Lesson Overview

Today, we’re going to finish our series about outrageous stories in the Bible. This story is all about a greedy king named Ahab. He was very rich and lived in a beautiful palace. His palace was next to a beautiful vineyard full of beautiful flowers and trees. Ahab wanted to buy the vineyard so he could have it to himself. But the owner, Naboth, didn’t want to sell it to Ahab. Now, here’s where the story gets outrageous. Ahab already had a lot of land but he was greedy and wanted more. So, when Naboth refused to sell him the vineyard, Ahab went to his room and pouted like a little kid. Then, he made a terrible mistake. Because of his greedy heart, he had Naboth killed so he could have the vineyard. That’s outrageous! Ahab learned a really hard lesson - greed is a bad thing. Instead of being happy with what he had, Ahab wanted more and made some bad choices because of it. Ahab was miserable for the rest of his life because he knew it was wrong to kill Naboth. We can learn from Ahab’s story, too. Don’t be greedy!

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.
2. (5 min) WARM UP: Have you ever wanted something that a friend had? Explain. (Tip: We’ve all wished we could have the cool video game or toy that someone else in our life has. But we need to watch out that we don’t become greedy.)
3. (5 min) PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard. Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids. Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).
6. (3 min) KQ: Answer the Key Question. (Answer: Greed makes us unthankful and jealous. (Greed is all about wanting something we don’t have. So, instead of being thankful for what we do have, we’re only focused on what we don’t have. Greed makes us jealous. too. We’re not happy for our friends when they get cool stuff because we’re too busy being mad that we don’t have it.)
   * Bonus Questions: What does it mean to be greedy? Why is greed bad for us? 4-5th: How can a greedy heart ruin your life? How does God want us to be instead?
7. (5 min) EXPLORE: Read 1 Timothy 6:6-8. What does it mean to be content? What does this passage say about our stuff? (Answer: Content just means you’re happy with what you already have. It’s the opposite of greed. And, we need to remember that everything we have comes from God. So, we should be thankful for what he has given us and remember we can’t take any of our stuff with us when we die anyways.)
8. (10 min) PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.
9. (5 min) CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class. Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGOD.org/kids to find this week’s lesson video.
Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

**OPTION 1: OUTRAGEOUS REVIEW JEOPARDY**

**Instructions:**
1. Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a bell or ringer.
2. Ask a question from below. First to ring in gets a chance to answer. If correct, that team gets a point. If wrong, the other team gets a chance to answer for a bonus point. Team with the most points, wins.

**Supplies needed:**
- Bells or ringers

**Questions:**
1. Who was famous for hurting Christians? (Paul)
2. How did God help Gideon? (made him brave)
3. Who calmed the storm? (Jesus)
4. Who was Absalom’s dad? (David)
5. What’s the Big Idea today? (see board)
6. Who died on the cross for our sins? (Jesus)
7. Who was greedy? (Ahab)
8. From what book is our memory verse found? (see board)
9. What book is filled with God’s truth? (Bible)
10. T or F: Greed is good for us. (F)

**Bonus Activity: “Bible Hangman”**
- Words or phrases: Ahab, Greedy, Be thankful

**OPTION 2: DON’T “BEE” GREEDY CRAFT**

**Instructions:**
1. Give each kid a Bee template (page 5). Give each kid a half sheet of construction paper.
2. Have kids cut out each square. Have them color the bee.
3. Then have kids glue each square onto the construction paper in this order: 1. Don’t Bee Greedy at the top 2. Bee in the middle 3. Verse at the bottom.
4. As they work, remind the kids not to be greedy like king Ahab. Tell them to be thankful for all that God has given them.

**Supplies needed:**
- Bee template (pg. 5, 1 set per kid), Half sheets of construction paper (1 per kid), Scissors, Glue, Crayons

**Bonus Activity: “Find the Book”**
- Have the class get into pairs. Give each pair a Bible. Have them race to find the book. First to find has to say if it’s in the OT or NT.
- **Books:** Proverbs, James, Luke
Hey kids! Today we have another outrageous story for you. This one is from the Old Testament! It’s about a king who wanted something that he couldn’t have and what happened when he found a way to get it. It’s a story about how a greedy heart can lead to misery.

The king in this story is a guy named Ahab. He lived in a big palace. Right next door to his land was a really pretty vineyard. A vineyard is kind of like a farm. Ahab wanted the vineyard all for himself because it was so close to his palace. But the vineyard already belonged to another guy named Naboth. Ahab tried to buy the vineyard from Naboth but he didn’t want to sell it. So, Ahab took matters into his own hands and made a big mistake.

Before He Got the Vineyard: Ahab ________

When Ahab didn’t get his way, he threw a fit. Have you ever done that before? Maybe there was a toy you really liked but your parents wouldn’t buy it for you. Or maybe you didn’t like what your mom cooked for dinner so you pouted about it.

Since Ahab was a king, he was used to getting his way. Whenever he wanted something, he got it. So, when Naboth wouldn’t sell the vineyard Ahab got really mad. In fact, he go so mad that he just laid in his bed all day and wouldn’t even eat! He didn’t have to pout for long, though, because he eventually got the vineyard all to himself.

How He Got the Vineyard: Ahab Did Some _____ Things

Ahab was so outrageously greedy that he was willing to do anything to get the vineyard. So Ahab’s wife plotted against Naboth and had him killed. That’s outrageous!

After He Got the Vineyard: Ahab Was Even More ______

Ahab was so sad because he realized that what he did was wrong. He knew he shouldn’t have had Naboth killed. And he also knew that he was going to be punished for what he did. His greedy heart lead him to make a terrible decision that made his life miserable.

We Should Learn a Lesson From Ahab’s ______ Heart

Greed really ruined Ahab’s life. He made terrible choices and he wasn’t thankful for all the things he had already. Let’s not be like Ahab. Don’t be greedy. Don’t throw a fit when you don’t get your way.

Answers: Pouted, Bad, Sad, Greed Parent Signature:______________________________

Questions:

1. What was your favorite part of the video? What is one thing you learned from the video?
2. Who was Ahab? What did his greedy heart want?
3. How did Ahab respond when Naboth wouldn’t sell him the vineyard?
4. How did Ahab take matters into his own hands? How did that choice make him feel in the end?
5. Read 1 Timothy 6:6-8. What does it mean to be content? What does this passage say about our stuff?
6. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?
Instructions: Color the picture.

DON’T HAVE A GREEDY HEART

Key Question
Why is greed bad for us?

Memory Verse
Luke 12:15 “Beware! Guard against every kind of greed. Life is not measured by how much you own.”

BE THANKFUL FOR WHAT YOU ALREADY HAVE!
The Story of Naboth’s Vineyard

PursueGOD.org

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