Christian Character Lesson Plans

Lesson #3 – Resourcefulness

Ages 6-12

Preview

Easy-to-teach lesson for ages 6 through 12 uses the book Mystery at Lake Cachuma to further pursue the need for character and teach the trait of resourcefulness. The story of Samson and the foxes illustrates resourcefulness. Optional team race shows how well your listeners already exercise resourcefulness.

Suggestion: Read through the lesson and prepare well before class time.

What you will need:

- 1 or more copies of Mystery at Lake Cachuma
- 1 pile of crumpled newspapers
- 1 balled up white bath towel
- 2 red licorice sticks
- 1 large picture of a yurt. On the third page of this lesson is a copy of the picture on page 26 of the book, Mystery at Lake Cachuma.
- Items used for the resourcefulness race or races of your choice.

What you will do:

1. Before lesson time, place all materials where you can reach them while reading.

2. **Say:** (Holding up book) “Last time, we started reading this book: Mystery at Lake Cachuma.” (kuh – choo’ – muh)

3. **Ask:** “Do you remember who Charlie and Hailey Riddler are?”

4. **Ask:** “What did the twins think about character?”

5. **Say:** “We’re going to read Chapter Two today, and we’re going to see a character trait called resourcefulness.”
6. **Ask:** “Can anyone tell me what it means to exercise resourcefulness?”

7. **Accept two answers, and then...**

8. **Say:** “Let me give you a definition of resourcefulness. ‘**Resourcefulness begins by recognizing that a certain goal needs to succeed, and then acting to find and use supplies and means (resources) to reach the goal without unnecessary expense.’” (Put this in simpler terms, if necessary.)

9. **Show the crumpled newspaper.**

10. **Say:** “In this chapter, someone is resourceful with crumpled newspapers.”

11. **Show the balled up white bath towel.**

12. **Say:** “Someone else is resourceful with a balled up towel.”

13. **Show the 2 red licorice sticks.**

14. **Say:** “Someone is resourceful with 2 red licorice sticks, too.”

15. **Say:** “See if you can spot resourcefulness in Chapter Two as we read.”

16. **Read, or have a good reader read Chapter Two**
   (remember: Mojave is pronounced: moh – hah’ – veh)

17. Close the book. Show your large picture of a yurt.

18. **Say:** “Wow! I wonder what’s going to happen in that yurt!”

19. **Ask:** “Who exercised resourcefulness with the crumpled newspaper? Who used a balled up bath towel? And the licorice? What other resourcefulness did you notice?”

20. **Say:** “You’re going to get a chance now to show how resourceful you are. We’re going to have resourcefulness races.”

**Resourcefulness Race:**


Divide listeners into teams and challenge them to see which group can exercise the greatest resourcefulness.

**Say:** “Next time, we’ll read Chapter Three: *Slumgullion*!”

End your lesson time.
Samson Showed Resourcefulness

Before a class for younger ages, print copies of the coloring picture on page 5.

**After your race:**

1. **Say:** “When we exercise resourcefulness, we see value in something that might not be meant for that purpose. To reach our goals, we make wise use of things others might not use instead of buying new things.”

2. **Say:** “The Bible tells us about a strong man named Samson.”

3. **Say:** “Someone stole Samson’s wife from him one day, and he wanted to punish them. Can you guess what he used?”

4. **Tell about Samson using foxes to burn the Philistines’ crops. You will find the account in Judges 15:1 - 5**

5. **Say:** “Samson was resourceful with foxes.”

6. **Say:** “Foxes aren’t meant to be used to punish someone, are they? Samson saw value in the foxes’ bushy tails and their speedy little legs. He knew they would spread the fire faster than he ever could.”

7. **Say:** “You should never, ever hurt any animal, of course – and Samson shouldn’t have either. But his story shows what it means to exercise the character trait of resourceful.”

8. **Say:** “Next time you have a goal to reach, think about Samson and the foxes. Maybe you will have a project at school. Maybe it will be something you want to do at home. Whatever it is, think about how you can exercise resourcefulness.”

9. Close with prayer that each one will learn to be resourceful.

10. (For younger ages - Distribute coloring pictures as take-home reminders.)
Samson Was Resourceful