

**LIGHTS
CAMERA
ACTION!**



Week 5

TOPIC

Encouragement

BIBLE STORY

Paul the Encourager (Hebrews 10:24-25)

MOVIE

The Lego Movie

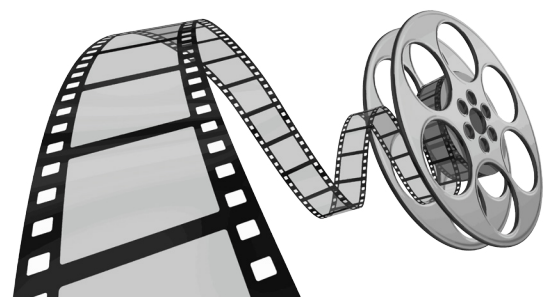
TODAY'S TAKEAWAY

Everything is awesome when we build each other up.

WEEKLY VERSE

“So encourage each other and build each other up.”

1 Thessalonians 5:11a



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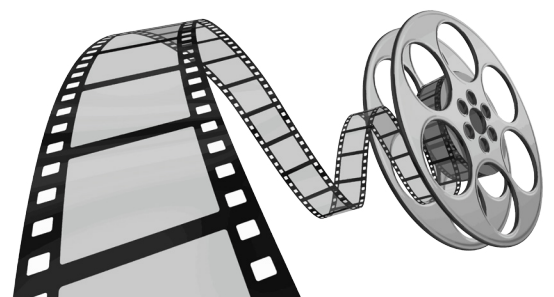
SKIT

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.



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Leader: I can't believe today is the last day of our Lights, Camera, Action Series.

Cameron: Comes in singing "Everything is Awesome" song.

Leader: Wow. I didn't know you were a singer?

Cameron: Well, I always sing when I'm in a great mood, and I am! *Continues singing.*

Leader: Cameron, I am glad you're in a glad mood, but don't you want to actually talk to us today?

Cameron: Oh yeah! I just remembered why I came to see you. I wanted to tell you all about my latest visit with my director friend!

Leader: We would love to hear about it. I know last week you were ready to just completely give up on your dream of running Action Studios. Has your attitude changed?

Cameron: Definitely! I will admit that I can be a bit "dramatic" sometimes. It's just part of working in the movie business.

Leader: Of course it is...

Cameron: Anyway, after I left church last week, I went over to see my friend. I started asking him questions about how he became such an awesome director and how to run a successful studio. Then, I started sharing some of my ideas and I even showed him some footage from a couple of the movies I directed.

Leader: That sounds great!

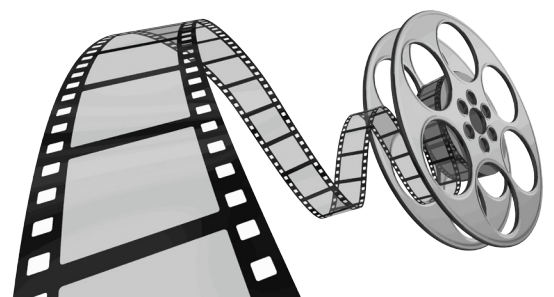
Cameron: It sure was! He gave me so much great advice like "be patient" and "don't hire actors and actresses who have too much drama", and "don't wear your megaphone to bed or you'll end up with some really weird marks on your face in the morning." You know, stuff like that!

Leader: That sounds like a lot of really good advice. So, I'm curious, what did he think about the footage you showed him?

Cameron: He was so encouraging! He gave me lots of tips on how to improve and complimented all the things I did well.

Leader: It sounds to me like this director is the type of friend you are going to want to keep around.

Cameron: I totally agree. I mean, I even thought some of those movies I directed were pretty bad



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watching them back, but he was so nice to watch them and help me improve.

Leader: That's awesome, he sounds very encouraging. I do have one question for you though.

Cameron: What is it?

Leader: It seems like your movie director friend has done a lot for you, what have you done to encourage him?

Cameron: Hmm...let me see... uh... there's got to be something...

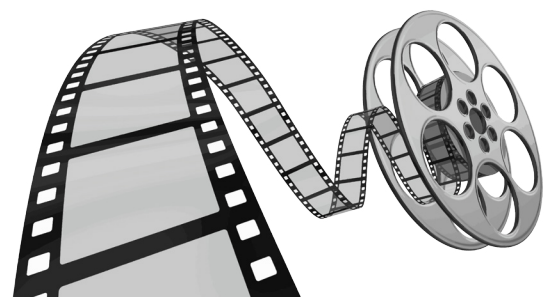
Leader: That's kind of what I thought. Everyone loves receiving encouragement from others, but we need to remember to be encouraging to them as well.

Cameron: You are totally right! I can't believe I forgot to do that!

Leader: Well, it's not too late.

Cameron: I am right there with you! I have to go see my friend right now! I know exactly what I'm going to say to make his day!

Leader: Bye, Cameron!



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GAME: VERSE TOWERS

Supplies

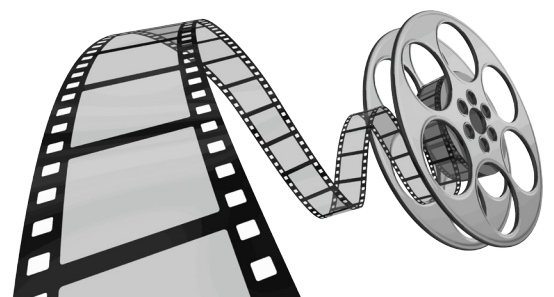
- Large lego blocks
- Labels (small enough to fit on legos)
- Marker
- Table

Setup

- Write one word of the weekly verse on each label using the marker. Put one label on each lego block. Make a set of legos with the verse on them for each team playing the game. Make sure your legos will work to create a tower in the order of the verse.
Verse: "So encourage each other and build each other up." 1 Thessalonians 5:11
- Set up a table on the stage or wherever you would like to play the game. Put a pile of legos with the verse on it for each team on the table.

How To Play

1. Review the verse with the kids a couple times before playing.
2. Choose 2 kids from each team to play.
3. Have each team stand behind a pile of legos on the table.
4. When the leader says go, kids will begin working as teams to create a lego tower in the order of the verse before the other team.
5. The first team to build their lego tower in the correct order of the verse wins.
6. Optional: Make it a relay race to include more kids.



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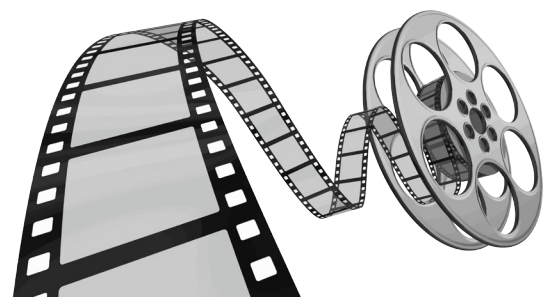
MESSAGE

Supplies

- A Bible in your preferred version (this curriculum uses the NLT version primarily)
- Lego Movie Clips prepared:
 - Instruction manual clip (2:25-3:13)
 - Emmet is a nobody clip (11:38-12:57)
 - The Special clip (15:47-16:15)
- Large legos (Duplo or other brand of large blocks)
- White board (a chalk board or poster board will work as well)

Introduction

Today is our last day in our Lights, Camera, Action series. I'm excited to talk with you about the topic of encouragement. How would you describe encouragement? *Allow kids to respond.* Encouragement is the act of giving someone support, confidence, or hope. How many of you like to be encouraged? *Allow kids to respond.* We all do, and we all need to feel encouraged. Sometimes we need a word of encouragement and other times we just need someone to be there for us with their actions. In The Lego Movie, Emmet is the main character. He is a below average lego figure who just wants others to like him. Check out this first clip. *Play "Instruction manual" clip.* Emmet wants other people to like him so badly that he starts his day by following steps in an instruction manual on how to get people to like him. Unfortunately, it doesn't seem like it works very well for him. *Play "Emmet is a nobody" clip.* Emmet's "friends" don't care about him, say mean things about him, and some of them don't even know who he is. How do you think that made Emmet feel? *Allow kids to respond.* It leaves Emmet feeling like a nobody, but that is all about to change. *Play "The Special" clip.* When Wyldstyle thinks Emmet is "The Special", she starts saying all these awesome things about Emmet. Emmet is willing to stop at nothing to prove he can be "The Special". All it took for Emmet to see himself differently was someone thinking he was special and encouraging him a little.



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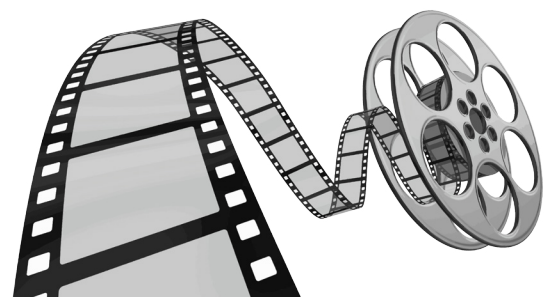
MESSAGE

Bible Story

There is something so powerful about how God gave us with the ability to encourage each other. There are many examples of people encouraging others every day: friends, parents, teachers, pastors and leaders at church, coaches, dance instructors, music teachers, etc. How can we become the type of person who encourages others and builds them up? I believe a good place to start is by looking at the examples God has given us in the Bible. There is a person in the Bible who really stands out as someone who was an encourager and always built others up. His name was Paul. He wrote at least 13 books of the Bible that were actually letters to churches or individuals. That's about half of the New Testament! We know for sure he wrote Romans 1 and 2, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, and Philemon, and he may have also written Hebrews, but we aren't sure. Most of what he wrote to them about was encouraging and building them up. Not only did he spend all that time writing encouraging letters to them, but he also visited many of those churches and individuals to help and encourage them in person. Paul wrote our verse of the day, 1 Thessalonians 5:11. It says "so encourage each other and build each other up." Paul wrote many verses and chapters for the sole purpose of encouraging others. The things we say and do to encourage others can make such a positive difference in their lives. Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near."

Life Application/Object Lesson

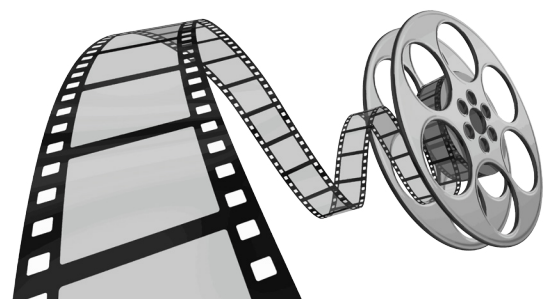
Those verses tell us to think of ways to encourage each other and motivate others. I thought we could start doing that right now. *Pull out white board and marker.* Let's make a list of things we can say or do to encourage others. While we make the list, I am going to need a volunteer to come up here start building a tower out of legos. *Choose an older kid to come up and start making a tower while you ask for suggestions to write on the board. Allow kids to give enough words*



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to make a good list and give the volunteer some time to build their tower. Those are a lot of great ideas to encourage others, but sometimes we aren't so encouraging to each other. When we say things that tear others down and discourage them it can be even more powerful than our positive words and actions. Now, lets make a list of things we could say or do that might discourage others and tear them down. Have the volunteer continue making their tower while you create a list of the kids ideas on the board. When you have gotten a good list of ideas go over to the tower and knock it over. How did that make you feel? Allow kid to respond. That's what it's like when we use harsh and mean words towards others. We need to make sure that we stop and think about our words before we say them and our actions before doing them. God wants us to use the influence He has given us to build others up, not tear them down. Let's pray and ask God to help us be encouragers like Paul.



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GAME: BUILD IT UP!

Supplies

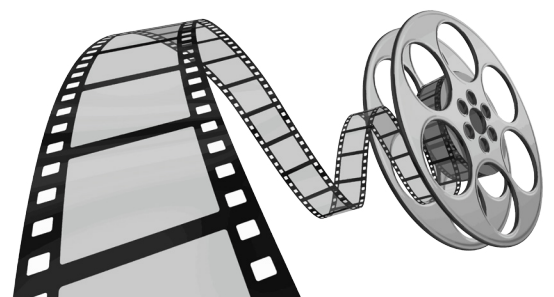
- Large lego blocks
- Table

Setup

- Set up a table on the stage or wherever you would like to play the game. Put a pile of legos on the table for each team.

How to Play

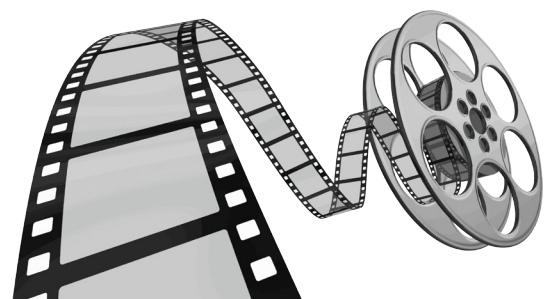
1. Choose two kids from each team to play.
2. Have each team stand behind a pile of legos on the table.
3. When the leader says go, teams will have one minute to create a taller tower than the other team using legos. If their tower falls they must start over.
4. At the end of one minute, the team with the tallest, free standing tower wins.
5. Play again if time, choosing new kids to play.
6. Optional: If you have a small group of kids, give all of the kids a pile of legos and allow everyone to play.



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SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean to be an encourager?
2. Who is someone who encourages you often? Give an example.
3. How was Paul encouraging to others?
4. What have you said or done for someone recently to encourage them? Why is it important to give and receive encouragement regularly?
5. Optional: Look up these verses about encouragement and discuss them as a group.
 - 1 Corinthians 14:26
 - Romans 14:19
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:11
 - Ephesians 4:29



Week 5

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the name of our current series?
Answer: Lights, Camera, Action!
2. Who does Wyldstyle think Emmet is in The Lego Movie?
Answer: The Special
3. Who encouraged many churches and individuals from the message today?
Answer: Paul
4. What is Today's Takeaway?
Answer: Everything is awesome when we build each other up.
5. Name one of the books of the Bible Paul wrote.
Answer: Romans, 1 and 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 and 2 Thessalonians, 1 and 2 Timothy, Titus, or Philemon

