

Words Are Powerful

MEMORY VERSE:

Ephesians 4:29, *“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up..”* (NIV)

TAKE HOME POINT:

Speak words that build people up.

TO THE TEACHER:

There are three points in this lesson:

1. Words are powerful.
2. The love of God never participates in gossip.
3. Speak words of love.

Words are powerful. (Read James, chapter three.) Words are like tools. We can use our words to destroy people or we can use our words to build people up. If someone has spoken mean words that have hurt you, you may be tempted to say mean things back to them. You may want to punish them with your words. Not only does God want us to forgive people that hurt us, He wants us to say nice things back to them. This is really hard to do, but it is what God does for us and we have the Agape kind of love inside of us.

The love of God never participates in gossip. Never talk bad about somebody behind their back. This grieves the Holy Spirit, because they are His kids too. (Ephesians 4:30) If someone has hurt you, it is good to talk with them to resolve the conflict, but it is never right to talk about someone behind their back.

Speak words of love. You can do this. Choose to say words that build people up, especially if you are tempted not to. You can always find something nice to say about somebody. The Bible says that pleasant words are like a honeycomb. This is one of the simplest ways to walk in love. Say nice things. Speak words of love.



SUPERCHURCH 2.0



Words Are Powerful

LARGE GROUP SCHEDULE

Today's Date: _____

Lead Teacher: _____

WHO	LESSON OUTLINE	WHAT
_____	1. Participation Awards	
_____	2. Praise & Worship	
_____	3. Announcements	
_____	4. Offering	
_____	5. Motion Comic:	Adventures of the Masked Hero #7
_____	6. Bottom Line:	Speak Words That Build People Up
_____	7. Memory Verse:	Ephesians 4:29, "Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up.." (NIV)
_____	8. Drama:	Martha Stewie: "The Help Show"
_____	9. Object Lesson:	Sticks & Stones
_____	10. Short Film:	Nerds Unite
_____	11. Inter-Active Lesson:	The Hammer
_____	12. Altar Call	
_____	13. Digital Review Questions	
_____	14. Small Groups	

MOTION COMIC

The Adventures of the Masked Hero
Agape: Episode #7

▶ TO THE TEACHER:

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.

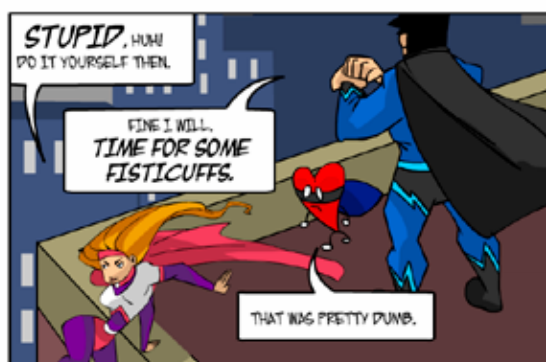
- It is motivating to reward the first child to guess the Bottom Line and Memory Verse.



Panel 1



Panel 2



Panel 3



Panel 4



DRAMA

Martha Stewie: "The Help Show"

TAKE HOME POINT:

CHARACTERS: Martha Stewie
Stage Hand

PROPS: Martha Stewie Costume
2 chairs
Microphone

Drama Script:

(Martha Stewie enters. She is holding a microphone. Stage Hand is following close behind. He is carrying two chairs.)

Martha: (To the Stage Hand) We will set up on the stage.

(The Stage Hand sets the chairs on the stage.)

Martha: No... A little to the left... now to the right... left... right... Perfect!

(The stage hand does whatever Martha says. The chairs end up exactly where they started. When he is finished, he stands quietly at the side of the room.)

Teacher: Martha Stewie, what a surprise! What are you doing with the chairs and the microphone?

Martha: They are for my new show!

Teacher: What's your new show?

Martha: It's called "The Help Show With Martha Stewie." I was so inspired to love people the last time I was here that I have given up on my old job and decided to help people live better lives.

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Martha Stewie: "The Help Show" Drama Script — Continued

Teacher: So, you are going to be like a missionary?

Martha: (Laughs) Oh, no! Have you seen the clothes that those tribal people wear! It's like they have no taste at all.

Teacher: Who will you be helping then?

Martha: The guests on my show! And since you inspired me to live a life of love, you are my first guest! Have a seat, and we can start!

Teacher: That's very kind of you, but I don't think I need any help.

Martha: (Confidently) Everyone needs MY help! (Stern) Sit!

Teacher: Ok. (Sits)

Martha: So, what can I help you with?

Teacher: Umm... I don't really know.

Martha: So what you are saying is that you don't really know what to do to live a happier life. (Compassionately) That is so sad, but don't worry. I can help you.

Teacher: Uh... Ok...

Martha: First, we will start with your wardrobe. The key to a happy life is a stylish wardrobe, and frankly you look terrible today. (Laughs) If you were dressed any worse, I would have mistaken you for a circus clown! (Smiles) Wasn't that so helpful!

Teacher: No! It was mean, and I like this outfit.

Martha: I did too. Last year. But now that ties are out and ascots are in, that outfit should be out in the garbage! Now, I am going to make your family life happier!

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Martha Stewie: “The Help Show” Drama Script — Continued

Teacher: We are happy!

Martha: But after a little help from me, it could be so much better! Are you married?

Teacher: Yes...

Martha: (Laughs) Really? Wow! The single life is much happier. You get your way all the time! You should buy your wife a one way ticket to Hawaii! Then you would both be happier!

Teacher: That’s a terrible idea! I love my wife, and what about the children! They need a mother.

Martha: Send them with her! Your kids are rotten anyway!

Teacher: My kids aren’t rotten! Hey! Have you even met my kids?

Martha: Nope! I don’t need to. All kids are rotten!

Teacher: Martha! You are not going to help anybody by tearing people down!

Martha: I’m just telling people how they are wrong!

Teacher: That’s not love!

Martha: Then, how am I supposed to help people!

Teacher: Love builds people up! Try giving them godly advice that builds them up.

Martha: (Snidely) Well, that doesn’t make for very good ratings! My show isn’t going to do well if I sit there and counsel people with the Bible!

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Martha Stewie: "The Help Show" Drama Script — Continued

Teacher: That sounds selfish to me. Is your show about getting good ratings, or it is about helping people?

Martha: Uh...

Teacher: I am glad that you are excited about love, and I think your show is a great idea.

Martha: You really like it? That is such a nice thing to say.

Teacher: See, I just said words that built you up. Now are you ready to hear some advice that will help you out?

Martha: I am usually the one giving the advice, but since you are being so nice, I suppose I can listen to you for a couple of seconds. (Looks at her watch)

Teacher: I think you should rethink the way you go about helping people. Because tearing people down is not going to help them. It is only going to push them away.

Martha: Times up! Thank you for your advice, but I've got another session of the show in ten minutes, and I don't have time to think up a new gig! Good bye everyone! (Stands and exits)

(The Stage Hand picks up the chairs and follows her out.)

The End



OBJECT LESSON

Sticks & Stones

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:

Ephesians 4:29

TAKE HOME POINT:

Do not use your words to put people down. Use your words to build people up.

WHAT YOU NEED:

Large box of Nerds candy

SPECIAL NOTES:

- Buy enough Nerds candy boxes to hand out to the kids after class.

OBJECT LESSON APPLICATION:

(Hold up a box of Nerds in your hand. While you are talking open the box and hand out some Nerds.)

When I was a kid there was a saying, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." We would say this as a form of defense when another kid said something mean to us. Kids can be pretty mean sometimes. They can say some really mean things. Words like, "You're ugly," "You're stupid," "You're a geek," "You're a nerd."

Sometimes kids will label you according to the clique you are in. We had the jocks, the nerds and the freaks. These were all negative words designed to put people down. God tells us to only use our words to build people up. It is really easy to join in with the mean kids and put other kids down, but as Christians we should be different. Just because it seems like everybody is doing it, it doesn't mean that we should do it too.

When I said the rhyme, "Sticks and stones will break my bones, but words will never hurt me," it was always in

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Sticks & Stones Object Lesson — Continued

defense of something mean that someone just said to me. The truth is words do hurt. It grieves the Holy Spirit when we say words that put other kids down, because they are God’s kids too.

Don’t join in with the crowd. When you hear kids call other kids names like “Nerds” (hold up the box of Nerds) choose to say kind words. Think of something nice to say to the kid that everybody is picking on and share your Nerds with him like I am sharing my Nerds with you.

**INTER-ACTIVE
OBJECT LESSON*****The Hammer*****▶ WHAT YOU'LL LEARN:**

Words are like tools. We can use our words to destroy people or we can use them to build people up.

▶ WHAT YOU NEED:

A hammer
Box of nails with large heads
2 saw horses or 2 small tables
2 1x3 pieces of lumber (4 feet long)

▶ INSTRUCTIONS:**Step One:**

- Select 4 contestants.
- Place one of the two 1x3 pieces of wood on the saw horse.
- Allow contestants to come and pound nails into the wood, one at a time.

Step Two:

- Once the contestants have pounded the wood, have them sit down and replace the piece of wood with the second piece with no nails.
- Take the hammer and begin to hit the wood and break it into pieces.
- Make sure no children are standing near.
- If you are uncomfortable with breaking the wood into pieces, just hold the hammer in your hand and talk about it.

SPIRITUAL APPLICATION:

During **Step One**, you will begin to talk about how hammers are a great tool. They can be used to build just about anything. You can build a box, a desk or even a house. This hammer reminds me of our words. Words are powerful. You can use your words to build people up. When you say things like, "You are smart" or "You are pretty" or "I like playing football with you because you can catch real good," these are words that build people up. During **Step Two**, you will begin to talk about how hammers can also be used to break things up. I can also use this hammer to destroy things. I can tear down a wall with this hammer or it could even be used as a weapon. The same is true with my words. If I say, "You're ugly," "You're Stupid," or "I can't believe you struck out," these words can destroy people. The Bible tells us to use our words to build people up. Even if people have been mean to us, we should not be mean back to them. Never use your words to punish people if they have hurt you. Use your words to build people up.



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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 Questions.

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

1. Words are _____.
 - a. green
 - b. powerful**
 - c. silly
 - d. not necessary
2. Speak words that _____.
 - a. are really big
 - b. are really funny
 - c. build people up**
 - d. make people afraid
3. Never talk _____.
 - a. about monsters
 - b. about politics
 - c. about belly buttons
 - d. behind somebody's back**
4. Pleasant words are like a _____.
 - a. honeycomb**
 - b. cell phone
 - c. starfish
 - d. grapefruit
5. Ephesians 4:29 says, “Don’t let any ___ come out of your mouth.”
 - a. funny noises
 - b. bad breath
 - c. yesterday’s lunch
 - d. unwholesome talk**



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PROP LIST (Props, supplies, costumes and characters)

_____ Participation Awards (Large candy bars or prizes)

_____ How many needed?

_____ Review Prizes (penny candy)

Martha Stewie: “The Help Show” — Pages 4-7

Characters

_____ Martha Stewie

_____ Stage Hand

Props

_____ Martha Stewie costume

_____ 2 chairs

_____ Microphone

Object Lesson: Sticks & Stones — Pages 8-9

_____ Large box of Nerds candy

Inter-Active Lesson: The Hammer — Page 10

_____ A hammer

_____ Box of nails with large heads

_____ 2 saw horses or 2 small tables

_____ 2 1x3 pieces of lumber (4 feet long)

Small Group Club: How To Use Your Words

_____ Bucket of Legos

_____ Container of Cheerios

_____ How many needed

Special Edition: Pastoring Your Kids

_____ How many needed

FEATURED CANDY THIS WEEK:

- Fun-sized Nerds candy (if you have the resources, purchase enough for every child).