

Samson

Guest Speaker: Athletes

Say: Today we are going to learn about someone who was a very strong man and a weight-lifter. He had a special diet just like the athletes of today.

Bible Story: Nearly 200 years had passed since Gideon died, and the Israelites had forgotten God and worshiped idols so God allowed the Philistines to rule them for 40 years...

Say: If Samson had always obeyed God, he could have rescued the Israelites from the Philistines just like Gideon rescued them from the Midianites roughly 200 years earlier, but instead of following God, Samson chose bad friends, who lead him to waste his life, and eventually put him in prison.

Quiz: Hand out the cream slips and decided if they are good or bad friends – pin them on the board.

Sing Songs

Return to tables

Memory Verse: Fill in the blanks and then say the memory verse on the colouring page.

Discuss the following depending on age, interest and time:

What makes a good or bad friend?

Do you think your friends are good or bad for you?

How should we treat people who are not our friends?

Object Lesson: Show a good and a bad fruit. Talk about what happens when they are together? (Will the bad fruit become good? Will the good fruit become bad?)

Optional: Look at the pictures / stories and have the children say if they are good or bad friends.

Optional: Use the My Friends forms to see whether your friends are good or bad; using the points on the board, put a mark in the good or bad column.

Ask: What should you do if you find your friends are bad?

Say: God wants us to be nice to everyone, but if the people who you spend a lot of time with are leading you to do the wrong thing, then you need to talk to God about it, and you might need to spend less time with those people and make some friends who will help you do what is right.

Say: "Great Stories for Kids V3" has a good story about not letting your friends get in trouble. It says, if your friend tells you to do something that you are worried about you should:

1. Ask questions – find out exactly what they are doing
2. Name the trouble – tell them what's wrong with it
3. Name the consequence – what will happen if you do it and get caught
4. Suggest something else to do
5. Go and do it; invite them along, but even if they don't come, you need to go away and there's a good chance they might follow you and then you will be stopping them from making a bad choice.

Craft: Chatterbox

- Mark centre then place face down and fold corners into centre.
- Turn over and again fold corners into centre.
- **Play:** Ask someone are they are friend, family or mate etc. Do the number of letters.
- (Primary) Have them chose a number and do that many again.
- Have them chose what they would do and open to find out if they are a good or bad friend and if they are following Satan or Jesus.

Finish with Prayer