

# Momentum/Friction

## Module: Contagious

### Lesson 3: Don't Catch a Wave.....Make a Wave

#### Objectives:

- Students will consider how to stop following/riding the wave of negative influence
- Students will consider how to stand firmly and be a trend setter for positive behaviour

#### Materials Needed:

- ☐ one tall glass per student
- ☐ one straw per student
- ☐ one spoon per student
- ☐ enough water to fill the glasses  $\frac{3}{4}$  full
- ☐ sturdy table that could possibly get wet (possibly tarp/plastic surrounding the table)
- ☐ song/video “Give us clean hands” by Chris Tomlin and something to play it on.
- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ Students dressed in their Cowboy or Sheriff outfit. (optional)

## Minds On

Note: For larger groups, select 5-10 students/volunteers and set them up at the front with others able to see the activity.

Give each student a glass filled  $\frac{3}{4}$  full with water, a spoon and a straw. Have them make a tornado wave by stirring the glass really quickly. Once you have a good wave, put the straw in the glass and watch what happens to it. (The straw should spin.)

Say something like: *What would you have to do to get the straw going in the opposite direction?* Let them try and give you their answers. (Leader's note: you may hear things like, first take out the straw then stir it the other way).

Tell students you're making "teen culture" waves. Have them repeat the activity a few times and have fun. Next tell students that the straw represents themselves. Say something like: *How can you get the straw to stand up straight in the middle of the glass.* (Let them figure it out by trying different ways,- the only way is to hold it there).

Have the students hold the straw straight in the tornado then tell them that their hand is symbolic of God's influence on our lives. God is the Hand and the strength. Even though the straw is weak, no one expects it to stand on its own.

Say something like: *Is the straw able to ride the wave **and** be controlled by the hand at the same time?* Let them try a few times. Answer: It's impossible in fact you can only be controlled by one or the other.

## Action

Have the students split into groups and make a short skit based on Luke 16:13. Students will need to read the passage first and then decide on how they will present it. Give them an

appropriate amount of time to prepare. Once the skits are ready, randomly select groups to present their skit.

Once the skits have finished, have teens get back into their groups and discuss:

1. How can riding the teen culture wave make you hate God? (Students should record the top 3 on a piece of paper).
2. How should standing firm in the Lord, make you feel about “what everyone else is doing”? (Students should record their general agreement or consensus on this topic).

Have each group share their responses. The leader may want to add:

- if they feel it isn't bad to go with the flow, it's probably because they are *in* the flow.
- the choice is theirs to make whether they are moving steady with God or just riding the wave, but it must be one or the other.

## **Consolidate/Debrief**

Read the scripture verse (Luke 16:13) again. Ask students who their Master is. Split up into small groups of 2-3 with a leader if possible in each group for a time of prayer. Let students know that if they are in a place where they want God to be their true masters that the leader can pray with them.

Play the song “Give us Clean Hands” and begin with a time of personal prayer. Have leaders ask students what they are thinking and what they would like prayer for. Encourage students to also pray for each other in the groups. Leaders can also ask them about last week's challenge what behaviours they are finding hard to break and which ones they want to focus more on.

## **Final Challenge for the Module:**

Don't ride a wave.....Make a wave, Take a stand.....All in the power of Christ!!