

Momentum/Friction

Module: What's YOUR Excuse?

Lesson 5: I'm Too Young...

Objectives:

- Students will learn about young people God used in the Bible
- Students will discover that you are never too young to serve God

Materials Needed:

- ☐ Several packages of marshmallows and dry spaghetti
- ☐ Handout per student
- ☐ Pens/pencils per student

Minds On

Tower of Mallow (<http://www.youthgroupgames.co.uk/games-for-large-groups.html>)

Note: You will have to scroll down the page a bit to find the instructions

Divide the youth members into equal groups, and give each team several packets of both marshmallows and dry spaghetti. Ask the teams to build a marshmallow tower as high as they can, preferably one that can reach the ceiling (or its equivalent, if they are outside). The tower has to be able to withstand its own weight, and the tallest wins a prize.

This game is perfect to teach anyone about teamwork, cooperation, friendship and coordination. It also can give the youth group leader the opportunity to break up any cliques that have been forming among the children and foster new friendships among children who haven't played together before. And marshmallows are yummy!

Say something like: *It's amazing what you can do with unexpected objects. If you were just told to build a tower, you probably wouldn't choose marshmallows and spaghetti, but we have all just learned that it works surprisingly well!*

Action

Say something like: *Throughout the Bible, it is clear that God uses all different types of people to do amazing things...and many of those people are unexpected. They are not the people that you and I might choose. They are from all different walks of life and of all ages. When it comes to using different people, we often overlook those who are young, but God loves working with young people, and many of them have had an incredible impact on the people around them simply because they were willing to be a part of God's plan!*

One example of this is Jeremiah, a young man that God called to be a prophet. When he realized what God wanted him to do, he said, "O Sovereign LORD," I said, "I can't speak for you! I'm too young!" The LORD replied, "Don't say, 'I'm too young,' for you must go wherever I send you and say whatever I tell you. And don't be afraid of the people, for I will be with you and will protect you. I, the LORD, have spoken!"

(Jeremiah 1:6-8)

Jeremiah was not the only one...let's learn more about other people around your age that did some pretty amazing things!

Have students work in groups to walk through the handout for this lesson. Depending on your group, and the time available, you may want to have students complete the entire handout or assign specific passages to groups, encouraging them to become “experts,” who can then present their findings to the rest of the group.

When the groups are done, have them come back together and share what they have learned.

Focus on the final question about how these stories are relevant for us today.

The purpose of this exercise is to make it clear to your students that God used young people in the past, so we know that he will continue to do so into the future!

Consolidate/Debrief

Conclude your time together by reading 1Timothy 4:12 to your group.

Invite them to share their thought on this passage. Walk through each of the areas with them (what you say, how you live, love, faith, and purity), pushing them to offer tangible examples of what they can do to fulfill this passage.

Close your time praying for your students that they will truly be an example to all those around them!

Handout: Lesson 5

What's YOUR Excuse? – I'm Too Young...

Read the verses below. In the spaces provided answer the related questions.

WHO is the focus of this passage?

WHAT did he or she do?

WHY is this significant?

HOW is this relevant for us?

	2 Chronicles 34:3-11
WHO?	
WHAT?	
WHY?	
HOW?	
	1 Samuel 3
WHO?	
WHAT?	
WHY?	
HOW?	

	I Samuel 17:1-51
WHO?	
WHAT?	
WHY?	
HOW?	

	Luke 1:26-38
WHO?	
WHAT?	
WHY?	
HOW?	

Handout: Lesson 5

What's YOUR Excuse? – I'm too young...

Read the verses below. Then, in the spaces provided, answer the following questions:

***WHO** is the focus of this passage?*

***WHAT** did he or she do?*

***WHY** is this significant?*

***HOW** is this relevant for us?*

	2 Chronicles 34:3-11
WHO?	King Josiah
WHAT?	He cleaned up the nation by destroying the idols and shrines that the people had built to worship other gods. He also had the temple repaired.
WHY?	It shows his desire to serve the true God and remove any distractions. He also steps away from what his ancestors had done and follows God and leads the people to do the same.
HOW?	God calls us to worship him as well. We all have “idols” that need to be torn down.

	1 Samuel 3
WHO?	Samuel
WHAT?	He heard the voice of God and answered his call. He did what God wanted.
WHY?	Samuel heard God speaking, even when others didn't. He was committed to following God.
HOW?	God wants us to follow him and listen to his voice in our lives.

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WHAT did he or she do?

WHY is this significant?

HOW is this relevant for us?

	1 Samuel 17:1-51
WHO?	David
WHAT?	David stood up to Goliath, even when the rest of Israel's army was afraid. He was not willing to sit by and let Goliath defy the armies of God. He used his sling, rather than the armour of the king and trusted that God would protect him.
WHY?	David stood up for what was right and trusted God every step of the way. He also stayed true to who he was, rather than trying to be something he wasn't.
HOW?	There are wrongs in the world that we need to stand up against. God will give us the strength to do this, no matter how big the opposition may seem.

	Luke 1:26-38
WHO?	Mary
WHAT?	When she was told that she was going to give birth to the Son of God, she willingly accepted.
WHY?	Mary knew that this would bring all sorts of issues for her socially, and with her soon to be husband, but she was willing to be "the Lord's servant."
HOW?	God calls us to do hard things as well, and we need to be willing to do what he wants, despite the consequences, knowing that God is in control.