

LESSON 5

Single Teacher using the "Watch It/Train" DVD

Lesson 5 - As A Follower Of Christ, I Will Show Mercy To Others! Watching the Bible Lesson and Skit on DVD



PURPOSE STATEMENT:



This Skit and Bible Lesson will teach the children that we should show mercy to others just as God has shown mercy to us.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

None.

- Lead the children through the Opening Activity.

1



1

- Begin Worship Time.

Note: For this lesson use Sound Track CD # 2.

Welcome the children as they arrive and then begin the service.

Optional: Take a few moments to assign roles to some of the children for the upcoming service. Choose children to be game leaders, to be song leaders, to take up the offering, to pray for the offering, to pass out materials, etc.

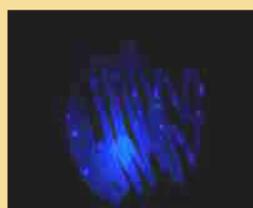
TEACHER



1

Hello, everybody, and welcome once again to the mountains, the Anaconda Mountain Range to be exact! It's home of the seven peaks and this place, too. This is Altitude, your one stop shop for all your climbing and base camp needs! And something I need from all of you is some good energy on our opening song. Everybody, up on your feet!

2



2

Note: Play "Glow" Song Video chapter # 2.

Teacher leads the children in singing the song.

TEACHER

Whew! As soon as I catch my breath, I think I'll be ready to talk about what we're learning today on the mountain. *(breathes in and out two or three times)* Almost ready. *(breathes in and out two or three times)* Okay, we have some important things to talk about today, starting with our Main point. [3] It says **As A Follower Of Christ, I Will Show Mercy To Others!** That's a good one! So let's give it the treatment an official Main Point deserves. Start thinking up some motions and get ready to do some shouting! And one more thing...stand up!

3



3

The Teacher leads the children by first demonstrating the Main Point with motions. These motions should be similar to cheerleader-type hand motions. The Teacher can make up the motions or have the children help come up with them. Once everyone has gone over the Main Point, have the children repeat it with motions two or three times.

TEACHER

Great job, climbers! Now some of you might already know about mercy. Who can tell me what mercy is? (*allows children to respond*) Yes, mercy is a lot of things. It is kindness, forgiveness, and even a second chance when you deserve to be punished. Showing mercy to others means that, when you are in a position to punish someone or get revenge on someone who did something wrong and deserves it, you choose not to punish them. You forgive them and give them a second chance. Mercy is a pretty sweet deal for people who have done things that are wrong. And we've all done things that are wrong, we all deserve to be punished. But thankfully, we serve a God who shows us mercy. And that's why we should show mercy to others. Come to think of it, I know a Bible Lesson about mercy that I think everyone should hear. Listen to this.



4 *Note: Play "Bible Lesson Video" chapter # 4.*

TEACHER

By showing mercy, Jesus saved that woman's life. That's how powerful mercy is. It can change lives. And I know that showing mercy won't always be easy. But no matter how much you may want revenge on someone, you should still show them mercy, because God shows mercy to us every day. Our Bible verse also tells us to be merciful. [5] Check it out.



5

***"God blesses those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy."
Matthew 5:7 (NLT)***

TEACHER

According to this verse, if we want God to show mercy to us, we should show mercy to others. Showing mercy is one of those ideas that's easy to talk about here, but can be very difficult when we face situations in everyday life. That's why we need to make the decision now to be people who show mercy, no matter what happens. And we can always pray to God and ask Him to help us show mercy to others. Now that I think about it, here at Altitude, the climbing shop, Cliff has shown Hitch a lot of mercy since he's been working here. He has made a lot of mistakes, but Cliff keeps showing him mercy. I think maybe we should check in on them and see if Hitch is getting any better at the job.



6

Note: Play "Skit Video" chapter # 6 followed by "Rock Climbing Race" chapter # 7.



7

TEACHER

Wow! An avalanche would have been awful and dangerous! It's a good thing Cliff stopped Hitch and I'm also really glad that Hitch learned to be merciful. Whenever you feel like getting even with someone, even when they deserve it, remind yourself that God chooses to show you mercy and you need to show that same mercy to others. I don't know about you, but I am very thankful that God loves us so much that He chooses to show us mercy. ~~Let's stand and sing together and thank Him with our worship.~~



8 ~~*Note: Play "Everlasting" Song Video chapter # 8.*~~

4



5



6



7



8



~~Teacher leads the children in singing the song and then begins the offering time.~~

~~TEACHER~~

~~Thank you for singing. And even though we're done singing, we're going to continue to worship together through giving our tithes and offerings. This time is for focusing on God and showing Him how thankful we are for Jesus and everything He has blessed us with. Please bow your heads and pray with me as we prepare to give.~~

9



9 OFFERING



4 ~~Note: Lead the children in prayer. If you want to, include elements of the lesson you are teaching today. For instance, today we are talking about showing mercy to others. So, you might say, "God, thank You so much for the mercy You show us. Please help us to remember Your mercy and to show it to others as well. Amen." Take up the offering.~~

TEACHER

Thank you. But our day at the mountain isn't done yet. We're going to keep on learning about mercy with your Personal Climbing Coaches in your Small Groups. [10] Pay attention, have fun, and learn all you can, because we'll play our Review Game afterwards.

10



10

Note: If the children do not change rooms for the Small Group time, review the Main Point before you begin the activities. If the children do change rooms for the Small Group time, have the children review the Main Point while they exit. Also, encourage the children to exit the room while performing some sort of creative motion.

11



11 SMALL GROUPS



1 Teacher greets the children as they return from Small Groups.

TEACHER



12 Welcome back! You're just in time for another round of Mountain Games! I need to see what you've learned about mercy today. I'll ask some review questions, you'll answer them, and then we'll test your skills in a game.

12



Note: For specific instructions on how to lead the children through this Review Game, you will need to print out "Review Game Lesson 5" from your Lesson Materials CD-ROM. Lead the children through the questions. Press "Play" when a child has given you the right answer.

CLOSING

TEACHER



1 Great job today, everyone! It's very important that you all remember what we learned today. In fact, let's all say our Main Point together one more time. **As A Follower Of Christ, I Will Show Mercy To Others!** Remember that Main Point, and come back next time to find out what happens next here at Altitude!

TAGGED WITH MERCY

Opening Activity

Lesson 5 - As A Follower Of Christ, I Will Show Mercy To Others!

ALTITUDE

PURPOSE: This activity will introduce the children to what it means to receive mercy.

DESCRIPTION: The children will play a game of tag. According to the rules, they will be out of the game when they are tagged. But a few children will be designated Mercy Givers who can allow people back in the game, when the teacher calls "mercy."

MATERIALS NEEDED: You will need this Help Sheet.

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY:

1. Tag is a game with very simple rules that everyone understands.
2. When you are tagged, you are out.
3. That's pretty much the only rule.
4. Today we are going to play a game of tag in which you will be out of the game for good after just one tag.
5. Let's play!

For detailed instructions on how to lead the activity, see the Small Group Leader DVD.

Note: Depending on the size of your group, pull one or two children aside as soon as they get out and explain to them that they will give mercy to two people whenever you call out the word "mercy."

DURING THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. According to the rules of the game, if you are tagged you are out for good, but pay close attention because there might be a way to get a second chance.
2. I will tag some of you to be my Mercy Givers.
3. At certain times during the game, I will call out "mercy!"
4. When I do, the Mercy Givers will tag two people who will get to re-enter the game and have a second chance.
5. Let's play.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. How many people got a second chance, or even a third or fourth chance, because of the Mercy Givers? (*I did. Me. Lots of people.*)
2. When you got tagged, you deserved to sit out the rest of the game. That was the penalty of getting tagged, but if you got mercy, you got to go back in.
3. How did it feel to get mercy? (*Very good. I got to try again.*)

CLOSING STATEMENT:

When you don't get the bad things that you deserve, that is called mercy. It's great to get mercy, but it is also great to show mercy! Let's go into Large Group and learn more about mercy.

DON'T MESS WITH MERCY

Application Activity

Lesson 5 - As A Follower Of Christ, I Will Show Mercy To Others!

ALTITUDE

PURPOSE: This activity will demonstrate that vengeance is not helpful to us when we have been hurt by others. Instead, we should show mercy.

DESCRIPTION: The children will visualize being hurt by someone by spreading messy items over an outline of a child. Then they will visualize getting revenge on the person by smashing the two outlines together, smearing the mess on both.

MATERIALS NEEDED: You will need this Help Sheet, messy items, and the "Don't Mess With Mercy Outlines Lesson 5" from the Lesson Materials CD-ROM.

Note: Messy Items could be -- chocolate syrup, ketchup, mustard, picante sauce, or anything chunky, colorful, and smearable. You could have an outline for each child but you will need to be careful with the messy items.

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY:

1. Showing mercy is not usually our first instinct.
2. When people hurt us, we usually want to hurt them back.
3. That is revenge, or vengeance, and it is the opposite of mercy.
4. Today we will see that vengeance just makes a big mess instead of doing anything good.

For detailed instructions on how to lead the activity, see the Small Group Leader DVD.

DURING THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. Let's imagine that these two outlines are two friends, Fred and Barney.

Note: As you describe each thing that is done, spread some of the messy items on one of the outlines.

2. Fred calls Barney a bad name.
3. Fred makes fun of Barney in front of the whole class.
4. Fred talks bad about Barney behind his back.
5. Fred loses Barney's favorite toy.
6. Fred then realizes that he has been treating Barney badly, so he stops doing these things and apologizes.
7. Barney could forgive Fred and show him mercy, but instead, let's imagine that Barney decides to get revenge on Fred and do all of those same things back to him.

Note: Take the paper and fold it in half, smashing the two sides together so that lots of goo squishes out. Squish it together and really mangle the paper and the ingredients.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

8. Barney lashes out at Fred and let's him have it! He does even worse things to Fred than he did to Barney.
9. Then Fred fights back, and so does Barney and before long their friendship looks like this paper. Yuck.

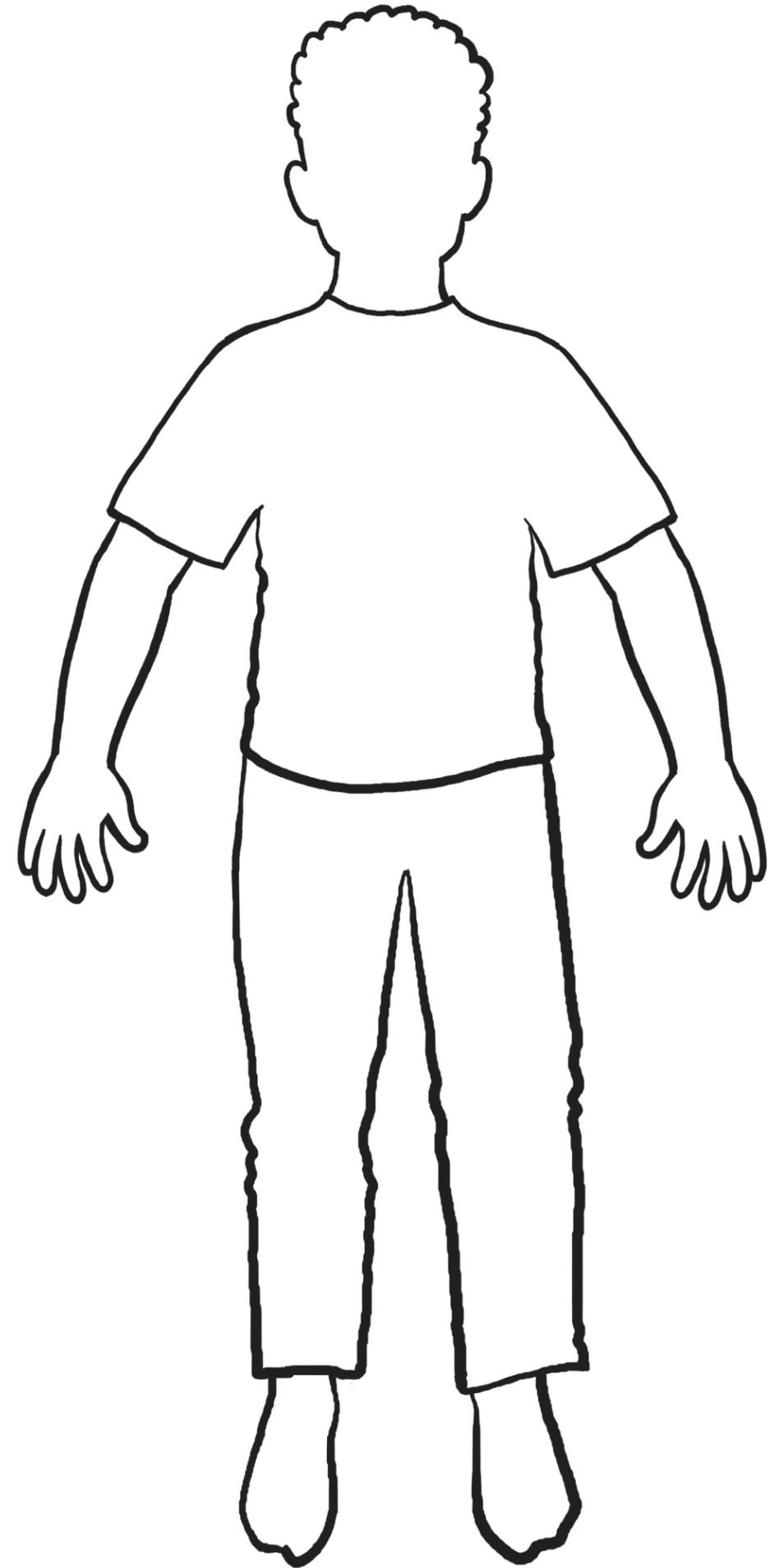
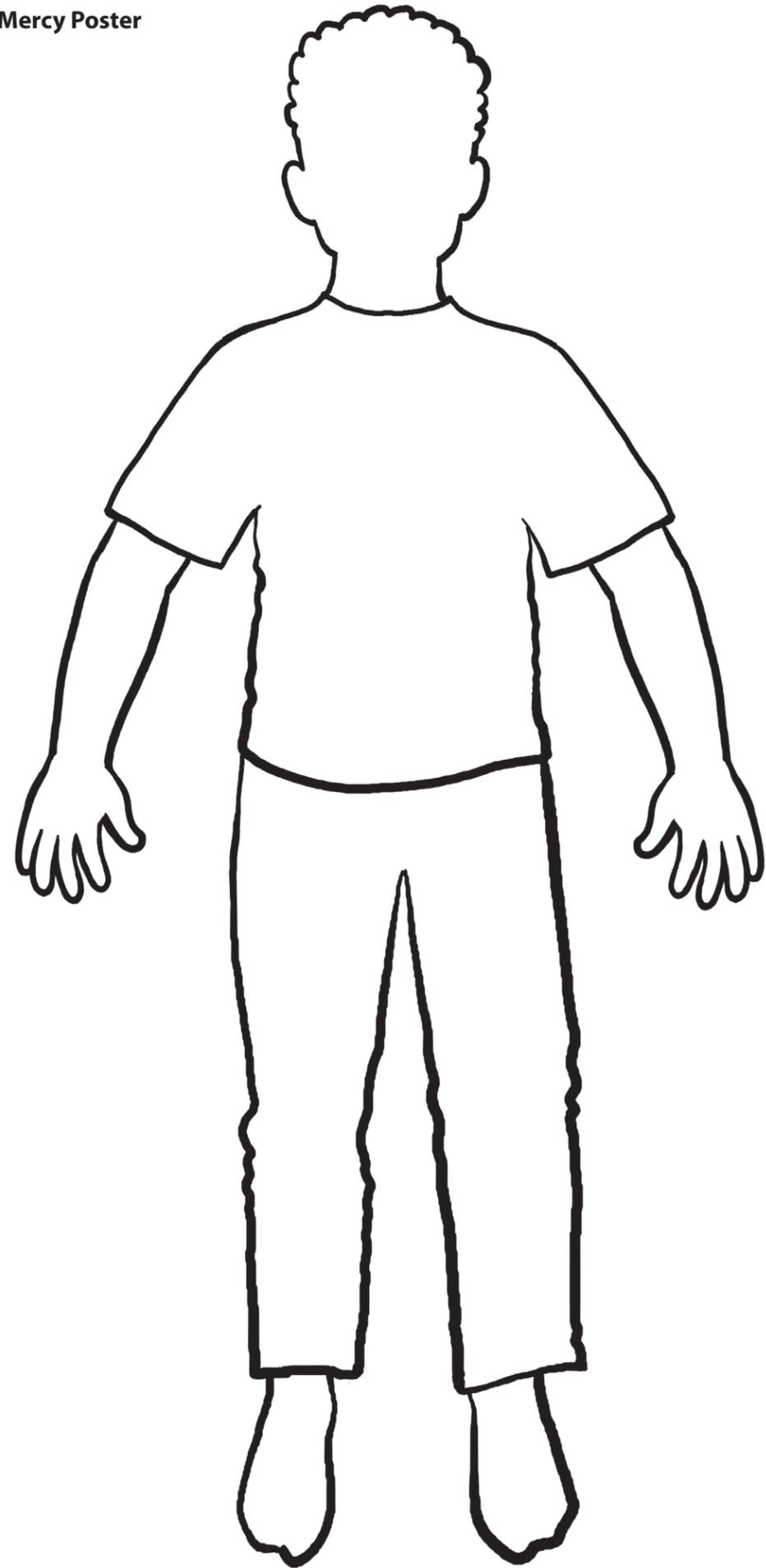
Note: Unfold the paper to show that it is totally stained and destroyed on both sides.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. Does Barney's side of the paper look better, the same, or worse? (*Worse. The same.*)
2. What does Fred's side of the paper look like? (*The same as Barney's. Worse.*)
3. No one was helped by seeking vengeance instead of mercy. Barney is still hurt because he's been thinking about his hurt over and over and acting his hurt out in vengeance on Fred.
4. Fred is hurt now because, not only did he not get forgiven but, his friend went out of his way to hurt him.
5. Fred and Barney have both lost a friendship and they haven't gained anything.
6. Instead Barney should have forgiven Fred, and even shown him mercy.
7. If he had forgiven Fred, both of them would be in better shape and their friendship would be improving instead of totally destroyed.

CLOSING STATEMENT:

When you think about trying to get back at someone, remember that seeking vengeance instead of mercy is just going to lead to a big mess for both of you.



(fold)

NO MERCY!

Application Activity

Lesson 5 - As A Follower Of Christ, I Will Show Mercy To Others!

ALTITUDE

PURPOSE: This activity will help the children to experience the difference between receiving mercy and not receiving mercy.

DESCRIPTION: The children will attempt to blow a plastic egg over a long distance in one breath. The teacher will harshly tell the children that they have failed. Afterward the teacher will give the children a second chance.

MATERIALS NEEDED: You will need this Help Sheet, masking tape, and a plastic egg.

Note: You could use a plastic playpen ball instead of an egg.

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY:

1. When you fail at something, which is better? To get yelled at or to get a second chance? (*To get a second chance.*)
2. You are going to experience that today. I have something that I want you to attempt and I will treat you very differently.
3. Afterward we will talk about the difference.

For detailed instructions on how to lead the activity, see the Small Group Leader DVD.

Note: Tape out the distance on the floor. The distance should be far enough that with one breath, they cannot make it across, but with two or three breaths they can. If someone makes it, that is okay, but you need most of them to need at least two breaths to get there.

DURING THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. I want you to do something fairly simple. You will blow this plastic egg across the ground the distance that I have marked out using just one breath.
2. You will only get one chance and one breath, and if you fail, you are out, so do your best.

Note: As each child makes the attempt and fails, yell at them for failing this simple task. Avoid anything that is personally insulting. Talk only about what they did. Some examples of things to say are: Fail! You're out! Not even close! That was terrible!

3. How did it feel when I yelled at you when you failed to blow the egg across? (*Not good.*)
4. Even though you knew I was acting, it still doesn't feel good to not receive any mercy.
5. Let's try it again and this time, after your first breath, if you have not made it across, I will show you mercy and let you take a second breath.
6. I will keep showing you mercy and letting you take another breath until you finish blowing the egg across the line.

Note: After all the children have succeeded, wrap up the activity.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

AFTER THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. I treated you two different ways in this activity. I treated you without mercy, then I treated you with mercy. Which way would you choose to be treated? (*With mercy.*)
2. We all want to be treated with mercy, and Jesus taught us to treat others the way we want to be treated.
3. Jesus also gives us an example to follow of treating others with mercy.
4. Jesus not only showed the woman in today's Bible Lesson mercy, He shows mercy to us as well.
5. Showing mercy is not just something that is nice for us to do, it is something that God expects for us to do.
6. Micah 6:8 tells us that mercy is one of the things that God requires of us.

"No, O people, the LORD has told you what is good, and this is what he requires of you: to do what is right, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God." Micah 6:8 (NLT)

CLOSING STATEMENT:

We all want to be shown mercy, and as followers of Jesus, we should be following His example of showing mercy to others.



MOUNTAIN GAMES

Review Game - Large Group Activity

Lesson 5 - As A Follower Of Christ, I Will Show Mercy To Others!

PURPOSE:

This is a strategic time to review and reinforce the content of the lesson.

DESCRIPTION:

The children will compete to answer review questions and then play different types of mountain climbing-themed games.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

For this activity you will need this Help Sheet (*review questions on page 2*), and the specific materials listed below for the game you want the children to play.

Note: These are suggestions for games. Feel free to adapt or replace these games to fit the needs of your space.

- **Build a Mountain** - (Materials Needed: lots of cups.) Children have 30 seconds to build a tower/pyramid of cups. The goal is to build it as tall as possible before time runs out.
- **Clear the Rocks** - (Materials Needed: a bucket and lots of paper wads.) Children have 30 seconds to toss crumpled paper wads into a bucket. Paper wads must be thrown one at a time. One person throws, one person holds the bucket and catches.
- **Step It Up** - (Materials Needed: a block or step.) A child has 30 seconds to step up onto a block and step back off as many times as possible. One child steps and one counts the steps.

TO INTRODUCE THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. We've had a great day on the mountain learning about things Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount.
2. Now it is time to play some Mountain Games and find out if you remember what we learned today!

For detailed instructions on how to lead the activity, see the Small Group Leader DVD.

Note: Ask the review questions by reading from the screen or from page two of this Help Sheet. After each question, have two children play a round of the game you have picked. After each game, congratulate the players, reset the game, pick two new children, and move on to the next question. After all the questions, return to the script to close the service.

DURING THE ACTIVITY SAY:

1. First, I will ask a question about today's lesson. The first one of you to raise your hand will get to answer the question.
2. After the question has been answered correctly, two of you will work together as you play a game for thirty seconds.
3. Get ready for the first question!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Ask the following questions and ask for volunteers to answer. If they answer correctly, press “play.”

1. Why should we show mercy to others?
 - A. Because we all deserve mercy.
 - B. Because showing mercy gets us more stuff.
 - C. Because God has shown mercy to us.**
 - D. We should never show mercy.
2. Imagine your little brother keeps going in your room without asking. What should you do?
 - A. Put a lock on your door so he can never come in again.
 - B. Start going in his room and making a mess.
 - C. Yell at him until he cries.
 - D. Tell your brother that he is welcome to go into your room, but to please ask first.**
3. Imagine your friend at school was supposed to come over so the two of you could hang out. However, she forgot. What should you do?
 - A. Tell her you missed her and find another time she can come over.**
 - B. Tell her that you don't want to be friends anymore.
 - C. Tell her that you're coming to her house, but then never show up.
 - D. Ignore her and pretend she doesn't exist.
4. In today's Bible Lesson, what did Jesus tell the religious leaders about the woman that they wanted to stone?
 - A. He said that they should leave her alone and go away.
 - B. He said that she deserved to die.
 - C. He said that the person who had never sinned should throw the first stone.**
 - D. He said that He would be the only one to throw stones at the woman.
5. In today's Skit, why was Hitch trying to bury Cam and Grigri with an avalanche?
 - A. Because Hitch thought it would be funny.
 - B. Because they had rolled a giant snowball down the mountain toward the base camp shop.**
 - C. Because Cam and Grigri wanted to get buried in an avalanche.
 - D. Because avalanches are a lot of fun!
6. Fill in the blanks. "God blesses those who are _____, for they will be shown _____."
Matthew 5:7 (NLT)
 - A. helpful, help.
 - B. merciful, mercy.**
 - C. graceful, grace.
 - D. awful, awe.

* Return to the script to close the service.