



The Power of Choice

MEMORY VERSE: **Joshua 24:15**, "Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve..." (NKJV)

BOTTOM LINE: Take responsibility for your life.

Interesting thing about God - even though He is the almighty and all powerful God, and even though He can do anything, the only thing He won't do is make you serve Him.

He wants you to love Him because you want to. He wants you by your own free will. He will not manipulate you. The devil will manipulate you, lie to you, push you and deceive you to get you to serve him.

On the other hand, with the enemy you don't have to seek him, temptation just comes. Have you ever noticed that you don't have to plant weeds in your garden, they just grow. However, if you want to have flowers or vegetables (things that are productive), you have to plant them and cultivate them.

God will do anything for you, but it begins with you wanting Him because you love Him. We cannot make our kids serve God. They have to choose God. God has given them a free will. The freedom of choice is God's idea.



The Power of Choice

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 #8
_____	6. Motion Comic Follow-up	
_____	7. Bottom Line	Take responsibility for your life.
_____	8. Memory Verse	Joshua 24:15 "Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve..." (NKJV)
_____	9. Drama	Not Too Bright: "The Faulty Cake"
_____	10. Object Lesson	The Apple
_____	11. Short Film	Baby Bottle Pops
_____	12. Short Film Application	
_____	13. Inter-Active Lesson	Feed The Baby Relay
_____	14. Altar Call	
_____	15. Digital Review Questions	
_____	16. Small Groups	



MOTION COMIC

The Adventures of the Masked Hero
Choices: Episode #8

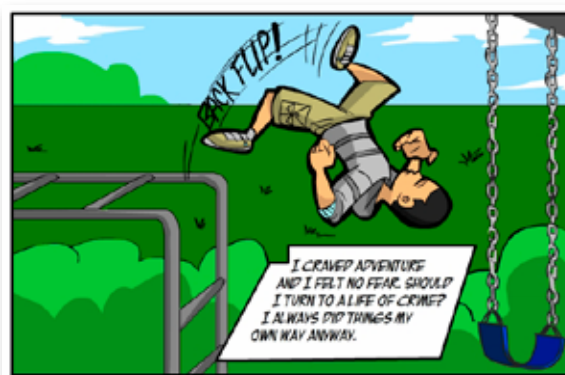
► TO THE TEACHER:

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

- For this lesson we are going back in time to see how the Masked Hero got his start.
- Johnny said, "He could remember a time when his life was unclear to him."
- How was Johnny different than the other kids?
- What choices did Johnny have to make?
- Did Johnny make the right choices?
- Today we are starting a new series on choices. Every day we make choices that have a big impact on our lives.



Panel 1



Panel 2



Panel 3



Panel 4



DRAMA

Not Too Bright “The Faulty Cake”

TAKE HOME POINT: You can choose what you will do.

CHARACTERS: Not Too Bright

PROPS: Large bowl, large spoon, 1 cake mix, oil, 3 eggs, bag of chips, 2 Twinkies, chocolate milk, Hershey candy bar.

DRAMA SCRIPT:

Teacher: Okay, remember that you always have a choice. No matter what.

NTB: HELLO! How is everyone?

Teacher: We are all doing fine. What are you doing here?

NTB: Well, I have decided I am going to treat everyone today.

Teacher: Really? How are you going to do that?

NTB: Well, I am going to bake a cake.

Teacher: I love cake, how about you kids? Do you like cake?

NTB: Well good. (NTB goes to table with props on it, takes the cake box and looks at it several times then tosses it behind him.)

Teacher: Ah, well I think you need that box.

NTB: No I don't.

Teacher: Well, yes. Are you making a cake?

NTB: Yes.

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Not Too Bright "The Faulty Cake" Drama Script — Continued

TEacher: You need the cake mix.

NTB: NO, I don't need it.

Teacher: Why not?

NTB: Cause I'm Not Too Bright.

Teacher: Oh, yes I forgot. But I thought you were going to bake us a cake.

NTB: (Take chips, Twinkies, chocolate milk and Hershey bars and put into bowl.)
Yummy. This cake is going to be so good.

Teacher: Really. I don't think so.

NTB: What, why not?

Teacher: Because you are Not Too Bright!

NTB: You got me there, but this is going to be good.

Teacher: Well you didn't use the cake mix, the oil or the eggs.

NTB: Why would I use those?

Teacher: Because that is what is used to make cakes.

NTB: That doesn't sound like a very good cake.

Teacher: Well, whether you think it does or not, that is how you make a cake. I don't know what you are making.

NTB: Hey, Teacher. Clean out your ears. I am baking a cake. (Continues to stir ingredients together.) I chose my favorite things for this special cake.

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Not Too Bright "The Faulty Cake" Drama Script — Continued

Teacher: Well, I like chocolate milk and Twinkies, but mixing them together won't make a cake.

NTB: (Continues to stir and begins to get frustrated.) Ah. Hmm.

Teacher: What is wrong?

NTB: This doesn't look like the picture on the box.

Teacher: Well, you chose to not follow the directions.

NTB: What? This is not my fault. This is your fault. You are the reason my cake didn't turn out right.

Teacher: No. You threw the box out and didn't follow directions. You didn't even use any of the ingredients used for making cakes.

NTB: That doesn't matter.

Teacher: Yes, it does matter. You can't just choose whatever you want and expect it to turn out the right way.

NTB: You can't?

Teacher: No. You choose to follow the rules or in your case the directions on the cake box.

NTB: I don't know what you mean.

Teacher: This is not hard. Why don't you understand?

NTB: Well. Cause I'm Not Too Bright.

Teacher: Oh, I should have known. Get out of here.

THE END



OBJECT LESSON

The Apple

TAKE HOME POINT:

God has given us a choice. We can choose what we will do.

WHAT YOU NEED:

1 Apple

OBJECT LESSON APPLICATION:

When God created Adam and Eve, He created them with the power of choice. Every man, woman, boy and girl are created the same way - with the power of free will or choice.

God created us this way so we could have an opportunity to choose Him. God didn't want us to serve Him because He was making us. He wants us to serve Him because we want to.

God set Adam up in the Garden of Eden with everything you could imagine. There was only one thing God asked him not to do, and we all know Adam chose not to obey God. Adam chose to disobey and eat of the fruit in the garden.

We have the power of choice in our lives like Adam, we have choices we face every day. But the great thing is that we can choose. We have the power to choose. It is in our hands.

This apple represents your ability to make choices.

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The Apple Object Lesson — continued

Sometimes kids think they don't have any choices; however, you do have many choices.

What type of things do you have choices about? (Allow children to respond)

Here are some suggestions:

- To obey my parents or disobey.
- To share my toys with my brothers and sisters or not to share.
- To do my homework or not.
- To study hard for a test or just enough to get by.
- To keep control of my thought life.
- Free time: do I read, play with my friends, or watch TV.?
- Do I really love God or do I just go to church because my parents do?
- To wake myself up for school or do I depend on Mom to wake me up?
- To clean my room myself or let my mom clean my room.
- To be nice to the new kid at school or just pretend he isn't there.

**SHORT FILM
APPLICATION:*****“Baby Bottle Pops”***

Did the short film remind you of a story in the Bible? That’s right. It was a modern day version of Adam and Eve. God created Adam and Eve and put them in paradise. The Garden of Eden. I think it was kind of like Hawaii.

God told Adam that he could eat from every tree in the Garden except the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. What did Adam do?

He did the only thing God told him not to do. We’ve all disobeyed and blown it at times, but nobody blew it like Adam did. When Adam disobeyed, the law of sin and death began to reign on earth.

Do you think God knew Adam was going to sin? Of course he did. He knew what Adam was doing when he sinned, and yet He didn’t try to stop him. God knew the problems Adam’s sin was going to create and yet He didn’t come down to earth and tell Adam not to do it. God allowed Adam to disobey Him. Why?

Because God wanted Adam to take

responsibility for his own life. If God had stopped him then God would have been taking the responsibility.

After Adam sinned God tried again to get Adam to take responsibility. God asked Adam, “Did you eat from the tree I told you not to eat from?”

God just wanted Adam to confess his sin. Instead, Adam played “The Blame Game.”

“The woman that YOU gave me. She gave me the fruit to me and I did eat it.”

Adam not only blamed Eve for his sin, he also blamed God for his sin. In other words Adam is saying, “If you had not given me that woman, I wouldn’t have sinned.”

Don’t play “The Blame Game” kids. If your life is not like you want it to be, don’t blame God. Don’t blame your parents. If you flunk a test, don’t blame your teacher. It is time to take responsibility for your sin. If you don’t like your life, you can change your life by making different choices.

**INTER-ACTIVE
OBJECT LESSON*****Feed The Baby Relay***

WHAT YOU'LL LEARN: Grow up and take responsibility for yourself.

WHAT YOU NEED: 6 jars of baby food, 6 spoons, 6 bibs

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Choose 12 contestants (older kids, 6 boys and 6 girls).
- Place items on a table in front of class.
- You may want to loosen jar lids ahead of time.

RELAY GAME RULES:

- Boys against the girls.
- Two team members match up.
- One team member puts the bib on the other team member. They proceed to the table and one team member feeds the other with the baby food.
- Go back to the rest of the team and switch out the bib for the next two team members and they do the same.
- The team that finishes first wins.

SPIRITUAL APPLICATION:

When babies are born they are totally dependent on their mom and dad for everything. They don't even know they are dependent on anyone else. They just expect someone else to feed them, change their diaper, and make them happy. Of course, most parents are fully aware of the responsibility in bringing a child into this world, and are more than happy to fulfill that obligation. But as a baby grows there needs to be a transferring of responsibility. Even as a child you are not too young to begin making wise decisions for yourself. You are not a baby. As kids are growing up, sometimes it is easier to depend on mom and dad's relationship with God than it is to develop their own relationship with God. For instance, if you get a cough it is easier to go to mom and have her pray with you than it is to develop your faith and pray for yourself. If you want a new bike, it is easier to go to dad and ask for a new bike than it is to save money and buy a new bike.

***Feed The Baby Relay Inter-Active Object Lesson — continued*****Ask yourself these questions:**

1. Would I go to church if my parents gave me a choice?
2. Do I ever read the Bible without being told to?
3. Do I ever pray on my own because I want to?

By reading the Word of God and praying (because you choose to), you begin to develop your own relationship with the Father. God wants you to want Him, because you love Him, not because you are made to.



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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. Joshua 24:15 says ____.
 - a. choose this day what you will eat
 - b. choose this day what game to play
 - c. choose this day to obey
 - d. choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve**
2. Why did God allow Adam to disobey Him?
 - a. God wanted to punish Adam
 - b. God wanted Adam to take responsibility for his life**
 - c. God wanted to see what would happen
 - d. God didn't like Adam
3. Who did Adam blame for his sin?
 - a. The woman
 - b. The snake
 - c. God
 - d. All of the above**
4. What does the fruit represent in the Garden of Eden?
 - a. Good stuff
 - b. Bad stuff
 - c. Our ability to make choices**
 - d. God's ability to control us
5. What types of things can I make choices about?
 - a. My thought life
 - b. Who I hang with
 - c. To wake myself up in the morning
 - d. All of the above**



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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)

Drama: Not Too Bright "The Faulty Cake" — Pages 4-6

Characters

_____ Not Too Bright

Props

_____ Large bowl

_____ Large spoon

_____ 1 cake mix

_____ Oil

_____ 3 eggs

_____ Bag of chips

_____ 2 Twinkies

_____ Chocolate milk

_____ Hershey candy bar

Object Lesson: The Apple — Pages 7-8

_____ 1 apple

Inter-Active Lesson: Feed The Baby Relay — Pages 10-11

_____ 6 jars of baby food

_____ 6 spoons

_____ 6 bibs

Small Group: It's Your Choice

_____ Fun fruits and small bags of chips - enough for everyone to choose one

_____ How many needed?

Special Edition: Pastoring Your Kids

_____ How many needed?