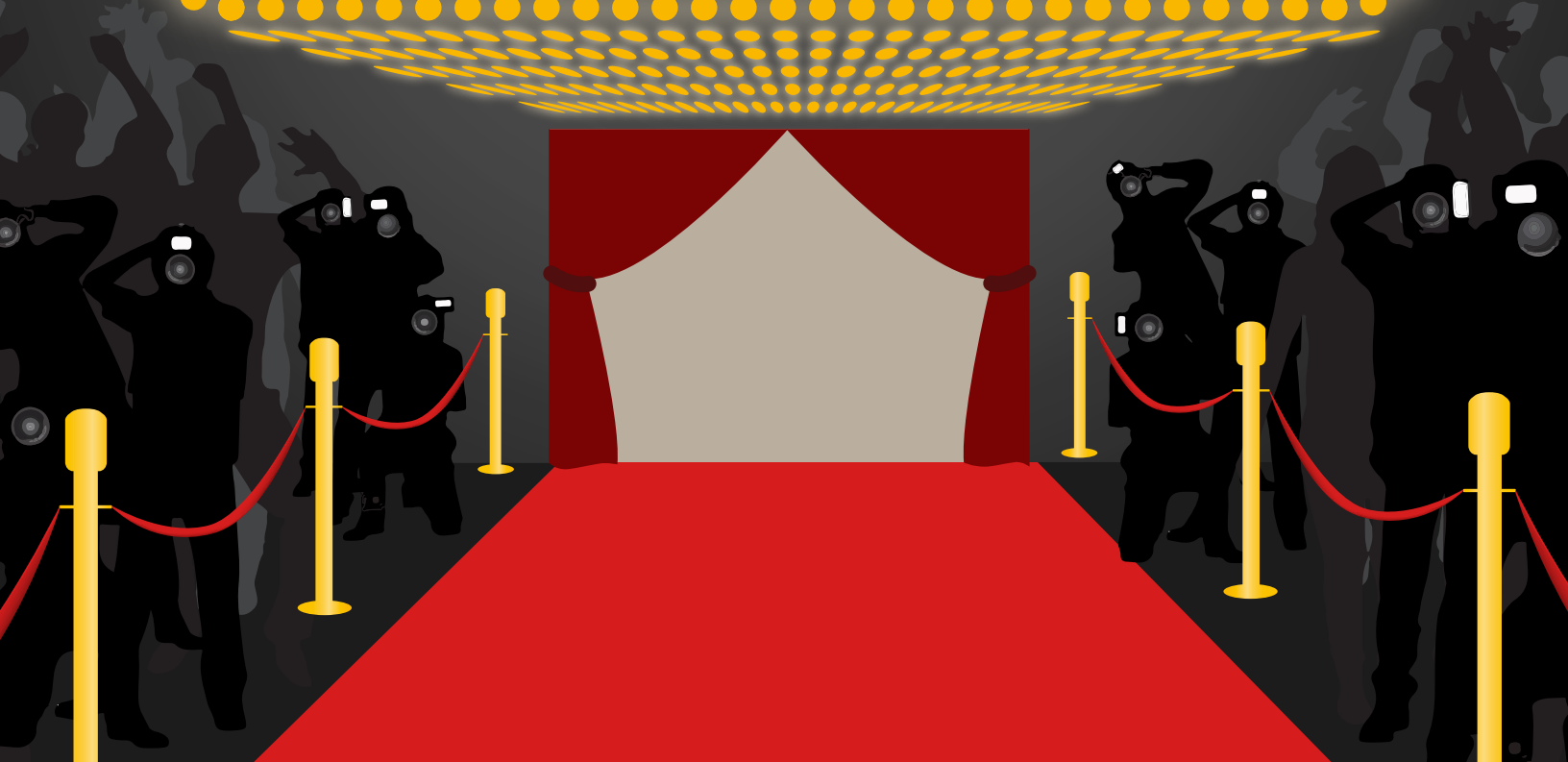




**LIGHTS
CAMERA
ACTION!**



Week 1

TOPIC

Jealousy

BIBLE STORY

Cain and Abel - Genesis 4:1-12

MOVIE

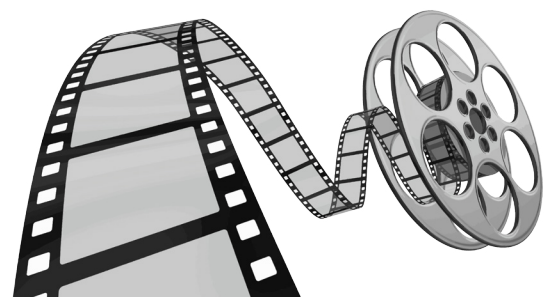
Toy Story

TODAY'S TAKEAWAY

Jealousy can change everything if I don't control it.

WEEKLY VERSE

“Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another.”
Galatians 5:26



Week 1

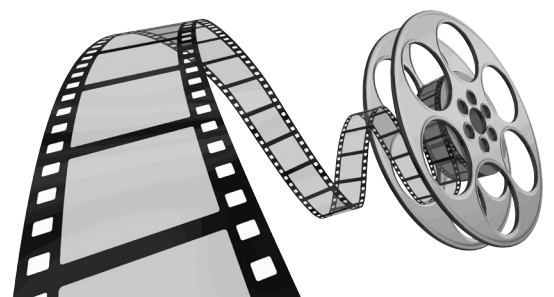
SKIT

Skit Information

The skits will require two people. One person will play themselves (the straight character), and the other person will play the funny character. It works best if you can find a person willing to commit to being the character for the entire series.

Character Bio

The character's name is Cameron Action. Cameron Action is an eccentric director who loves to tell other people what to do. He thinks everything in life is a movie he need to "direct". He is a director at his own movie studio, Action Studios. Consider putting your character in all black: shirt, pants, and shoes. Extras: Add a clapper board prop, megaphone, beret, and a fake mustache.



Week 1

SKIT

Leader: I'm so excited to get started today with our new series: Lights, Camera, Action!

Cameron: Did somebody say, "Lights, Camera, Action"? That's my job!

Leader: And who exactly are you?

Cameron: I'm a bit insulted. Don't you recognize me?

Leader: Um, no. That's why I asked.

Cameron: Well, I guess I'll have to tell you who I am then. I am the world famous movie director, Cameron Action of course!

Leader: Cameron who?

Cameron: Action! Are you hard of hearing or something?

Leader: Nope, just wasn't sure I heard you correctly. That's an interesting name.

Cameron: The moment I was born my parents knew I was destined to become the next big movie director!

Leader: Ok. So, why are you here?

Cameron: I heard about your theme in *(insert name of kid's ministry here)*, and knew that you would need me to come direct the production!

Leader: I think we are actually good.

Cameron: Oh, come on. Every good production needs an even better director. I am here to help!

Leader: I'm not sure... *interrupted by Cameron.*

Cameron: Where to begin? Perhaps we can start by getting some better equipment in here?

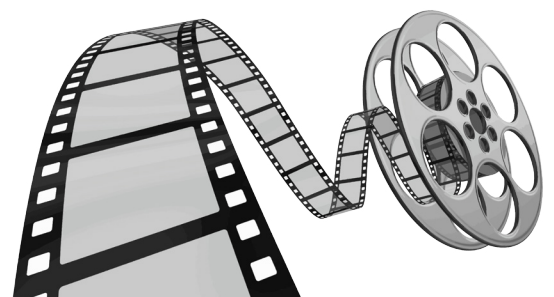
Leader: Hey! Now, I'm the one who is feeling insulted, but I'm going to let that one slide. I just have a quick question for you, Cameron.

Cameron: What's that?

Leader: If your such a big world famous movie director, why are you here trying to direct my kid's ministry? Shouldn't you be shooting some multi-million dollar movie in an amazing destination?

Cameron: Actually, I'd rather not answer that question... Now, back to what we can improve around here!

Leader: Wait a minute! Why won't you answer my question?



Week 1

SKIT

Cameron: Well, it's kind of a sore subject for me right now.

Leader: You can tell us all about it!

Cameron: I guess I can tell you. Recently, I quit a director job at a huge movie studio because I decided that I was so amazing that I could just start my own movie studio. So I did! I call it Action Studios!

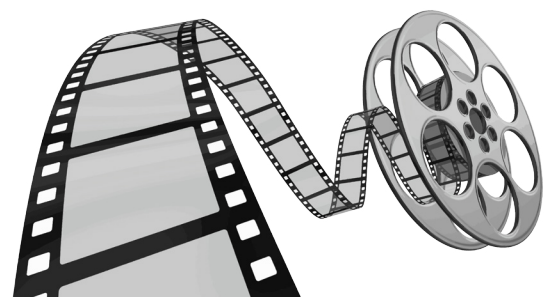
Leader: That sounds pretty amazing.

Cameron: Well, it was supposed to be... The only problem is, no one wants to use my studio. I guess I'm not as famous as I thought I was. It's just not fair that everyone wants to use those big movie studios! What's the big deal anyways? Those studios have only been around for like sixty or seventy years. That's not that hard!

Leader: It sounds to me like you are starting to become jealous of those other movie studios. You really need to be careful about comparing yourself and your studio to others. Nothing good ever comes from jealousy.

Cameron: You might be right, but I don't know how to stop it! I'm just so upset! I think I need to go do something about it! Runs out of the room.

Leader: Oh dear. I hope that goes better than I think it is going to. I'm pretty sure that's not the last we will be seeing of Cameron Action.



Week 1

GAME: THE CLAW

Supplies

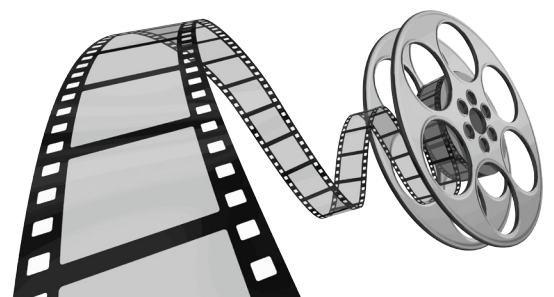
- Claw toys (one per team, can be found at most dollar stores)
- Lime green water balloons
- 2 buckets (per team)
- Towels (for clean up)

Setup

- Fill water balloons with water. Don't overfill them.
Optional: use ping pong balls for a less messy alternative.
- Fill one bucket per team with water balloons/ping pong balls. Leave an empty bucket for each team.
- Place one bucket for each team on one side of the stage/room and one empty bucket for each team on the opposite side.

How To Play

1. Choose 5-10 kids from each team to play.
2. Teams will have 2 minutes to race one-by-one with a claw toy down to their team's bucket. They will retrieve one item using the claw toy and run back to drop it in the empty bucket. Kids will pass their claw toy to the next kid in line.
3. Keep playing until time is up!
4. The team with the most balloons in their bucket at the end of the game wins.



Week 1

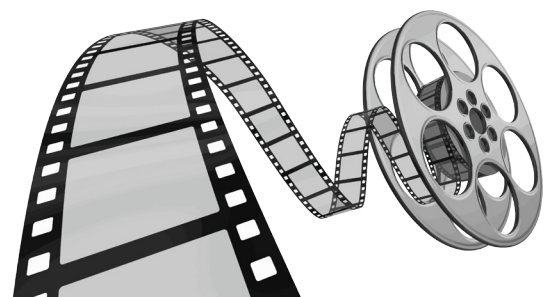
MESSAGE

Supplies

- A Bible in your preferred version (this curriculum uses the NLT version primarily)
- Toy Story Movie Clips prepared:
 - Have you been replaced? Buzz introduction clip (14:30-15:30)
 - Things are changing. Buzz becomes Andy's favorite toy clip (20:05-22:15)
- Store-bought sugar cookies
- Paprika

Introduction

Have you ever become jealous of someone else? Have you ever wanted something your friend had, but you couldn't afford it? *Allow kids to respond.* It's never a good thing when jealousy starts to creep into our lives. Jealousy is sneaky and seems harmless, but if we don't get rid of it, it can become a big problem. Who has seen the movie Toy Story? In Toy Story, Woody is the lead character, the hero, and Andy's favorite toy, until a newer, cooler toy shows up as a gift at Andy's birthday party. Check out this clip from the movie. *Play "Have you been replaced" clip.* When Buzz Lightyear shows up, Woody begins to wonder if he's being replaced. The other toys are very impressed by Buzz and all his gadgets. Woody feels left out, and jealousy starts to creep in. Let's take a look at one more clip from the movie. *Play "Things are changing" clip.* Things are changing, and it appears that Buzz has become Andy's new favorite toy. When jealousy starts to take over, it changes Woody. He begins threatening Buzz and making fun of him, hoping that if he tears him down, he will make himself look better. Does that work out for him? *Allow kids to respond.* No. He ends up accidentally knocking Buzz out the window, they both get lost, and they end up almost getting blown up by the next door neighbor. All of this happens to them because Woody wasn't able to take control of his jealousy.



Week 1

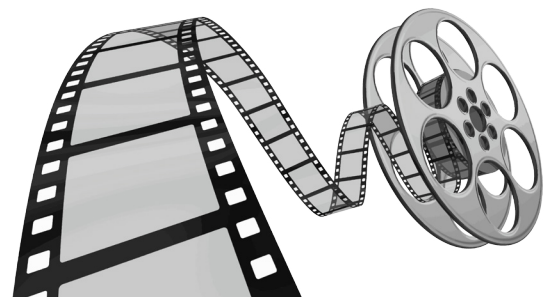
MESSAGE

Bible Story

Toy Story may just be a made-up story, but there are many true stories of real people in the Bible who struggled with jealousy. Today, we are going to take a look at the very first time the Bible mentions jealousy. If you have your Bible, turn with me to Genesis 4:1-12. In the first couple verses, we see that Adam and Eve had their first two sons. They named them Cain and Abel. When they grew up, Abel became a shepherd and Cain became a farmer. Let's read verses 3-5 together. "When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the Lord. Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The Lord accepted Abel and his gift, but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected."

So both Cain and Abel decided to bring a gift to the Lord. For some reason, God accepted Abel's gift, but he rejected Cain's gift. We are not sure exactly why God rejected Cain's gift. It is possible that God had asked for a specific type of offering, and he brought the wrong one. It's also possible that he brought a low quality gift. The Bible is clear that we should bring our first-fruits or the best we have to God. Another possibility is that Cain's heart and attitude were not in the right place when he brought his gift to the Lord. Hebrews 11:4 says, "It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts." Whatever the case, Cain's offering was not acceptable to God, and Cain got angry and became jealous of his brother, Abel.

God saw Cain and knew exactly how He was feeling so he came to him and said, "Why are you so angry?" the Lord asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected? You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master." God tried to warn Cain to take control of his anger and jealousy, and not let it control him. Unfortunately, he didn't listen. Let's read what happened in verse 8, "One day Cain suggested to his brother, 'Let's go out into the fields.' And while they were in the field,



Week 1

MESSAGE

Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him.” Well, that escalated quickly! Cain tricked his brother, attacked him, and killed him.

I’m not exactly sure what Cain was thinking, but God saw what He did. God sees everything. Let’s see what the consequences of Cain’s actions were in verses 9-12, “Afterward the Lord asked Cain, ‘Where is your brother? Where is Abel?’ ‘I don’t know,’ Cain responded. ‘Am I my brother’s guardian?’ Did he really think He could lie to God? That’s pretty crazy! Let’s continue reading. “But the Lord said, ‘What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground! Now you are cursed and banished from the ground, which has swallowed your brother’s blood. No longer will the ground yield good crops for you, no matter how hard you work! From now on you will be a homeless wanderer on the earth.”

Life Application/Response Time

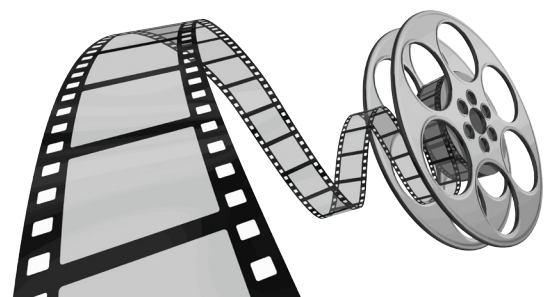
Now, we may not feel the need to go out and kill anyone or throw anyone out of a window, but I believe we all struggle with jealousy. Here are a few lessons I believe we can all take away from Woody and Cain’s experiences with jealousy.

1. Jealousy changes the way you feel about yourself.

How do you feel when you are jealous? *Allow kids to respond.* Jealousy can make you feel inferior, weak, worthless, angry, bitter, not good enough, and like something is missing in your life. Do you think God wants us to feel any of those things? No! He created you to be you, not someone else.

2. Jealousy changes the way you treat others.

How do you treat others when you are jealous of them? *Allow kids to respond.* Jealousy makes us treat others the opposite of how God would want us to treat them. God tells us to treat others



Week 1

MESSAGE

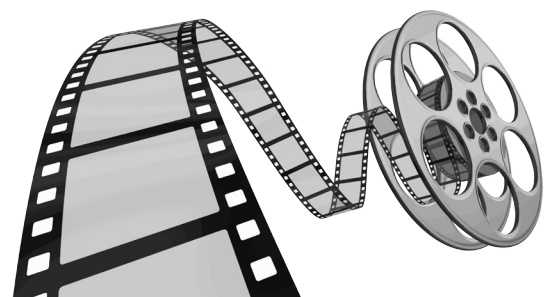
the same way we would want them to treat us. He doesn't tell us to treat others the way they treat us. Just because someone is mean and says hurtful things to us, doesn't mean we have the right to treat them that way in return.

3. Jealousy changes the way others see you.

If you allow jealousy to take control of you, other people aren't going to like the person you are becoming. Would you want to be friends with someone who was constantly tearing you down or someone who builds you up? *Allow kids to respond.*

Pull out plate of sugar cookies. Do these cookies look good? *Allow kids to respond.* Let's say these cookies represent a friendship. Think about your best friend in the whole world. *Feel free to share a personal story instead of this example.* Your friendship is going great until one day, your friend starts hanging out with a more "popular" group at school. *Pull out the paprika.* Jealousy begins to creep in. Now, you have a choice. You can choose to control of your jealousy, or you can give jealousy control over you. *Pour the paprika over half of the cookies.* If you allow jealousy to take control of your actions, you might end up ruining your friendship completely, just like I ruined these cookies.

What can we do to take control of our jealousy? Galatians 5:25-26 says "Since we are living by the Spirit, let us follow the Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. Let us not become conceited, or provoke one another, or be jealous of one another." We know that if we have been saved, we have the Holy Spirit living inside of us and we can choose to follow His leading instead of our own. Let's replace jealousy with something way better that the Holy Spirit gives us. Rewind back a couple verses to Galatians 5:22-23, "But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." We can replace jealousy with any of those things and take control of it. Let's pray and ask God to help us take control of our jealousy instead of allowing it to control us.



Week 1

GAME: ARMY MEN HIDE AND SEEK

Supplies

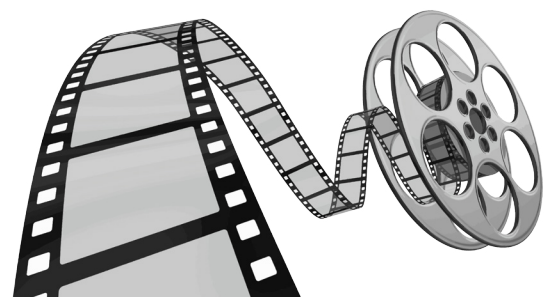
- Army men action figures (can be found at most dollar stores)

Setup

- Hide the army men anywhere in the room. Keep in mind the age group you are hiding them for.

How To Play

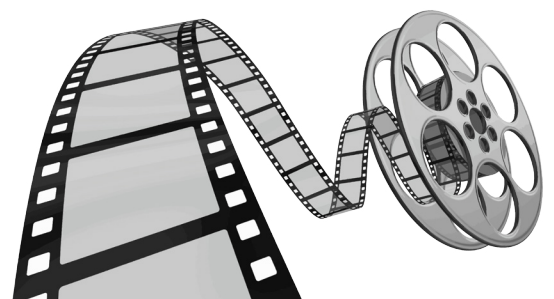
1. Everyone can play.
2. The leaders have hidden small army men all around the room. Kids will have 5 minutes to find as many army men as they can. Keep playing until time is up!
3. The kid who finds the most army men wins.
4. Optional: Break the kids into two teams for the game. Allow the team with the most army men to win instead of an individual.



Week 1

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever been jealous of someone?
2. How did being jealous make you feel about yourself?
3. How did being jealous make you treat others? (The leader can share a time when they were jealous and how the situation turned out. Allow kids to share a story as well, if time allows.)
4. What can you do to take control of jealousy?
5. Optional: Look up these verses about jealousy and discuss them as a group.
 - Galatians 5:26
 - James 3:14-16
 - Proverbs 27:4
 - Exodus 20:17



Week 1

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the name of our new series?
Answer: Lights, Camera, Action!
2. What is one thing Woody did when he became jealous of Buzz?
Answer: Answers vary
3. Who became so jealous of his brother that he killed him?
Answer: Cain
4. What is Today's Takeaway?
Answer: Jealousy can change everything if I don't control it.
5. What is one of the fruits of the Spirit we can use to control jealousy?
Answer: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, or Self-Control

