew what you were going through? God knows everything about us. He knows when we laugh, and even when we cry. He knows when we are going through hard times. Today we are going to learn about a man named Job who was going through a really difficult time. We will see that God was in control of Job's life, and that He is in control of our lives as well. God wants us to call out to Him and trust Him in difficult times because He is in control.

6) Skit

Trusting God When Bad Things Happen

ProPresenter:

Slide #1: Okra Logo

Slide #2: "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them." – Romans 8:28

Characters:

Storyteller: Okra Wimpey

Staff Member #1: Jimmy Joe Johnson, former Camp Grace Jenga Tournament Champion

Staff Member #2

Props:

3 camp chairs on stage

Okra Wimpey theme song

Script:

(The stage is set up like a talk show with three chairs. ***SLIDE 1 – an Okra Wimpey logo will be on the screen. The Okra Wimpey theme will play.)

Announcer: In four, three, two, one....And now, live from Camp Grace Big Group Room, it's the Okra Wimpey Show!

(A staff member walks in front of the stage with an applause sign.)

And here's your host: Okra Wimpey!

Okra: Hello everyone! It's great to be here. (Takes a seat in one of the chairs.) Thank you for letting us film once again from your camp, Camp Grace. We have an exciting show for you today. We have exclusive interviews with two very special people. That's right. We got the exclusive. First, we're going to hear from Jimmy Joe Johnson, the former Jenga champion of Camp Grace.

(The staff member will hold up the applause sign. Okra applauds, as well.)

I've waited for an interview with Jimmy Joe Johnson for sometime. I know you're all just as excited as I am to welcome Jimmy Joe Johnson to our stage.

(The staff member holds up the applause sign, again as Jimmy Joe Johnson walks on stage.)

Jimmy Joe: (Shakes hands with Okra and takes a seat to her right.) Hi Okra! It's great to see you.

Okra: Jimmy Joe Johnson, former Jenga Champion! What an honor! I've waited so long to interview you that I hardly know where to begin. Could you tell us how you became the 2018 Jenga Champion?

Jimmy Joe: Well, Okra, it started when I was a boy. My family, the Johnsons, enjoy the letter J. My father, Johnny Jim and my mother, Judy Jo, gave my name Jimmy Joe to me. When we lived in a little house on Juniper Street, my father, Johnny Jim came home one evening with a brand new family game, Jenga. That first night we played the game together as a family, I just jumped for joy. It became a favorite at the Johnson house, Jenga did. When there was no one to play with, I would stack the wooden blocks on my own. The more I practiced, the better I became. I realized that I really had a talent for this game.

Okra: Did your parents, Johnny Jim and Judy Jo Johnson, recognize that talent?

Jimmy Joe: They did. They were just jubilant over my newfound talent. They found a Jenga tutor who instructed me in the tedious stacking of wooden blocks for hours daily. They bought every book written on Jenga strategy and technique. I studied and practiced constantly. I began entering Jenga tournaments and jetted all over the world from tournament to tournament.

Okra: How exciting, Jimmy Joe! How did you finally make your way to the largest tournament in the country - the Camp Grace Jenga Tournament?

Jimmy Joe: The Camp Grace Jenga Tournament was everything I ever worked for. It was the goal I trained so hard for. I won the tournament in Japan in 2017, which meant I would finally get to compete at Camp Grace. The competition was tough, but I trained my entire life for this. In 2020, I won the Camp Grace Jenga Championship.

Okra: Audience, it's an inspiring story of someone who worked and trained a lifetime to become the champion. He was undefeated and at the top. But the joy was short-lived because this year at the 2021 Camp Grace Jenga Tournament, Jimmy Joe Johnson was defeated. Let's talk to the competitor that took the 2021 championship, (staff member #2).

(Staff Member #2 enters. He shakes hands with Okra and Jimmy Joe Johnson and then takes the seat to the far right of Okra.)

Welcome to the Okra Wimpey Show, (Staff Member #2). Correct me if I'm wrong, but I heard that you were entered in the 2021 Camp Grace Jenga Tournament by mistake.

Staff Member #2: That's right Okra. I work here at Camp Grace. I was getting the camp ready for the big tournament. The best we can figure is that while I was working, I must have written my name on

one of the official forms, thinking it was something else. No matter how it happened, I ended up on the list of contestants. I had never played Jenga in my life. I wasn't sure what I was supposed to do. But, when they called my name, I took my seat and played the reigning champion, Jimmy Joe Johnson. I beat him and well, now I'm the champion.

Okra: You had no training?

Staff Member #2: Nope, none at all.

Okra: You didn't intentionally enter the tournament?

Staff Member #2: Uh. It was a total accident.

Okra: And you are the 2021 Camp Grace Jenga Champion, after doing...well, no work at all toward that end?

Staff Member #2: Yep. That's about the size of it. Crazy, ain't it? I mean, when you think about all the time, the training, the hard work, the sacrifice that Jimmy Joe Johnson put into it....I mean, he was on top. He had it all - Jenga commercials, Jenga sports wear endorsements, a Jaguar given by Jenga, a jet sponsored by Jenga, a Jenga sponsored jet ski, and even his own life Jungle Gym, made from Jenga game pieces. I took it all away like that. (Snaps fingers.)

Okra: This is an amazing story. I have to ask you, Jimmy Joe Johnson, how can you be so calm about all of this. You had it all and it was taken away. Aren't you angry? Don't you feel resentment?

Jimmy Joe: Well, Okra, of course, I'm disappointed. Who wouldn't be? But I learned long ago about someone named Job in the Bible. We read many stories from the Bible in the Johnson home, especially stories from the books of Joshua, Judges, Jeremiah, James, John, John 1, 2, and 3, and of course, Job. Job was the greatest man around, back in his day. He truly had it all. He had a wonderful family, lots of land, servants, good friends, and a wonderful relationship with God. But, Satan went to God and asked God's permission to mess with Job. He wanted to make Job turn away from God. God gave permission and told satan that Job was like no one else on earth in the way that he tried to live for God and stay away from evil.

Staff Member #2: You mean God gave Satan permission to mess with Job?

Jimmy Joe: Yes, because nothing can happen without God allowing it to happen. God allowed satan to wipe out Job's entire family and all of his servants. Satan destroyed everyone that Job loved. Then, he destroyed everything that Job owned. Finally, Satan made Job very sick, with sores all over his body. He wanted to prove to God that Job would turn away from God if things weren't going well.

Staff Member #2: I can't imagine losing my entire family and everything I had. And, then, to get so sick, too! I don't understand why God would allow Satan to take so much from a man that did everything right. I mean, God said there was no one else on earth that tried so hard to live for God. So, why would God allow all these terrible things to happen to such a good man?

Jimmy Joe: Well, sometimes God allows bad things to happen to people. The tough part is that we don't always understand why. But that's where faith comes in. We have to know that God loves us more than we can imagine. Everything that happens to us is part of God's plan. We just have to trust that God loves us.

Okra: You prepared for the Jenga tournament for years. You did everything you could to be the best Jenga champion. Are you saying that you don't hate the person who took all of this from you because you know that God has a plan in your losing?

Jimmy Joe: Exactly, Okra. I trust God. I know he loves me. I trust in His plan for my life. I am not thrilled about losing everything I've worked so hard for, but I know that God has a plan. He loves me and I will trust Him.

Staff Member #2: That's amazing. I'm really encouraged by that. See, I have a little friend who is very sick right now. He is the best little boy I've ever known. He has cancer. I've been wondering why God would allow a sweet little boy to suffer so much. From listening to you...well, it reminds me that God loves this little boy even more than his parents love him. Even though we don't understand why he has to suffer, we can know that God has a plan.

Jimmy Joe: There are lots of things that happen in life that we don't understand. There is sickness, there is death, and there are hurricanes, floods, and so much more. We may not understand it all, but we can know that nothing happens without God allowing it. We can know that God loves us more than we love ourselves. We can just trust in God's love and His plan. One verse from the Bible that helps me is in Romans 8:28.

***SLIDE #2

The verse says, "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them." See, everything works together for our good if we love God and follow Him.

Okra: This has been fascinating. Thank you so much for sharing with us how you have dealt with such a great disappointment in your life. I'd like to thank both my guests for telling their stories. I know, I for one am encouraged to simply trust in God when things happen that I don't understand. He loves me and has a plan for me. I'm going to send you all back to your cabins now to discuss this further.

(Refrain from praying in character.)



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