



Grace Church Elementary

# Camp Grace

## LESSON 84

3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Principle:** Confront believers in sin. There is danger in hypocrisy.

**Bible Character(s):** Paul, Peter

**Scripture Reference:** Galatians 2:11-16



**PERSONAL PREPARATION:** Before this weekend, read Galatians 2:11-16. Notice that Cephas (Peter) ate with the Gentiles until the Jews came to visit. Then, he withdrew himself from the Gentiles. Peter observed legalistic practices with the Jews, who believed certain foods were unclean. When the Jews were not around, however, he ate all foods. He was not consistent in his actions. Paul confronted the inconsistency of Peter's actions in the presence of others. Paul pointed out that the inconsistency of Peter's actions would confuse others and affect his witness.

Think about hypocrisy, and how believers can easily fall into living in a way that conflicts with what the Bible says. Do you see anything in your life that could be seen as hypocritical? If you believe and trust in Jesus as Savior, then you have been saved by grace. But believers still have a responsibility to live in a way that honors and glorifies God. We reflect who God is and what He has done for us to the world. God does not expect us to live a perfect life, but He desires for us to reflect the heart of Christ in the way we live. When we recognize sin in ourselves, we must turn to God and repent of our sin. When we continue living in sin, especially when we have recognized the sin, what message are we giving to unbelievers? What is keeping you from turning from your sin? In addition to recognizing sin in ourselves, we have a responsibility to recognize sin in other believers. God calls us to confront another believer in sin. Confrontation must come from a humble heart, a heart that recognizes one's own sin and standing before God.

How would you confront someone in sin? What steps would you take? How would you expect another to confront you of your sin? Think through your approach as you read through the lesson to prepare to teach your campers how to confront another believer in sin.

### **PLUG IN TIME - 5-10 minutes as the kids begin to arrive**

Arrive early to check the supplies in the bin and review the lesson. Write today's principle on the whiteboard. Remember to greet all campers upon arrival; meet their parents; welcome and introduce all visitors. Create a welcoming cabin for all campers!

How many of you think that you're not supposed to lie? Have you told anyone, maybe a brother or

sister, or a friend even, that lying is bad? Why did you tell them that? Have you ever lied before? How does it make you feel if you've told others not to lie, but you've lied before? Do you think living in a way where you say one thing, but you do something else, is how God wants you to live?



## **BIG GROUP TIME - 35-40 minutes**

As you line up, remind campers we are going to have fun as an entire Camp Grace group! We are going to live out GRACE by **Glorifying God** through worship, **Respecting All Leaders**, and **Accepting Responsibility** to listen with attentive ears, minds, and hearts - fully **Celebrating Christ** with passion! We should **Encourage Others** to do the same, by not distracting them from their worship of God.

### **The Bridge to Small Group**

Today we will see how to recognize when another believer is in sin and how to confront them in a Biblical manner. We will define hypocrisy, and talk about the importance of good character that reflects Christ.

## **Small Group Time - 25-30 minutes**

### **Getting Started**

If your cabin did well in Big Group, acknowledge it. If not, take a couple of minutes to talk about how they can do better next time.

**What did you learn in Big Group? Why was one of the trainees upset with the Camp Guide?** (The Camp Guide was telling him not to do something, and then turning around and doing it himself.)  
**What did the trainees learn?** (When another believer is living in sin, or is being hypocritical, we should confront in love and help them recognize their sin and their need for Jesus to change their heart.)

Last week we talked about the body of Christ, how God designed the body of Christ to live with the same purpose, working together in harmony to spread the kingdom of God. If you believe and trust in Jesus, then you are a member of the body of Christ. God created you with a specific role in the body of Christ, and gave you unique gifts to fulfill that role. When one member is not fulfilling their role, or living to bring glory to God, then the whole body cannot function as God created it to.

Today we will learn about one role of believers in the body of Christ: to confront another believer who is in sin. We will learn how to recognize when another is in sin, how to confront that person in a loving way to show them how they are not glorifying God, and how to help them see their sin and repent.

Let's begin in Galatians 2 [NLT]. Paul wrote this letter to the church in Galatia.

### **Galatians 2:11-13**

*11 But when Peter came to Antioch, I had to oppose him to his face, for what he did was very wrong. 12 When he first arrived, he ate with the Gentile Christians, who were not circumcised. But afterward, when some friends of James came, Peter wouldn't eat with the Gentiles anymore. He was afraid of criticism from these people who insisted on the*

*necessity of circumcision. 13 As a result, other Jewish Christians followed Peter's hypocrisy, and even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.*

In one of our previous lessons (Acts 10), we saw God tell Peter to tell the Gentiles about Jesus, because God showed Peter that all people needed Jesus to save them, both Jews and Gentiles. Peter obeyed God. He began visiting the Gentiles in their homes to tell them about Jesus. But when he was in Antioch, and a certain group of Jews were around, Peter would not go into a Gentiles' home because he feared what those Jews would think about him. His actions were not only wrong, but caused other Jews to follow his example of being a hypocrite.

In Big Group, we learned what a hypocrite is. Do you remember the definition? (You talk the talk, but you don't walk the walk. You tell others how to live, but you don't live that way.) Peter's actions were dishonoring to God, and were not a good example to the other believers. One responsibility of members of the body of Christ is to confront others in sin. When one believer is living in sin, it affects how the body of Christ works together and functions. Paul confronted Peter, and told him he was living in a way that did not glorify God. His actions were not reflecting Jesus and the church correctly. Peter was being a hypocrite, and as a result, other believers began to do what Peter did.

## Who's A Hypocrite?



The purpose of this activity is to understand what hypocrisy is.

### Supplies:

Teachers guide – Situations Guide side (2 per bin)

Hypocrisy definition below

Read through the situations and talk about how the person is being a hypocrite. Later in the lesson, we will talk about these more.

Hypocrisy: You tell others how to live, but you do not live that way; you talk the talk, but don't walk the walk.

## Tie It Together



We can see from these different situations that it can be very easy to live in a way that is hypocritical, or not reflecting Jesus to the world. The Bible shows us how to live our lives in a way that glorifies God, but we can easily bring in our own ideas and interpretations that are not necessarily supported by the Bible. Sometimes we are aware of what we are doing and know it is wrong, but do it anyway; other times we may not realize what we are doing is contradicting what the Bible tells us to do. We need to learn how to recognize hypocrisy (sin) in our own life and ask God to change our heart so we can bring glory to Him. We also need to learn how to recognize hypocrisy (sin) in the lives of other believers so that we can confront them and help them see how they are not living to glorify God. We can ask God to change our hearts so we can bring glory to Him. Let's see how Paul corrected Peter in his actions.

### Galatians 2:14, 16

*14 When I saw that they were not following the truth of the gospel message, I said to Peter in front of all the others, "Since you, a Jew by birth, have discarded the Jewish laws and are*

*living like a Gentile, why are you now trying to make these Gentiles follow the Jewish traditions?*

*16 Yet we know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law. And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law."*

Was Peter "talking the talk, and walking the walk?" (Allow responses.) No! Peter was more concerned with what the Jews thought about him than living the way God wanted him to live. Peter believed that Jesus came to save all people, not just the Jews. There were many Jews who did not believe this. When these Jews were around, Peter did not talk to the Gentiles. What did Paul do? (Allow responses.) Paul saw that Peter was "not following the truth of the gospel message." He recognized the sin in Peter's life, and he confronted Peter out of love to show him how he was not showing his faith in Jesus; he was sinning. He said that we are not saved by our actions, but by our belief and faith in Jesus Christ. When you have faith in Jesus, then your actions should show what you believe. It is not easy to confront a friend when they are in the wrong, or sinning, but the Bible tells us to do that. We bring glory to God when we confront a friend who is in sin and help them see their sin, repent, and allow God to change their heart.

## Jesus +



The purpose of this activity is to help the campers understand how they might add more to just believing in Jesus for salvation.

### Supplies:

White board

Worksheet (1 per camper)

Dry Erase Marker

Give each camper a worksheet. Explain that you're going to work through this on the white board, but they should complete their own worksheets as you do. They can draw pictures if they aren't able to write everything. The goal is to explain what the Bible says about salvation vs what *we* say or believe about salvation.

1. Write/draw the top part of the worksheet on the board. Explain that this section will show us what the Bible says about salvation. Read Romans 10:9. **"If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved."** What does the Bible say we have to do for salvation (or to be saved)? (Believe in Jesus.) That's right. Romans 10:9 says that if we "confess that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised him from the dead," we will be saved. Let's write "belief in Jesus" in the first circle on our worksheets. (Write "believe in Jesus" in the circle on the board.) Help them understand that the Bible says Salvation = Belief in Jesus.

2. Next, draw the second part of the worksheet on the board. Explain that sometimes we change what the Bible says by saying or believing that *we must do certain things* to be saved. We add to what the Bible says we need ("belief in Jesus"), and even though they may be good things that do flow out of our faith, these things are not needed for our salvation. Write "belief in Jesus" in the circle and then explain that we add (plus sign) to that by saying or thinking we need to do more to

be saved. In the triangles, write things we think we need to do to be saved (praying before meals; actions/works like obeying parents, being honest, helping others, etc; reading the Bible; going to church; etc.) Be sure to talk to them about how these things are good things and they please God, but that the Bible tells us we don't have to do these things for our salvation (the FREE gift of God – Romans 6:23). Read Galatians 2:16. **“Yet we know that a person is made right with God by faith in Jesus Christ, not by obeying the law. And we have believed in Christ Jesus, so that we might be made right with God because of our faith in Christ, not because we have obeyed the law. For no one will ever be made right with God by obeying the law.”**It is only by faith in Christ that we are saved, not by doing anything else.

## Tie It Together



We can see from the pictures we drew that the only thing the Bible tells us we must do in order to be saved is to believe in Jesus. We are only made clean by trusting that Jesus is who He says He is, and that His sacrifice on the cross was the payment for our sin. We often add to this by thinking we have to do things to earn our salvation, like pray before meals, go to church every Sunday, or just act in a certain way. We can easily judge another person's faith based on whether they do these things or not instead of if they truly believe in Jesus. Many of the things we add to just believing in Jesus for salvation are good things, and things that can flow out of our belief in Jesus, but none of these things alone can save us from our sin. But none of these things can actually save us from our sin. It is only by having faith in Jesus that we are made clean. The Bible tells us in Romans 10:9, “If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.”

## Biblical Confrontation 101



The purpose of this activity is to help the campers learn how to confront a friend who is in sin.

### Supplies:

“Teachers guide – both sides (2 per bin)

Read through the list of steps provided for confronting another believer in sin. Explain each step as it says on the worksheet so that the campers can fully understand what it means. Then, read through the different situations (from earlier), and have the campers take turns playing the two different roles: person in sin, and person confronting the person in sin. The person in sin should explain what they are doing that makes them a hypocrite, and the person confronting him/her should explain how they would confront their friend in sin (based off the steps provided). Try to do at least 2-3, but if time allows, do all 5.

## Tie It Together



Paul spoke to Peter to show him how he was living in sin and not glorifying God. We are all one body and are saved through Christ, not through our works. Paul wanted the truth of the Gospel to be clear to help Peter see how his life was not reflecting his belief in Jesus. The Bible tells us in Galatians 6:1 that if another believer is caught in sin, then we are to correct that person. We are to gently show another believer how they are in sin and how they can repent so that they can bring glory to God. When the Holy Spirit is present in our relationships with one another, we

learn how to love each other well by treating one another with respect and kindness. By depending on the Holy Spirit to guide us, we can learn how to avoid hypocrisy in our actions and words, even when trying to correct another.

## Prayer Time

Spend a few minutes in prayer to finish small group time. Thank God for sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and pay the punishment of our sin. Ask Him to help us to love others as God loves, by living in a way that brings glory to His name



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