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Basics

...AND JESUS GREW IN WISDOM
AND STATURE AND FAVOR WITH
GOD AND MAN. *Luke 2:52*

virtue:

CONTENTMENT

deciding to be
happy with what
you've got.

K-2

November 3 & 4, 2007

memory verse:

I have learned to be content no matter what happens to me. I know what it's like not to have what I need. I also know what it's like to have more than I need. I have learned the secret of being content no matter what happens. *Philippians 4:11b-12a NIV*

Bottom Line: Think about what you have, not what you don't have.

Bible Story: The Garden of Eden *Genesis 2-3*

BIBLE BLOG (please spend 7-10 minutes on this section)

We're still working on it...thanks for your patience

LIFE APPLICATION

Decorate Paper Figures

SUPPLIES: folded "Paper Figures", colored pencils or markers, scissors

Guide each kid to cut around the dotted lines on his folded paper figure. After he does so and unfolds the sheet, he should have two figures joined at the hand and foot. Suggest decorating each figure with the child's favorite clothes. These could be summer or winter clothes. They might be casual or dress-up clothes. The child might decide that both figures are the same sex, or that one is a boy and the other is a girl. Perhaps both figures are adults. Do not give the kids too-specific directions. Let them decide for themselves how to decorate their figures.

SMALL GROUP LEADER:

- Does anyone here have a favorite outfit to wear?
- Why do you like it?
- Do you like the color or the feel of the material? (*Pause for children to share a specific favorite.*)
- Do you have lots of clothes to choose from?
- Do you have all the clothes you want?"

SMALL GROUP LEADER: Sometimes, we wish we had more...more clothes, or more toys. We complain about what we don't have. You have to think about what you have, not what you don't have. When you think about what you have, not what you don't have, you can decide to be happy. When you see some of your friends this week, one of them might have something you don't have. You can decide to be upset with what you don't have, or you can think about what you have, not what you don't have. Then you can decide to be happy and content."

REVIEW THE BIBLE LESSON

ACTIVITY: Make Thanks Banks

SUPPLIES: markers, colorful stickers, "Theme Stickers" (see "k-2 attachment" on the web), index cards, large manila envelopes

Offer markers and a variety of colorful stickers, along with the "Theme Stickers," for kids to decorate their own manila envelope as a Thanks Bank. Distribute index cards and ask girls and boys to print or draw one thing on each card that makes them feel happy or thankful. Kids may store their completed cards inside the manila envelopes to take home.

SMALL GROUP LEADER: "I feel happy right now. When you think about what you have, not what you don't have, it's easy to feel happy. It's easy to feel content. I've enjoyed watching you fill so many cards because I can see that you're thinking about what you have. During the week, when you decide to be happy with what you've got, open your Thanks Bank and look at your cards. Choose a card and say thank you to God for whatever you put on that card."

Explain the importance of the virtue of contentment.

SMALL GROUP LEADER: (1) "Contentment means deciding to be happy with what you've got. (2) God is the Creator of contentment. God wants you to be content with what you have. (3) When you're content with what you have, you don't keep bugging other people, like your mom and dad, about what you don't have. (4) You can have a nice day anyway, and so can your family and friends."

Ask questions, such as the following, to help kids review the Bible lesson:

- What did Adam and Eve have in the Garden of Eden?
 - Why were they not content?
 - What did Eve think she must have?
 - What happened to Adam and Eve?
 - What can you do to be content today?
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MEMORY VERSE REVIEW

GAME: “Build a Verse”

SUPPLIES: the memory verse words printed on index cards

Tape the 10 cards in visible spots around your small group area. Explain that you’re going to call out a way to move, and then each kid should pick a different word and move to that word in the manner you called. Once they get to their word, they should “freeze” in place. When everyone is in front of a card, help the person next to the first card read the word aloud. Then call out another movement suggestion and encourage kids to choose a different card. When everyone is “frozen” in front of their word this time, lead the kid next to the first word to repeat it aloud, then point to the kid beside the second word and ask him to say his word aloud. Continue the game until everyone has stood next to each word and the group is now familiar with the first portion of the memory verse.

Some movement suggestions include:

- Walk backwards to the card of your choice.
- Hop on one foot to a different card.
- Crawl to a different card.
- Take baby steps to another card.
- Take giant steps to another card.
- Sit down and scoot to another card.
- Close one eye and walk to another card.
- Kneel and move to another card without letting your hands touch the floor.
- Jump with both feet together to another card.
- Walk like an elephant to another card.

PRAYER

Pray together, thanking God for some of the items mentioned by the kids.