

Activity tie-in: Cooking in the Home

- Object – pizza dough, tomato sauce, shredded cheese, pepperonis (other toppings if you want) Also space to make and cook the pizza
- Bible Verse – Genesis 25: 33b-34 “So he [Esau] swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left.”
- Lesson – Don’t let hunger consume you, remember that God provides what we need (including food).

INTRODUCTION IDEAS:

- Start with talking about food in general - a good activity would be asking questions about food. Some examples include:
 - What’s your favorite food?
 - What’s your least favorite food?
 - What is the craziest thing you have eaten that you liked?
 - Is there something you could eat every single day of your life?
- Another idea to get the kids talking is asking about who cooks at home, is it mom or dad, and do they help at all. This will also help you to know what kids are more experienced and who will need more help.
- Then you might transition to talking about a time when you were very hungry - “I could’ve eaten a horse” or along those lines. Maybe try to make it a little funny, so the kids relate.
- You could ask students to tell about times they were hungry, what they would have cooked for themselves if they knew how.

LESSON SUGGESTIONS:

- the idea that we can be tempted to sin because of our hunger. We get “hangry” and say mean things
- Move from your introduction to the idea that we can be tempted to sin because of our hunger. Hunger for food and hunger for other temptations. We shouldn’t get “hangry” and say mean things, or demand that others make us food. While God gave us great things to enjoy in life, we should never put it before God. (That includes thinking about the treats that come after church more than the sermon) Also remind the kids that there are easy ways to solve our problems with the gifts God has given us. If we are tempted to sin because we are hungry, they can make their own food.
- Object lesson: Cook enough pizzas to feed the troop.
 - You can read the whole Bible account while the pizza is cooking in the oven
- Tie in the Bible verse of Jacob and Esau selling the birthright for a bowl of stew.
 - Because Esau was the first born, he was to receive a double portion of the inheritance
 - When he comes in after hunting, he’s hungry - so hungry that he puts his grumbling stomach ahead of the blessing that his father and God were going to give him as the firstborn son

- At the same time, Jacob was “hungry” for something that wasn’t his - he wanted the birthright that belonged to his brother
- Quote the Bible verse that ends the story: Genesis 25: 33b-34 “So he [Esau] swore an oath to him, selling his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. He ate and drank, and then got up and left.”
 - Ask the kids how the two types of “hunger” were different, the literal meaning and the figurative
 - Lead a discussion about looking at our own sins and how both physical hunger and the “hunger” of jealousy and other sins affect us
 - Also talk about why this was a sin
 - Selling his birthright wasn’t a bad thing in itself, it was the lack of respect he had for his blessing. Esau let momentary hunger drive his motivation. There was a lack of regard for the importance of family and promises within a family
 - Jacob was just as bad - buying the birthright wasn’t a sin, but weaseling it out of his own brother for just a bowl of stew wasn’t the honorable thing to do

QUESTIONS FOR INTERACTIVE LESSON

- When you quote the Bible verse, you could ask students to make the application:
 - “What are some other temptations we face other than always wanting food?”
 - There are many temptations, many paths of sin that might cause us to trip and fall.
 - “How can we use our gifts so that we don’t fall into sin like Esau?”
 - Kids are likely to talk about their new cooking abilities or things we see as typically good things in the church (maybe singing in church or if any of them can play the piano). Remind them that any gift God has given them can be used to help others and ourselves
 - When facing temptations in the world, whether it be a bowl of yummy stew or our brother’s birthright, remember that God has given us our own talents and gifts.

CLOSING PRAYER:

Jesus, thank you for bringing us all here together to learn new skills. We have all been blessed with different abilities and gifts, let us honor all that you have given us. Help us continue learning new ways to be better servants of God, Amen.