



POTTERY LESSON SKIT

Principle: God's sovereignty, humility, submission and trusting God with your life.

Bible Character(s): Jeremiah and Paul

Scripture Reference: Jeremiah 18:1-6, 2 Corinthians 4:6-7



PERSONAL PREPARATION:

Before this weekend, read Jeremiah 18:1-6 and 2 Corinthians 4:6-7. The Bible uses many different object lessons to teach us about God and His character. Jesus taught in parables and used many everyday items to make His points clear. In these passages above, we are taught about the attributes and character of God through the view in a potter's shop. These scriptures show us the parallel between the Creator and His creation, and the potter and the clay. They illustrate God's sovereignty and His plan for us, and they are a comfort to us. Being clear on our role as the clay, as the creation, we can take comfort and rest knowing we are in the hands of the Father. We are not at the mercy of what the day brings, but rather, in the active plan of the Father, our Potter. As we feel the push and pull of life's challenging circumstances, we can be reminded that they are His tools. He is shaping and forming us into the masterpieces He desires; for us to be more like His Son and reflect His glory. Our weaknesses, our fragile, clay jars make way for His glory and power to be displayed. As we humbly yield to Him, His molding and forming, we are shaped into His masterpieces. Take time to pray for teachable, moldable hearts in the campers this week. Ask God to bring campers to class this week that need to see His goodness, sovereignty and learn to be humble clay in His mighty hands. Pray, too, that we would remain moldable and teachable as adults and leaders.



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

3) Intro Song

4) Camp Competition

Lung Capacity

Have one camper from each cabin come up to the front and give each a balloon. Explain that each camper only gets one breath to blow up his or her balloon as big as possible. Give the campers a countdown from three, then let them blow up their balloons. After the campers have blown up their balloons, compare the sizes and give the banner to the camper with the largest balloon.

5) Worship Set

Worship Connector

Have you guys ever seen a piece of pottery? Pottery can be made into several beautiful masterpieces: jars, bowls, vases, mugs, and the list goes on. But the piece of pottery doesn't start off a masterpiece – it starts off as a lump of clay. It has to be worked and molded by the potter to be made into something beautiful. Do you know the Bible refers to us as being the clay and God being the Potter? When we trust God and let him have control of our life, He is able to shape us and mold us into who He created us to be. But sometimes, we can take control of our own life and try to build up our own walls. This usually ends in disaster with our walls caving in on us. Trusting God and His plan isn't easy, but He is Sovereign and always working things together for our good. While we sing this next song, think about who you have your trust in: you or God.

6) Skit

ProPresenter:

None

Characters:

Jetterbob

Mrs. Potter

Props:

Notebook

Pen

Bag with Bible

Potter's wheel and supplies

Script:

DIM LIGHTS after worship. As potter moves toward the stage, BRING UP FRONT SPOTLIGHTS.
(Potter takes seat at the wheel, puts clay on the wheel, and begins working with it. Jetterbob enters through back door with pen and notebook in hand. He weaves among the kids, searching for something.)

Jetterbob: **Excuse me! Whoops, sorry sir.** (Looks around the room, searching for something. Look behind kids, the trees, etc – but ignore the potter.) **Well, it's not there! Let's try here...**

Oh, hey, guys! I'm trying to find something the camp director left for me. You see, she's letting me teach in Camp Grace for the first time and I'm really excited, but also nervous because I don't know what Bible passage I should teach. When she heard I was anxious, she told me she left a gift for me in the Lodge to get my inspiration flowing, but I can't seem to find it. Could you guys help me? Do you see anything? I don't know how I'm missing it... (Continue to look around the room. After the kids point out the potter and her wheel, turn toward them.)

Guys, look – it's Camp Grace's art director, Mrs. Potter! Mrs. Potter, what is that? (Point at the wheel.) Is that a potter's wheel?

Mrs. Potter: (Nods in agreement.)

Jetterbob: I've heard about these, but have never seen one up close before; this is really cool! Can you show me how it works?

Mrs. Potter: **Sure!** (Begins slowly forming a bowl out of the clay.)

Jetterbob: You know, this reminds me of a passage in Jeremiah 18. It talks about God being the Potter and people being the clay. Let me grab my Bible and read it to you guys. (Pull Bible from bag and begin reading.)

In Jeremiah 18:1-6 it says, "The LORD gave another message to Jeremiah. He said, "Go down to the potter's shop, and I will speak to you there." So I did as he told me and found the potter working at his wheel. But the jar he was making did not turn out as he had hoped, so he crushed it into a lump of clay again and started over. Then the LORD gave me this message: "O Israel, can I not do to you as this potter has done to his clay? As the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in my hand."

You know what guys? This is a great passage to teach on, and the potter's wheel here is a great picture of what we read about in Jeremiah 18! Do you guys see how Harriet Potter is molding and shaping the clay? Let's pretend for a minute that our life is the clay.

(Potter continues to mold the clay, shaping it into a bowl. She follows Jetterbob's prompts as he continues.)

Throughout our lives we have plans and dreams that we would like to see take shape. We can choose to trust Jesus with these plans or we can take control of our own lives.

See how Mrs. Potter is building the walls of her bowl? If we trust in our own strength, instead of God's, we may be able to build up our lives for a while, but they will eventually result in a crumbling mess. (Have the bowls start to cave in on itself.) As sinners, our motivations aren't pure and holy like God's; the decisions we make are often out of selfish ambition.

We also are unable to see our lives the way God can. We only see what lies in the past and in the present. But God sees every aspect of our lives, and He uses it for our good and his glory. God is Sovereign over all, which means nothing happens without him allowing it. He uses everything in our

lives – good or bad – to bring us back to Him. What would happen if we let God take control our lives?

(Mrs. Potter starts over, slowly building up the sides of the bowl.)

When we allow God to have control over our lives, He is able to shape and mold us into the sons and daughters He has meant for us to be. When we trust God as the Potter, we don't have to rely on ourselves. We are able to rest in the strength of the Father who created all, including us! It is a comfort to know that God holds us in His hand and nothing happens without him knowing. As the Potter guides us, He teaches us to be more Christ-like in the process.

(Potter begins cutting away at excess clay.) Do you all see how Mrs. Potter has to cut away some of the excess clay? That's a great picture of Christ sanctifying us. Sometimes this process is hard. God may call us to walk through difficult circumstances; sin may be exposed and confronted, but God uses all of these things for His glory. He is continuing to mold us into His image, making us into a masterpiece.

(Mrs. Potter finishes the bowl.) Wow, guys, look at that amazing bowl! Thanks, Mrs. Potter, for helping me understand how God is OUR Potter! This bowl is an awesome picture of Jeremiah 18. Let's pray and thank God for being the Potter!

Dear God, thank you for being the Potter! Help us trust You to mold us into the masterpieces you have created us to be. Help us remember that you are Sovereign over all, and that you are working everything for our good and your glory. In Jesus name, Amen!



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