



Lesson 11

Our Perfect Representative

Large Group Lesson & Games

<p>Bible Story</p> <p>The Golden Calf</p> <p><i>Exodus 31:18 to Exodus 34:35</i></p>	<p>Materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A sheet of aluminum foil per child• A set of plastic gold coins (you do not need one for every child, unless you'd like to)• Four beanbags• A device to play music with
<p>Bible Verse</p> <p>“Now all glory to God, who is able to keep you from falling away and will bring you with great joy into his glorious presence without a single fault.”</p> <p><i>Jude 24, New Living Translation</i></p>	
<p>Key Teaching Point</p> <p>Receive the perfect mediator.</p>	



Large Group Lesson

(15 Minutes)

Before beginning large group, the story leader will suddenly leave the room. **Upon return, ask the students: What did you feel like doing while the leader was gone? What emotions were you feeling? What thoughts were going through your head?**

Take student responses.

Something similar happened to the Israelite people. Their leader was Moses, whom God appointed to lead the people out of Egypt so they could worship God. Not only were the Israelite people rescued, but they also came out of Egypt with lots of possessions, including gold jewelry!

Pass out the plastic gold coins.

God often called Moses up a mountain to meet with him. But one time, Moses was up on the mountain with God for a very long time, the people got restless and impatient.

The people gathered themselves together and went to Aaron, Moses's brother, and they demanded, "Make us gods who shall go before us and lead us, for Moses, who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has become of him!" So, Aaron gathered up all their gold jewelry and fashioned a golden calf and declared that these gods brought the people out of Egypt and were deserving of their worship, even though it was not so.

Collect the gold coins from the children, and then give each child a sheet of aluminum foil to form it into a shape of something they are familiar with.

While Moses was still in God's presence on the mountaintop, God knew what the people were doing down below. God told Moses that the people had already forgotten about Him, and He would destroy them because of their sin. Moses knew that he had an important job to do, to speak to God on behalf of the Israelites.

Read Exodus 32:11-13.

Instead of destroying all the people, God listened to Moses and decided to save them.

Moses came down the mountain carrying the two tablets that God had inscribed with the 10 commandments. When Moses saw the Israelites worshiping the golden calf, he got so angry that he threw the tablets to the ground, breaking them into many pieces. He couldn't believe that the people were so quick to forget God even after all God had done for them.



Moses then burned up the golden calf with fire, ground it into powder, and poured the powder into the drinking water and made the Israelites drink it!

At this time invite the students to stomp on their aluminum foil creations.

Do we ever forget God?

Take student responses.

Forgetting God doesn't always mean creating a golden calf to worship. Sometimes forgetting God means thinking we don't need Him or that He's not powerful enough to help us. The Israelites had forgotten God, and their forgetting led them into sin.

Does anyone know what a mediator is? A mediator is someone in the middle-that speaks on behalf of someone else.

Moses was a mediator for the Israelites. He stood in God's presence and spoke to Him for them. He would also listen to God and tell the people what He had said. God listened to Moses, not because Moses was perfect or without sin, but because God had chosen him to be the mediator. Moses loved and cared about his people, but even he couldn't take away their sin. He could only talk to God and ask God to have mercy on them.

Did you know that we have a mediator today? We don't need Moses as a mediator because we have Jesus! He is the man in the middle, with God on one side and us on the other. Jesus is the perfect mediator because he is completely sinless, and He is the only one who can take our sin away. Even when we do really bad things, we can never sin so much that Jesus's sacrifice can't cover us. The Israelites did a really bad thing in worshipping the golden calf, but God still forgave them and loved them as his chosen people.

When we declare that Jesus is our King, our mediator, and we give our lives to Him, He takes away our sin and makes it possible for us to have a real relationship with God! That's exciting news! We'll talk about this more in our small groups today.

Dismiss students to their small groups.



Large Group Games

(25 Minutes)

CLUMPS TAG

No materials needed.

Designate two students to be IT. All the other students will run around the room trying to avoid being tagged. They can avoid being tagged in one of two ways: outrunning IT or linking arms to form a group of the indicated number of students. For example, say, “The number is three,” and all the students who are in “clumps” (groups of students with arms linked) of three will be safe from being tagged. Keep changing the designated number as the game progresses. The game ends when all students have been tagged.

WORSHIP MUSIC HOT POTATO

Materials needed: Four beanbags and a device to play music

Gather all the students into a circle facing each other. Distribute the beanbags to several students spaced out from each other. Tell students that when the worship music plays, they must pass the beanbag to the person to the right. The beanbag should keep passing until the music stops. Whoever is holding the beanbag when the music stops will be eliminated. Students who are “out” can sit down in the center of the circle. Continue and play additional rounds until only a few remain. When only a few children are left in play, you can take away the beanbags so only one remains. Whoever is NOT holding the beanbag when the music stops wins. If you play again, let the winning student push start and stop for the music on the next round.

