



SERVICE ORDER

WEEK 3: Fair Game

NOTES: Meet with SG leaders – Go over theme, discipline, tickets/candy, offering

GAME TIME:

- **(A/V)** Have an upbeat song ready to go
- "Balloon Hoop": See game for supply list

TUNE TIME: (Sample: Change to reflect real song set)

- Song 1
- Song 2
- Song 3

REMIND TIME:

- **(A/V)** Opening series video, Powerpoints, and 2 video clips
- **(A/V)** Display the Trait-N-Tagline Powerpoint
- Go over TRUST – I can count on God to be there for me.

TEACH TIME:

- **(A/V)** Bring up first Powerpoint on screen
- **Engage Them:** Talking about how sometimes things are not fair
- **Teach Them:** Talking about the lessons we can learn from the American Eagle
- **Challenge Them:** Powerpoints for Take-Away, Spotlight verse

GIVE TIME: (Sample: Change to reflect whatever campaign you're working on)

- Ex. Malaria nets in Africa
- **(A/V)** Bring up goal Powerpoint on screen

CLOSE TIME:

- Announcements, up-coming events, hand out flyers
- Ticket Drawing
- Closing Song: ??
- Keep Groups together: Do Relate Time Sheets until parents com

EXIT: Distribute Parent Take-Away card directly to parents

TEACH them

2nd Segment: (15 min. – Then turn over to small groups)

*The intent with this section is to **tell the Bible story** in a compelling, animated, and interesting way. A good communicator uses the following script only as a guideline to speak, but never reading from it, as children can lose interest. Make the story come alive with voice inflections, funny anecdotes and noises, and passionate emotion. We intentionally give great latitude for the speaker to make it 'their own', using props, involving kids...whatever you can do to help the kids remember the Bible lesson.*

BIBLE text

Job 12:13 – The Wisdom of God

PROPS n things

- Chessboard still set up
- Movie Clip from Princess Bride: Scene Selection 8, "Finish Him Your Way": Start the scene when the giant throws the rock against the wall, missing Wesley. End the scene with when Wesley turns over the defeated giant and says, "and dream of large women," flips up his sword and runs up the hill.

BEGIN speaking

One of the reasons why God allows Godly people to suffer is to prove to Satan that man can honor and worship God simply because of who He is. We don't worship God only when things are easy. We don't worship God in order to get things that we want, or even because He provides us with the things we need. No...we worship Him...no matter what...no matter what joys, trials, frustrations, sadness that we may go through. He deserves our worship and praise in the bad, as well as the good.

That's what we've been learning this month...from God, we get our cues. From God, we learn how to live. From God, we understand the beauty of His creation. From God, we learn how to conduct our lives, and how to respond to people that are mean to us, or people that want to give us bad advice or steer us down a wrong path.

This week, I want to introduce you to **a new chess term**.

Show slide ("Counterplay")

It's called "**counter play**". It means an "**An attack that is intended to counter the enemy's advantage**". Let me show you on the board. *(to the board and demonstrate.)*

EXPLAIN "COUNTER PLAY":

Counter Play is that chance you get to "fight back" when you're being attacked. If one of your pieces is threatened by your opponent, then you should try and take out one of your opponent's highest value pieces in next immediate move. For example, if your rook was surrounded by opponent pieces, in that moment, if you attack your opponent's king instead of save your rook it is called a "counter play," or a "counter attack."

But almost in any case, it happens when someone who is considered to be "losing," "has a worse position" and is going to try to stir up some trouble for the opponent.

Let me show you a movie clip that demonstrates what I'm talking about:

(Optional: Show movie clip from Princess Bride.)

In this scene, Wesley, the smaller of the two, was at a disadvantage in facing the giant. He knew that pound for pound, man against man, toe to toe....he would end up getting absolutely crushed! So what did he do? He used his speed and agility to dodge the fists of the giant. He looked for an opening to get the giant from behind, where he was less powerful. In other words kids....when Wesley was attacked, he put on a "**counter play**," or "**counter attack**," to stop the enemy's advantage.

Today, we're going to hear about how Job felt attacked...not physically attacked; no, this was different. He was being verbally attacked by his friends. Have you had your friends gang up on you and attack you verbally, calling you names or making fun of you? It doesn't feel very good, does it?

Which raises a question: How do you respond when you feel attacked? Do you run? Do you stand there toe to toe and fight? Do you hurl verbal bombs back at your attacker? Do you tattle tale? Do you just retreat and feel sorry for yourself?

In chapter 5, Job's friend, Eliphaz, had some things to say to Job. You have to remember that in that time, in that culture, way back then....they thought if bad things happened to you, that it must be punishment from God for something you did wrong. What Job's friends concluded was that Job must have had some kind of hidden sin in his life that was causing all of these bad things to happen to him.

So this is what Eliphaz did; he gave Job a talking to. Then another guy, Bildad gave him some more advice. His so-called "friends" accused him. He was being accused of doing something that offended God, even though he didn't do anything wrong.

In chapter 12, Job reminded his friends that they didn't have all the answers when it comes to wisdom. He pointed them back to the One that we really should be dialed into when we are attacked. This is Job's "**counter play**" or "**counter attack**;" he points them back to God.

Show slide ("Job 12:13")

In verse 13, he says to his friends, "**True wisdom and real power belong to God; from Him we learn how to live, and also what to live for.**"

Isn't that true? You may have friends who think they know everything, but they don't. Even in his trials and troubles...even in the attacks against him, Job teaches us to look up....look up and listen to God.

Show slide ("Picture of Bald Eagle")

One of the animals of nature is the America Bald Eagle. The American Bald Eagle is one of the fastest creatures in the air. Not only can the eagle fly at tremendous speed, but the eagle's eye sight is unlike any other. From 10,000 feet in the air (or about 2 miles), the eagle can see a rabbit in the forest. And, within a matter of seconds that eagle will fall out of the sky at a rate of over 100 mph and snatch up that rabbit.

Maybe, you have noticed the shape of an eagle. It has the shape of a weight lifter. A powerful chest, a narrow waist, and powerful thighs; the eagle is very strong. For instance, the African Crowned Eagle has been known to kill antelopes weighing up to fifty pounds. Not only are eagles strong, they are big too! Eagles have a wing span up to 7 1/2 feet, and can weigh as much as twenty pounds.

Unlike most animals, eagles do very well in storms. For instance, most animals seek out a place to hide during a storm; not the eagle. The eagle will actually challenge a storm. He will walk right out into the midst of a storm, and look up to where he last saw the sun.

The clouds, the lighting, the loud thunder won't distract him. Why? Because he has his bearings set upon the sun. And, when the storm becomes intense, that's when the eagle mounts up and flies right to where he last saw the sun. All of a sudden, he'll break through the storm and the sun will dry his feathers. The sun... gives him the equivalent of a massage (*have a smile and look of contentment on your face, as if getting a massage*) that he would have never found hiding under a rock.

Not only does the eagle use the sun to dry off and get out of the storm, but he uses it for protection. Let me explain.

The eagle is the only creature with the ability to look directly into the rays of the sun. God designed the eagle with special eyelids, so that he may keep his eyes toward the

sun. And, because the eagle is the king of the air, he has many enemies. The enemy of the eagle is the condor.

Show slide ("Picture of The Condor")

The condor is the world's heaviest flying bird of prey. They can weigh over 25 pounds, and have a wingspan of about 10 feet. Like the buzzards the condors feed on dead animals. The condor hates the eagle. So where ever an eagle flies, he must be on the lookout for his enemy, the condor.

In battle, the condor will try to claw the eagle, but the eagle doesn't stay and fight. Instead, he mounts up and begins to fly. But he doesn't fly to the left... he doesn't fly to the right... he doesn't fly to mom, nor does he fly to dad. Instead, he flies directly toward the sun. The condor tries to catch the eagle, but soon he is blinded by the sun and has to turn away and fall off.

You see kids, when the devil brings a storm your way, you don't hide among the rocks and the trees like the turkeys and buzzards. When the devil puts enemies and accusers in your path, you don't have pull a "counter play" and defend yourself, or hurl nasty insults back. You fly towards the S-O-N for protection; not the big, bright ball in the sky, but the huge, bright God that shines in your hearts. As believers and Christ followers, **you place your eyes upon the Son of Righteousness** (*pointing towards the sky*). You call upon the name of Jesus!

Show slide ("Isaiah 40:31")

Isaiah 40:31 says, **"Those who wait upon the Lord will renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary, and they shall walk and not faint."**

Kids...we can really learn some spiritual truths and lessons from the eagle.

Like Wesley, in the movie clip we saw, the eagle uses his intelligence, his speed, and his God-given abilities to **"counter play,"** or fend off his enemies.

So remember kids....when the devil is at your heels, you do not have to stay and fight. All you have to do is turn your eyes toward the Son of Righteousness....Jesus.... who will never fail nor forsake you. It is there that we will find safety from the devil's schemes.

Sometimes, Satan uses our friends to take our focus off of God. Because none of us are perfect, we can tend to cast judgments on someone else, and accuse them of things they didn't do. We are really good at pointing the finger at others, but not always very well at pointing the finger back at ourselves.

When his friends pointed their finger at Job, and accused him of doing wrong, what did Job do? That's right! He pointed them back to God, because He is the only One that knows all and sees all. Our wisdom and understanding can never be matched by the wisdom of God.

Show slide ("Take-Away Point")

Let's say it together:

When his friends pointed their FINGER, Job pointed them to GOD.

When you play the blame game and walk around trying to defend yourself all the time, you become fair game...fair game to being ridiculed and judged.

Live your life in such a way that when you are accused of doing something wrong that you didn't do, no one will believe it, because you are truthful, kind, sincere, humble and honest.

EVALUATE their understanding

Okay kids...let's huddle up and face your small group leaders. Small group leaders, go through the **STEP 2 - EVALUATE** section on your small group leader sheet with your kids.

(While small groups are going, use this time to check your notes, reset your props, and walk around to some of the groups and listen to how it's going.)

CHALLENGE them

3rd Segment: (5 min. – Then turn over to small groups)

*The intent with this section is to **encourage and challenge the kids** to take a spiritual step forward this week. We want them to stop and think, make better choices, form new habits and bring God into their everyday world. This is a great time to speak from your heart and then pray for them.*

BEGIN speaking

It's true that life is not always fair. It's true that others may treat you wrongly sometimes. But rather than getting angry or frustrated at your friends, or feeling sorry for yourself, point your friends back to the King. Live only for King...don't walk around protecting yourself all the time...protect the King, love the King...trust the King.

Show slide ("Spotlight Verse")

Say the **Spotlight Verse** with me: "Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him."

In other words kids....God is all knowing. We just see a small piece of the big picture. Sometimes, we don't understand the things that happen to us. But if we continue to fly towards to Son and stop fighting toe to toe with the enemy all the time, we will find peace and rest in His love and mercy.

Let's Pray: "Dear God, help us to always know and remember that you are the One who loves us, no matter what. Even when people wrongly accuse us, or say mean things to us, our job is not to get mad at them back. Our job isn't to get revenge. No – your word in Matthew 5:44 says that we must, 'love our enemies, and pray for those that hurt us.' Lord that often seems impossible to do. But with You, all things are possible. Change our hearts and show us how to love like Jesus loved. Amen."

Great job! Have an amazing week trusting God in the good times or bad times.

ENCOURAGE their walk

Okay kids...let's huddle up and face your small group leaders. Small group leaders, go through the **STEP 3 - ENCOURAGE** section on your small group leader sheet with your kids.



WEEK 3: Fair Game

EXPLORE – their opinion

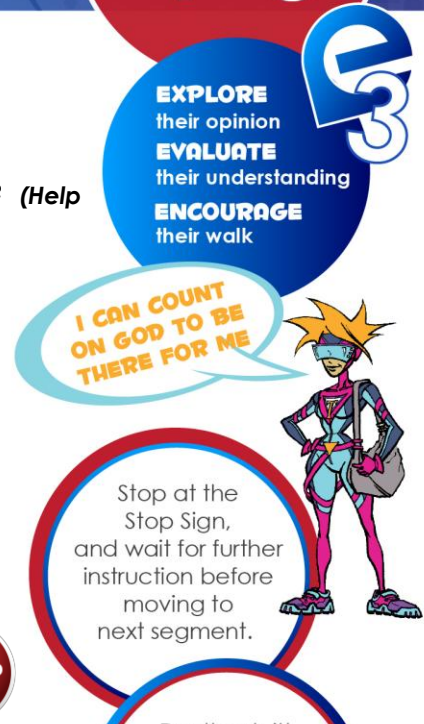
Can you remember a time when you were accused of something you didn't do? *(Help them by trying to remember a story from your own childhood)*

Why do we get so upset and defensive someone says, "I don't believe you and I can't trust you!" *(Take answers)*

We want to be trusted by others, don't we? But we have to earn that trust by telling the truth, even when we think we're going to get into trouble. The truth is always going to be the best move.

Let's say our TRUST tagline together: **"I can count on God to be there for me."**

BONUS Question: Would anyone like to share a time when you had no other choice but to trust God for the answer, or the result?



EVALUATE – their understanding

In Job 12:13, it says, **"True wisdom and real power belong to God; from Him we learn how to live, and also what to live for."** When someone is accusing us of something we didn't do, what does this verse tell us about who we should listen to and take advice from?

Tell me some of the things you remember about how God created the American bald eagle?

When there is a storm, what does the bald eagle do?

- A. Hides under a rock
- B. Sleeps
- C. Stays in a tree
- D. Flies towards the sun**

When we are being attacked, what can we learn from the bald eagle? **(We need to run to Jesus for wisdom and guidance. Be slow to become angry and quick to listen. Admit when we are wrong, and forgive others who accuse us of wrong things.)**

Can you fill in the right blanks for today's Take-Away Point?

When his friends pointed their _____, Job pointed them to _____.
(FINGER) (GOD)





ENCOURAGE – their walk

Today, we've learned that when we are attacked or accused of something, we can trust in the wisdom of God and point people to His Word in the Bible. It's not very fun when people are pointing their finger at us, all mad and frustrated. We must stay humble, ask for forgiveness for the things we did wrong, and for the rest that is not our fault, we need to pray for those that try to hurt us.

Let's pray: ***"Dear God, help us to stay humble and teachable. We will have trouble in this life. People will dislike us for the silliest reasons, and we'll want to fight back. Lord, you command us to love the unlovely. Help us to do that well. We love you. It's in Your name we pray, Amen."***



Don't forget your KidTOUGH Action Cards for the month. Action Cards help us to strengthen our trust in God, so we can fight off the enemy, and keep from falling into his traps.

MEMORIZE – God's Word



SPOTLIGHT VERSE:
"Though He slay me, yet will I trust in Him" ~Job 13:15 (NKJV)

The word "slay" means to hurt someone badly. In our story today, Job's friends wanted to accuse Job of doing something wrong, even though he didn't. That can hurt sometimes. But like the American Eagle, who flies towards the sun away from the condor, we must run towards the S-O-N for help and guidance.

PREPARE TO GIVE – (take cue from host or storyteller)

Have any of you ever helped cook in the kitchen? Have you worked with a measuring cup before? When you bake cookies, sometimes you use brown sugar, and you have to press down and compact the sugar into the measuring cup.

Luke 6:38 says, ***"Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, it will be poured into your lap."***

The Bible reminds us that just like you can get more brown sugar into a measuring cup when you press it down, so it is when you give. When you are generous, generosity will come back to you even more than what you gave.

Let's pray for the offering today: ***"Dear God, develop and grow our hearts to be super generous. Help us to be eager to give and help others. Amen."***

GRADES
4-6

EXPLORE
 their opinion
EVALUATE
 their understanding
ENCOURAGE
 their walk

**I CAN COUNT
 ON GOD TO BE
 THERE FOR ME**



Encourage the kids to take a practical **ACTION** step in their faith journey this week.

Help them memorize this month's **Spotlight Verse.**

Prepare to Give
 is for children's programs that take an offering.