

Katie



The Sunday School Lady



MATTHEW 23 SEVEN WOES

Scripture: Matthew 23:13-29

Open: Greet, Praises, Requests, Pray

Supplies: Cups, "Zonks,"
Blindfolds, balloons, tape

Age: Elementary

Ask:

What ways do you use the word "woah?" (Allow for answers)

Explain:

A woe in the Bible is different from how we use woah. Woe means sorrow or hardship to come. When Jesus says woe to people, he is warning them what will befall them if they continue in their ways.

Read: Matthew 23:13-29 Break after each pair of Woes

Explain: The woes have pairs. The first two have to do with discipleship and converts the Kingdom. The second two have to do with money. The third pair have to do with our actions lining up with what we say. (Define hypocrites: one who wore a mask, pretenders). The final woe shows that, even after all this, God was still sending people to turn them around. Unfortunately, their hearts were hardened.

Game:

Place tape on the ground in a large rectangle (or use a hallway). Scatter balloons through the hallway or rectangle. Blindfold two children. Have one blindfolded child lead the other blindfolded child down the hallway or through the rectangle without touching any balloons. See how far each child can get.

Next, have one child take off their blindfold and lead the other using commands. See how much farther they get.

Explain:

A blind guide isn't a very good guide. It is important that we pay attention to who is leading us. The Bible is our ultimate guide. We can also ask for help from others who follow the Bible. This way, we'll know our guides can see.

Game:

Place eight plastic cups upside down on the table. Inside, two cups should have cards with the word "Zonk" written on it. Have the kids guess a cup. Pick up the cup. See who can make it the longest without getting a Zonk.

Explain:

When Jesus said that the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law cleaned the outside of their cup, but the inside was filthy, he was saying that they put on a show. They acted great and perfect and close to God, but inside they were full of greed. Jesus wants us to have an outside that matches our inside. He wants us to change and be more like him first in our heart and thoughts, then in our actions. If we say we are Christians, we want the world to see what it means to live like Christ.

Ask:

This week, how can you make sure your outside matches your inside. We can't just go to church and then live however we want, we are called to be transformed. We can't do this alone, but God's Spirit helps us.

Who are your guides? Check where you're spending your time and who you're getting advice from. Does it line up with the Bible? If not, it may be a blind guide!

Memorize: Matthew 23:24

Close in Prayer