

## **Love Your Enemies**

**MEMORY VERSE:** 

**Matthew 5:44,** "But I tell you: love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you." (NIV)

**TAKE HOME POINT:** 

Jesus commanded us to love our enemies.

### >

### TO THE TEACHER:

Jesus commanded us to love our enemies. This is hard to do.

- 1. Jesus loved His enemies.
- 2. We have God's love in us so we can too.
- 3. We can reach the lost if we love our enemies.

**Jesus commanded us to love our enemies.** Admittedly this is hard to do. If somebody hurts us, we want to make them pay for what they did, but this is the wrong attitude.

**Jesus loved His enemies.** We were enemies of God, but Jesus bore our sins and died on the cross. He did this because He loved us and wanted us to miss hell and go to Heaven. Jesus prayed for the people who nailed Him to the cross. He said, "Father, forgive them for they don't know what they do."

We have the Agape love inside of us, so we can love our enemies just like Jesus did. How do we love our enemies? We pray for them, we feed them if they are hungry. If somebody says mean words to us we should say kind words back. It is wrong to take revenge and make people pay for hurting us. If someone sins against us we forgive them too.

We can reach the lost if we love our enemies. Why should we do nice things to people who are mean to us? So we can win them to Christ. People who make fun of us for being Christians don't know what they are doing. The Bible tells us to walk in love and pray for them so they will miss hell and go to Heaven. So love your enemies, and be kind to those who are mean to you. Forgive them and pray for them.



# **Love Your Enemies**

LARGE GROUP SCHEDULE		Today's Date:
		Lead Teacher:
WHO	LESSON OUTLINE	WHAT
	1. Participation	Awards
	2. Praise & Wors	ship
	3. Announceme	ents
	4. Offering	
	5. Motion Comi	ic: Adventures of the Masked Hero #12
	6. Bottom Line:	Jesus commanded us to love our enemies.
	7. Memory Vers	Matthew 5:44, "But I tell you: love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you." (NIV)
	8. Drama:	Mighty Max: "Destroy My Enemies"
	9. Object Lesso	n: Overcome Evil With Good
	10. Short Film:	A Love Carol
	11. Inter-Active L	esson: Put Out The Fire
	12. Altar Call	
	13. Digital Reviev	w Questions
	14. Small Groups	
	* Short Film DVD's can	be purchased separately at superchurch.com

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### **MOTION COMIC**

### The Adventures of the Masked Hero

Agape: Episode #12



**Goal:** get the kids to laugh and introduce the lesson.

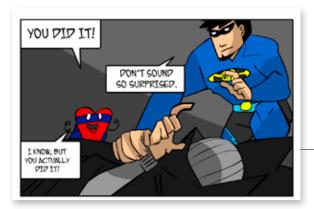
- At the conclusion of the Digital Comic Book, Johnny asks the question "What is the Bottom Line?" Words pop up one at a time. Encourage your kids to guess the Bottom Line as the words pop up.
- Next Commissioner Thornton asks the question "What is the Memory Verse?"
   Again words pop up one at a time.
- It is motivating to reward the first child to guess the Bottom Line and Memory Verse.



Panel 1



Panel 2



Panel 3



Panel 4



DRAMA Mighty Max: "Destroy My Enemies"

**TAKE HOME POINT:** Love your enemies.

**CHARACTERS:** Mighty Max

**PROPS:** Mighty Max Costume

#### **DRAMA SCRIPT:**

(Mighty Max enters)

Teacher: Hey, Mighty Max! How is the "Super Hero-ing" going?

Mighty Max: It's going great!

Teacher: That's good.

Mighty Max: Just the other day I rescued a kitten out of a tree.

Teacher: That is quite heroic! I'm glad it's going good for you.

Mighty Max: Me too. Except...

Teacher: Except what?

Mighty Max: I have a little problem.

Teacher: What's the problem?

Mighty Max: It's just that I don't have enemies!

Teacher: (Laughs) Well, I'd say that's a good thing.

Mighty Max: Good thing? That's a terrible thing!

Teacher: Why is that terrible?

Mighty Max: Who ever heard of a super hero without enemies?

Teacher: What would you even do with enemies?

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### **Mighty Max: "Destroy My Enemies"** Drama Script — Continued

Mighty Max: I would DESTROY THEM!

Teacher: Destroy them? That sounds a little violent.

Mighty Max: It's the whole point of being a super hero! Find some enemies and destroy

them!

Teacher: I don't think that is right.

Mighty Max: Yes it is! If I don't destroy my enemies they will destroy me!

Teacher: But you don't have any enemies.

Mighty Max: See! That's the problem!

Teacher: Even if you had enemies, it's not good to destroy them.

Mighty Max: If I am not supposed to destroy them, what do I do to my enemies?

Teacher: The Bible says that we are supposed to love our enemies.

Mighty Max: Yuck! I am not a wimpy hero!

Teacher: Mighty Max, loving your enemies is not wimpy.

Mighty Max: Obviously you don't understand what it means to be a super hero, so let

me lay it out for you.

Teacher: Ok...

Mighty Max: When you are a super hero, you fight crime. When you defeat the crime,

enemies come after you. Does that make sense?

Teacher: I guess...

Mighty Max: Then when the enemies come after you, you destroy them. Once they are

destroyed, you become more famous! The more enemies you defeat, the

more famous you get!

Continued on next page



### **Mighty Max: "Destroy My Enemies"** Drama Script — Continued

Teacher: That sounds a little backwards.

Mighty Max: What do you mean?

Teacher: Being a hero isn't about getting famous, and destroying your enemies is

not the right thing to do.

Mighty Max: So what is it all about, Mr. Wise Guy?

Teacher: Being a hero is about justice! When something bad is happening to

someone, you help make it right.

Mighty Max: And sometimes that makes enemies! Enemies that need to be destroyed!

Teacher: Yes, sometimes we have enemies, but we are not supposed to destroy

them. We are supposed to love them and pray for them.

Mighty Max: Ugh! That's not justice!

Teacher: When we love our enemies, it shows them the love of God.

Mighty Max: But they are enemies! Are you sure God even loves them?

Teacher: Yes! God loves our enemies. God loved the whole world so much that He gave

His only Son for them.

Mighty Max: Are you sure that He really loved the whole world, and not just the good guys?

Teacher: I'm sure that God loves everyone.

Mighty Max: So I can't destroy my enemies?

Teacher: No.

Mighty Max: Not even just a little bit?

Teacher: No.

Mighty Max: Oh man! But destroying things is so much fun!

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### Mighty Max: "Destroy My Enemies" Drama Script — Continued

Teacher: I have some tall weeds in my flowerbed that need to be destroyed.

Mighty Max: I think I'm going to go destroy some crime.

Teacher: (Gives Mighty Max a worried look)

Mighty Max: Don't worry. I won't destroy my enemies.

(Mighty Max "flies" out of the classroom)

**THE END** 



OBJECT LESSON Overcome Evil With Good

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Romans 12:20

**TAKE HOME POINT:** Good deeds overcome evil ones.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Package of Junior Mints

Bottle of Coke Glass with Ice

### SPECIAL NOTES:

You can buy
 small boxes of
 Junior Mints to
 hand out to the
 kids after class.

### **OBJECT LESSON APPLICATION:**

Do you have any enemies? Has somebody ever hurt you so badly that you wanted to make them pay? The Bible tells us to never take revenge.

Read Romans 12: 20-21 to the class, "If your enemies are hungry, feed them. If they are thirsty, give them something to drink. In doing this you will heap coals of shame upon their heads. Don't let evil conquer you, but conquer evil by doing good. (NLT)

In this passage of scripture, God tells us how to win over evil and how to help the evildoers!

First, He tells us not to repay evil deeds to someone who did evil to you. Many boys and girls fight back with those who do things to them. If they get hit, they hit back. If someone calls them a name, they call them a name back. But God says don't do this!

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### **Overcome Evil With Love** Object Lesson — continued

God says (hold up the Junior Mints) if your enemy is hungry, feed him. (Begin to pass out the Junior Mints as you teach and tell a story.)

If your enemy is thirsty (hold up the bottle of Coke and pour it into the glass with ice), fix him something to drink.

Why? To show them the love of God! When they see the love of God, they will become believers instead of evildoers. And when they become believers, they'll stop doing evil to you and everyone else. So don't let evil overcome you. You can overcome the evil with good and the devil will lose another soul.

So, love your enemies and pray for those that persecute you. What does persecute mean? It means "make fun of." Has anyone ever made fun of you because you obey the Bible or go to church? What should you do? You did the right thing but people made fun of you. Well, you pray for them.



## INTER-ACTIVE OBJECT LESSON

### Put Out The Fire

**WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:** You can put out a fire with your words.

**WHAT YOU NEED:** 1 large candle

Matches Squirt gun

Empty gasoline can

**PREPARATION:** 4 Contestants

### INSTRUCTIONS:

- Light the candle and place it on a table in front of the class.
- Have each Contestant stand 3 feet away from the candle.
- Have a contest to see how many squirts it takes to put the flame out.
- The winner is the Contestant who puts out the flame with the least amount of squirts.

### **SPIRITUAL APPLICATION:**

Fire is one of the most powerful forces in the world, but water is stronger than fire. No matter how big a fire gets, you can always put it out if you have enough water. Just like we put this fire out, kind words will stop a hot temper. Can you think of a time when somebody was really angry with you and they said some mean words? Maybe someone said, "I hate you!" Does that hurt when someone says that? Of course it does. What do you want to do when somebody yells at you? Most of us want to yell back, but that is like pouring gasoline on the fire. (Pick up the empty gas can and pretend to pour it on the flame.) If someone is yelling at you, don't yell back. Do what the Bible says, "A gentle answer turns away wrath, but harsh words stir up anger." Don't yell, say something nice and put out the fire.



## **Love Your Enemies**

### **DIGITAL REVIEW QUESTIONS**

NEEDED: Review Prizes (penny candy for right answers)

### TO THE TEACHER:

The **Digital Review Questions** are a part
of "The Masked Hero"
download.

Once you get to the Memory Verse, then PAUSE the video.

After you have done your teaching then PLAY the Digital Review Ouestions.

You can turn this into a **Review Game** by rewarding kids for correct answers.

1. Matthew 5:44 says to "Love your enemies and \_\_\_\_." a. buy them some pie

### b. pray for those that persecute you

- c. pray for your friends
- d. unless they are really mean
- 2. What does persecute mean?a. It's a fancy word for a new kind of purse

### b. To make fun of someone who is a Christian

- c. To electrocute
- d. To be really nice
- 3. How did Jesus love His enemies?
  - a. He died for them
  - b. He bore their sins
  - c. He prayed, "Father forgive them"

### d. All of the above

- 4. Why should we love people who are mean to us?
  - a. God the Father loves them (they are His lost sheep)
  - b. They need Jesus too
  - c. We can reach the lost if we walk in love

#### d. All of the above

5. The Bible says, "Love takes no account "

### a. of the evil done to it

- b. of how much candy you eat
- c. of how much money I owe
- d. of how many toys I have



# **Love Your Enemies**

**PROP LIST** (Props, supplies, costumes and characters)

Participation Awards (Large candy bars or prizes)
How many needed?
Review Prizes (penny candy)
Mighty Max: "Destroy My Enemies" — Pages 4-7
Characters
Mightly Max
Object Lesson: Overcome Evil With Good — Pages 8-9
Package of Junior Mints
Bottle of Coke
Glass with Ice
Inter-Active Lesson: Put Out The Fire — Page 10
1 large candle
Matches
Squirt gun
Empty gasoline can
Small Group Club: Man's Best Friend
Pictures of Cats and Dogs (or bring in pets)
How many needed
Special Edition: Pastoring Your Kids
How many needed
FEATURED CANDY THIS WEEK:
• Junior Mints (We suggest if you have the resources to purchase enough cookies to give the children.)