

LESSON 1: I PUT OTHERS FIRST, AND I AM NOT SELFISH



COUNTDOWN VIDEO (DVD)



WELCOME AND PRAYER



OPENING VIDEO TRANSMISSION (DVD)



MEMORY VERSE



GAME TIME: BRAIN FREEZE



SUPPLEMENTARY 1: YOU-SOLVE-IT MYSTERY: THE NOT-SO-GREEN THUMB



OFFERING: BIG GIVER, BIG BLESSING



PRAISE AND WORSHIP (DVD)



LESSON VIDEO TRANSMISSION (DVD: LENGTH—3:36)



WORD TIME: I PUT OTHERS FIRST, AND I AM NOT SELFISH



SUPPLEMENTARY 2: REAL DEAL: FATHER DAMIEN: LEPER PRIEST



CLOSING VIDEO TRANSMISSION (DVD)



PRAYER, ANNOUNCEMENTS, HANDOUTS, DINNERTIME DEVOTIONAL
HANDOUT (CD-ROM)



GAME REPRISE (IF TIME ALLOWS)



Memory Verse: Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

Philippians 2:3-4



GAME TIME

BRAIN FREEZE



Suggested Time: 10 minutes



Memory Verse: *Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.*

Philippians 2:3-4

Supplies: Ice cream sandwiches, 10 Chairs, Napkins and wet wipes for cleanup, if needed

Prior to Game:

- Arrange 2 parallel rows facing each other, of 5 chairs each, with 3-4 feet between facing rows.
- You'll need 2 ice cream sandwiches each time you play. Predetermine how many rounds you'll play so you'll have enough ice cream sandwiches on hand.

Game Instructions:

- Choose 5 boys for 1 team, and 5 girls for the other. Have the teams sit in the 2 rows of chairs facing each other.
- Choose 1 player from each team, sitting on an end seat, to be the starting players. Hand both starting players a wrapped ice cream sandwich.
- On GO!, have the starting players pass the ice cream sandwich to the next player, and on down the row, until the player in the last chair is holding the sandwich.
- The last player stands up, runs behind their team's row of chairs and sits in the first seat, while the rest of the players move down one seat.
- Repeat the process until everyone is sitting in their original seat.
- Once the first player is sitting in his/her original seat, he/she will unwrap the ice cream sandwich and eat it as quickly as possible.
- Whichever player finishes eating the ice cream sandwich first, wins for their team!
- A box of ice cream sandwiches gives you several playing opportunities. You may give each winning team a set of points (e.g., 10,000). After playing several rounds, the team with the most points, wins.

Game Goal:

- The first team to finish eating the ice cream sandwich, wins!

Final Word:

- You had to work as a team to accomplish your goal. In order to do that, you had to allow your teammates to switch seats before you could move. Today, we are talking about putting others first. When we put others above ourselves,



YOU-SOLVE-IT MYSTERY

THE NOT-SO-GREEN THUMB



Suggested Time: 10 minutes



Memory Verse: Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

Philippians 2:3-4

Setup: Before reading this story, tell the kids to listen closely because they can solve this mystery themselves. Encourage them to listen for clues, and try to figure it out before you get to the end. Bolded words are slightly stressed because they help solve the mystery. For younger kids, you could hold up a "CLUE!" sign or flash a light when a clue is revealed.

Make It Better: Punch it up by dressing up a Superkid as Maxx Funn, and telling the story in character, changing your voice and having fun with it. For a larger presentation, have other helpers dress up as Mini and Donna. Have each speak their lines in character. Teenage helpers will have a lot of fun with this.

Costumes:

- Maxx Funn: Cool clothes, notepad/pen, glasses, magnifying glass
- Mini: Cool clothes, hat, notepad/pen, backpack
- Donna: "Smart kid" dress, carries a Bible

Wrap-up: At the end of the story, ask if anyone heard the clues, and if they know the answer. Let kids take turns guessing. If no one gets the correct answer, remind them of the clues again. Finally, reveal the answer and how it ties in to the lesson for the day.

Ask Are you ready for a mystery? You can solve it yourself! Listen closely for clues, and see if you can figure out the answer by the time we get to the end of the story.

Say When Donna's future with plants looks grim, it's up to Maxx and Mini to shed some light!

Shout, "Welcome" to Cadet Maxx Funn, who's going to tell us this story!

Cadet Maxx enters and begins to tell the story:

The Not-So-Green-Thumb

I'm Maxx Funn, a Superkid with a special talent: I'm *really good* at solving mysteries. If you look for them, you'll find mysteries everywhere. As a detective, I've learned that you must learn to take the facts to another level. Don't just settle for the obvious. Ask yourself if there's anything more you can discover.

I was explaining this to my partner-in-training, Mini, when we were nearly plowed over by Cadet Donna.

“Sorry!” Donna was running backward now, her big, blue eyes apologizing as she winced. “I’m running late! I have to water the plants and then get to my next class at Superkid Academy before 4 o’clock!”

I laughed. “No worries. Good to see you!”

Mini waved, too, as Donna turned around and jogged to Commander Rivera’s darkened quarters. She waved her hand over a motion sensor and entered.

We turned and continued on our way.

That’s when we heard Donna scream! We rushed to the room. We pushed through the entryway door, still ajar, and were hit with a cool blast of air conditioning—which was actually a nice welcome. Donna was standing there, staring, **with a watering can in her hand, its spout showering water** over potted tulips. I quickly tipped the can back as the water puddled in the cups of the flowers and overflowed into the pot below.

Mini and I both followed Donna’s gaze across the room. There, on the windowsill, beside Commander Rivera’s bed, was a row of small plants. They didn’t look good.

“They’re dying!” Donna exclaimed. “I was trying to do the right thing by helping out Commander Rivera while she was out on a mission. But, oh no! Look what I’ve done! I’ve killed her plants!”

Mini moved to the small, potted plants in question and flipped the spotty, browning leaves over with her fingers. “Yep, they’re dying. I think they’re violets.”

“**Violets!**” Donna exclaimed. Then, “How totally fitting! Violets are supposed to symbolize modesty—humbleness! And I’ve been acting all confident, like handling Commander Rivera’s plants on my own was no big deal...and look at this! It should have been simple, right? Water the plants, give them sun and sing them a song. What if this is the beginning of a plant epidemic right here in Commander Rivera’s quarters?” Donna put down the watering can and squeezed her forehead with her hands. “What have I missed? It’s a mystery!”

She was clearly killing the plants, but my heart went out to her. After all, she was *trying* to do the right thing. “You don’t need to fret, Donna. Mini and I happen to be detectives.”

Donna’s face brightened. “That’s right!”

Mini raised a finger. “No mystery’s too mysterious!” Then she looked back at the dying plants. “Well...maybe this one is.”

I took charge. “Wait—Mini, **why do you say they’re violets?**”

Mini touched the plants again. “Partially **because they have these soft, fuzzy leaves**. But mostly because they’re... violet.”

Donna’s eyebrows shot up. “You guys really *are* into deduction, aren’t you?” Then, “I’m sorry to rope you into this. I just don’t have a green thumb.” Donna held up her right thumb. “Look at it. It’s like a little man who turns all leafy things brown.”

I grabbed Donna’s thumb and pushed her arm down. “You’re being too hard on yourself. You took this responsibility because you decided to help someone else and put their needs above your own. You could have just run to your Academy classes. But instead, you’ve come here every day, right?”

Donna nodded.

I said, “Well then, we just need to figure out what happened. Did Commander Rivera leave you any instructions?”

Donna shook her head. “She just said to **water the plants for two weeks** while she’s away. I’ve been here **every two-to-three days, without fail.**”

I walked over to the blinds on the opposite side of the room. A slight tap on a panel and the sun pierced through,



bouncing off a metal decoration, bathing a nearby fern with light.

"The Commander must really like plants," I joked.

Donna's shoulders slumped. "Well, that's just perfect."

Mini's lip twisted. "Maybe the room wasn't getting enough sunlight."

"I doubt that." I switched the blinds back to their original position. Sunlight still bathed the room with a warm glow. "The room is still relatively bright. Certainly not dark enough to cause the kind of damage that has appeared on those plants within a week."

Mini followed up, "And you **watered all** the plants?"

"**I treated them all the same,**" Donna assured her. "I **showered them** with love and water. They need to grow deep roots. Just like *our* lives grow deep roots with the light and water of God's Word and His love, according to Ephesians 3:17."

Mini pressed her fingers into the soil of one of the violets. "They seem fine. The soil is still damp and it's aerated nicely—not packed. And the pot's a good size."

I stared at Mini. I tried to hold back, but the words still spilled out. "How would you know that?"

Mini shrugged. "**Earth Science.** I got an A."

My protégé never stops amazing me.

Donna threw her hands up in exasperation. "Well, here's one girl who's gonna have to spend a gazillion dollars on replacement posies."

I looked at the browning plants once more, then at the sunlit window; then back again at the watering can, and back at Donna. "I don't think you should do that."

"Why not?"

"Because if you do, the same thing will happen again."

Ask Have you solved the mystery? Do *you* know why the plants are dying? What were the clues?

Solution:

"What am I doing wrong?" Donna asked. "I *know* I gave them water and sunlight—just like I did every other plant."

"The key," I said, "is to know what kind of plants you're dealing with, here. Not all plants are the same. Some need more sunlight and water, some less."

Donna moved to the counter. "But...aren't these violets?"

Mini's eyes widened. "Yes! But, let's take the facts to another level. More precisely, these are *African violets*. We know that because of their soft, fuzzy leaves. And when caring for African violets, you not only must give them sun and water, but you also must *never* pour water directly on the leaves...or they'll get spot damage. They'll turn brown and ugly and look like they're dying: Earth Science 101."

I grabbed the watering can. "And, we know you got the leaves wet because you used this watering can...and you said you treated all the plants the same. So, you likely watered them from above just like you were watering the tulips when we first arrived. You've got to water African violets by pouring water in from the side, under the leaves, on the soil around them, not from above."

"That's it!" Donna exclaimed. "Mystery solved! I may not have saved these plants, but I now know what to do differently. Thank you! You really do make mysteries less mysterious!"



OFFERING

BIG GIVER, BIG BLESSING



Suggested Time: 10 minutes



Offering Scripture: [Remember] this: he who sows sparingly and grudgingly will also reap sparingly and grudgingly, and he who sows generously [that blessings may come to someone] will also reap generously and with blessings.

2 Corinthians 9:6 AMP

Supplies: Five \$ 1 bills, One \$ 5 bill

Offering Instructions:

- I have five \$1 bills in my hand, and I need one eager Superkid who is ready to help demonstrate one of God's principles for giving. *(Read 2 Corinthians 9:6.)*
- Choose a Superkid to be your volunteer.

Ask Does anyone know what it means to give grudgingly?

- To give grudgingly means to give reluctantly or selfishly, to hold back and not trust God with your giving. God's Word tells us how we give is how we will receive. When we give grudgingly, we are not giving with a cheerful attitude to the Lord, so we will also reap grudgingly. I don't know about you, but that's NOT how I want to give to the Lord!
- Let's have an example of how to give generously. *(Turn to your volunteer.)* Here are the \$1 bills. This is your seed money. Because this money has been given to you, you may choose how to give it to others. I can guarantee if you choose to sow generously, that's how you'll reap—generously!
- I want you to find 5 people, and sow to them how you would like to receive. *(Wait, and allow your Superkid to find 5 people he/she can sow \$1 to.)*
- Did you give generously, or sparingly? That's right! You've given all your seed generously. Because you sowed generously, you'll also reap generously. *(Hand your Superkid the \$5 bill, and send him/her back to his/her seat.)*
- As God's kids, He wants us to sow as He sows—and He's a VERY generous giver. He never sows grudgingly when it comes to His kids.

Ask Was there ever a time you gave generously, and God blessed you generously? *(Allow time for several Superkids to give their testimonies of God's blessing.)*

- WOW! God has really blessed you Superkids in amazing ways! Today as we give, let's not give selfishly or with a bad attitude, but let's give as we would like to receive.
- Remember, God LOVES to give BIG blessings to His BIG givers!



WORD TIME

I PUT OTHERS FIRST, AND I AM NOT SELFISH



Memory Verse: Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

Philippians 2:3-4

Bible Story: *The Good Samaritan*

I. JESUS TAUGHT THE DISCIPLES TO PUT OTHERS FIRST Luke 10:30-37

- a. Many people are more concerned about their own interests, time and money than about others. Luke 10:30-32
- b. The good Samaritan put aside what he was doing and gave of his time, possessions and money. Luke 10:33-36
- c. If you want to be someone who puts others first, then allow the words of Jesus to lead you. Luke 10:37

II. LET JESUS TRAIN YOU TO BE JUST LIKE HIM

- a. Don't be selfish—caring only for yourself and your own interests. Philippians 2:3
- b. It comes naturally to think about what you want, but decide to put others first. Philippians 2:4
- c. Have the same attitude that Jesus did. Philippians 2:5-7

III. JESUS GAVE HIMSELF TO OTHERS Ephesians 5:1-2

- a. Jesus came to be a servant, putting our interests before His own. Matthew 20:25-28
- b. When we do that, it will cause people to ask Jesus into their hearts and their lives will be forever changed! 1 Corinthians 10:33
- c. Caring for others shows your love for God, and He will never forget it! Hebrews 6:10



A Word From Commander Kellie: One of my favorite things to say to myself is, "It's not about me." It helps me to keep my eyes on Jesus and on others. It is actually a happy way to live!

Second Timothy 3:1-2 tells us that one reason people have difficult times is because they love only themselves. According to 1 John 3:16, giving up your life for others is REAL LOVE—like Jesus' love.

Really bring it home to your Superkids that this is bigger than just doing a good deed or a kind act. When we live this way, we are actually bringing people to Jesus. Or, maybe it's more like bringing Jesus to them when we let them see His love in us.

This is HUGE, and it is really what being a Superkid is all about!



REAL DEAL

FATHER DAMIEN: THE LEPER PRIEST



Suggested Time: 10 minutes

Concept: Highlighting an interesting historical place, figure or event to illustrate the theme of the day. The theme of the day is I put others first, and I am not selfish.



Teacher Tip: Entering in costume is an attention grabber for the Cadets. Bringing in other media, such as photos, onscreen or printed, videos or props is helpful to keep the Superkids engaged, and gives more clarity to your presentation.



Teen Tip: Getting teens involved is a great way to keep the Superkids' attention. Feel free to keep notes with you up front, but ALWAYS review your script beforehand.

Costumes: Priestly robe, straw hat, and round, wire spectacles

Supplies: ■ Photos (Father Damien, leprosy, the people of Molokai, Father Damien statue in Statuary Hall, Washington, D.C.), ■ Map indicating location of Molokai and Belgium

Intro:

- Father Damien was a Catholic priest whose life's work was to bring the love of Christ to an entire island.
- His missionary work lives on to this day, and he is honored both in Hawaii and Washington, D.C.

Lesson:

Send Me

- Josef De Veuster was born on a small farm in Belgium, January 3, 1840. He was the youngest of seven children. When he was old enough, his father sent him off to college to pursue a commercial profession. It was there that Josef felt God's call to be a missionary. He decided to obey God, quit college and become a priest. He changed his name to Brother Damianus—Damien for short—in honor of a Christian saint whom God used to perform miracles.
- Brother Damien arrived in Hawaii as a missionary on March 19, 1864, at the age of 24. At the time, many Europeans were moving to, and settling in Hawaii. Along with bringing their own unique cultural differences, they also brought many fatal diseases with them, including leprosy. Leprosy is a skin disease that causes skin sores, nerve damage and muscle weakness. This disease gets worse over time, and can even cause the affected body parts to die and fall off. Eventually, the disease causes death. The King of Hawaii, Kamehameha, was afraid the leprosy would spread to the entire population, so he separated the people who had the disease and sent them to a small, isolated settlement on the island of Molokai.
- Damien's brother Auguste was originally assigned to be the missionary to Molokai, but when he became ill, Damien volunteered for the job. God told him to minister to these outcasts of the Hawaiian society.

Show Them Your Love

- When Father Damien came to the island, Bishop Louis Maigret introduced him to the 700 lepers residing there as “one who will be a father to you, and who loves you so much that he does not hesitate to become one of you; to live and die with you.”¹
- Damien was instructed by his superiors to avoid being infected with leprosy. He was told not to join in meals with the lepers, or touch anyone with the disease. He wasn’t even allowed to ride on the same saddles they had used.
- One day, while he was making his rounds, visiting and praying for those affected by the disease, he came across a young man. The young man’s face was swollen, and his body was weak and shaking, as he lay dying on a dirty sheet. Though Damien could see the young man’s open wounds, and his bishop had forbidden him to touch anyone, he began to stroke the young man’s neck where there was no evidence of leprosy. Damien started to speak to him of heaven and how God loved him so much that He sacrificed His only Son for him. The man accepted Jesus and then peacefully passed away.
- The encounter with that man changed Damien forever. He wrote to his superiors saying, “I wish to sacrifice myself for the poor lepers. The harvest here seems ripe.”²
- From that moment on, he realized in order to win the hearts of the islanders, he had to be willing to eat with them, touch them, dress their wounds and become one of them.
- In the spring of 1873, he was given the option to leave the island but, instead, he chose to stay and continue to help the people of Molokai.
- After 12 years of service to the lepers of Molokai, Father Damien contracted leprosy and lived for three more years before passing away at the age of 49.
- In total, he spent 16 years on the island, showing the people of Molokai the tremendous love of Christ.

Outro:

- While he was on the island, Damien had four goals in his missionary work:
 1. Meet the spiritual needs of the people
 2. Provide medical care
 3. Be a father to the fatherless
 4. Make the living conditions on the island better
- Damien succeeded in fulfilling all his goals.
- He created teams for building houses, roads, a hospital, a school and a church.
- He also built an orphanage for the children living on the island who had lost their families because of leprosy.
- He was able to see many people come to know and accept Christ as their Savior.
- He was able to see a hospital established to take care of the lepers residing on the island.
- His ministry was so extraordinary that his statue, along with a statue of Hawaiian King Kamehameha, has been placed in Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C.
- When he chose to be a missionary to Molokai, Father Damien chose to be like Jesus and love without limits.

¹ Biography Base, <http://www.biographybase.com/> (10/6/14). See also: National Park Service: Kalaupapa. National Park, Hawaii, <http://www.nps.gov/kala/historyculture.words.htm>, 10/7/14.

² “Father Damien, the Leper Priest,” Jack Voelkel, Intervarsity: Mission Biographies, <https://urbana.org/go-and-do/missionary-biographies/leper-priest> (10/2/14).



HANDOUT

I PUT OTHERS FIRST, AND I AM NOT SELFISH



Memory Verse: Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

Philippians 2:3-4

Superkid Handout Grades 1-3

1. Read Luke 10:30-37. How many people saw the beaten and hurting man? _____ (Answer: 3)
2. Which one stopped what he was doing and took care of him? (Answer: 3)
 1. A Priest
 2. A Temple Assistant
 3. A Samaritan
3. Read Matthew 20:25-28. You can't truly be a leader unless you become a _____. (Answer: servant)

Jesus came to serve and to give His life. We can do the same!

Pray and ask the Lord: How can I be a servant and bless others this week?

- At home: _____
- At school: _____
- At church: _____

Check the boxes as you serve others in each of these areas!





HANDOUT

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Memory Verse: Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

Philippians 2:3-4

Superkid Handout Grades 4-6

1. Read Luke 10:30-37. How many people saw the beaten and hurting man? _____ (Answer: 3)
2. Which one stopped what he was doing and took care of him? _____ (Answer: Samaritan)
3. Why would the Samaritan have been the least likely of the three to stop and help? (Answer: In those days, the people from Israel and the people from Samaria didn't get along. The most likely ones to help the hurt man would have been those from his own country. But instead, a despised Samaritan man was the one who stopped to help.)
4. Read Matthew 20:25-28. You can't truly be a _____ unless you become a _____. (Answer: leader, servant)

Jesus came to serve and to give His life. We can do the same!

Pray and ask the Lord: How can I be a servant and bless others this week?

- My family: _____
- My teachers: _____
- My pastor/leaders: _____
- My friends: _____

Check the boxes as you serve and bless others in each of these areas!



Also available on the CD-ROM and superkidacademy.com



DINNERTIME DEVOTIONAL HANDOUT

I PUT OTHERS FIRST, AND I AM NOT SELFISH



Memory Verse: *Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.*

Philippians 2:3-4

Ask Your Superkid to name the chapter and verse of the above memory verse.

"Me First!"

This is a phrase we often think without realizing it.

We get into the car and want the front seat. When we watch TV, we want to control the remote. We want to have the first choice with toys, the biggest piece of the pie and first turn on the video game.

Jesus lived in a way that was opposite to this. He always practiced putting others first.

Word Into Action:

Have everyone in the family choose one thing to practice preferring others this week. Make a list of family members' names and put it up on a board, or the refrigerator, where everyone can be reminded to practice dealing with that person by saying, "Me second (or third, or fourth)!"

Sample List:

Mom: remote control
Dad: picking the restaurant where we eat
Brother: video games
Sister: front seat

Make sure to let everyone **choose their own**, and don't let people talk about how Sister always has to get the front seat.

Remember Jesus:

Talk about the Cross. How can we follow Jesus' example of laying down our lives for others?



Tips for Parents: *This Dinnertime Devotional can be used at any mealtime, and is designed to reinforce the truths being taught at Superkid Academy.*

Make sure you set the example by reading the verses out loud from your Bible. (We use the New Living Translation with most of our lessons, but reading from other translations can also provide a great teaching opportunity.)

Take a few minutes to read any other scriptures listed in the lesson so you can reinforce the main theme.

Let your questions guide the discussion time. In other words, allow your kids to do most of the talking. We've provided some questions here, but feel free to add more, using examples from your own life. (Remember to avoid asking questions that only require yes or no answers, since they do not foster conversation.)





SUPPLY LIST

I PUT OTHERS FIRST, AND I AM NOT SELFISH

Game Time: Brain Freeze

- Ice cream sandwiches
- 10 Chairs
- Napkins and wet wipes for cleanup, if needed

You-Solve-It Mystery: The Not-So-Green Thumb

Costumes:

- Cool boy clothes, notepad/pen, glasses, magnifying glass
- Cool girl clothes, hat, notepad/pen, backpack
- "Smart kid" dress, Bible

Offering: Big Giver, Big Blessing

- Five \$1 bills
- One \$5 bill

Real Deal: Father Damien: The Leper Priest

- Photos (Father Damien, leprosy, the people of Molokai, Father Damien statue in Statuary Hall, Washington, D.C.)
- Map indicating location of Molokai and Belgium

Costumes:

- Priestly robe
- Straw hat
- Round, wire spectacles



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