

“The Game of Life” - LESSON 6

“Mousetrap”

Main Focus:

We must be diligent to avoid the traps the devil sets for us!



Power Verse:

“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.”

- Matthew 26:41



Watt's Up:

“I Must Be Careful To Avoid The Trap Of Sin!”

LEADER'S INFO

To catch a mouse, you have to have two things: the bait and the trap. You have to make sure you use bait that the mouse really likes. This will lure him into your trap where you can capture him.

Satan, our enemy, often does the same thing with us. He uses the bait of temptation in order to trap us into sin. Much of the time, if we are not careful and looking out for it, we will fall into the bait of temptation and become trapped in sin.

Satan is very crafty in his ways of trapping us. We must be aware of his schemes in order to avoid getting trapped. In this lesson, the children will learn how God has given us the ability to avoid being trapped by the bait that Satan has laid out for us.



“The Spark” Intro Video

The “Game Boy”



“Watt's Up?” Teaching Video

Skittles teaches “Watt's Up?”



Character Skit

“Regina Rulebook”



Offering Time



Game On!

“Mouse Mania”



Bible Story

“The First Temptation” (Genesis 3)



Power Verse Video

“Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.”

- Matthew 26:41



Call To Action

“Mousetrap”



Brain Drain

PowerPoint Review Game



Small Group Experience

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Watt's Up:

“I Must Be Careful To Avoid The Trap Of Sin!”

ORDER OF SERVICE

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CHARACTER SKIT

Character: Regina Rulebook (a quirky girl who is obsessed with rules)

(Play “Regina Rulebook’s Video Intro” off the DVD—Regina enters holding her clipboard, sneaks up on the Leader and “scares” them)

REGINA: Now WHAT do we have here??

Leader: *(jumps)* AGH! Regina, PLEASE stop doing that!

REGINA: RULEBREAKER!

Leader: What could I possibly have done now??

REGINA: *(flips through her papers)* RULE #347! “No one shall talk about crustaceans.”

Leader: What? Crustaceans?

REGINA: RULE BREAKER!! *(smacks leader with the clipboard)*

Leader: OW!! All I said was “crustaceans!”

REGINA: RULE BREAKER!! *(smacks leader with the clipboard)*

Leader: OW OW!! Okay, I won’t say “crustaceans.”

REGINA: Thank you....RULE BREAKER. *(smacks leader with the clipboard)*

Leader: OWWWWWWW. Why can’t I talk about crust – *(stops themselves)*?

REGINA: *(raises clipboard about to smack the leader, but freezes when she realizes they didn’t say the word)*

Leader: Those...things?

REGINA: YOU should know that! I heard you backstage! Today the boys and girls are talking about the EVILS OF CRUSTACEANS!

Leader: *(talks to the kids)* Boys and girls, in case you don’t know what a crust-I mean-those things are, she means like crabs, and lobsters and stuff like that.

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CHARACTER SKIT *(continued)*

REGINA: YES!! Right here in my rulebook it says Rule #6,543 – All crabs and lobsters are evil! With their little beady eyes, and their pinchy little claws (*pinches the leader*) How dare they lead people to SIN!

Leader: WOAHH hold up, leading people to sin? Regina, I think you're confused. You misheard us! There's nothing wrong with crust-I mean- crabs and lobsters, that's not what we're talking about at all! We're teaching the kids about avoiding TEMPTATION!

REGINA: (*a little embarrassed and flustered*) I knew that!

Leader: Good! Then you know how dangerous temptation can be. It's the bait that the devil uses to lead us into the trap of sin! We have to always be on the lookout for what could tempt us into sinning.

REGINA: Oh my little rule breaker, I know EXACTLY how to handle that!

Leader: You do? Good! Can you tell us?

REGINA: Of course! (*flips through rulebook*) Ah, here it is..."RIP THEM OUT BY THE ROOTS!"

Leader: WHAT?

REGINA: How else are you going to handle CARNATIONS?! Yes, carnations! Little pink flowers of EVIL!!

Leader: No! Not carnations! TEMPTATION! When we're faced with TEMPTATION we must RUN from it!

REGINA: Silly little Rule Breaker, carnations don't have legs! Now, I don't have any more time talking to you about such silly things! The boys and girls have to learn all about TEMPTATION! But, before I go...you must follow rule #900 – "before a lesson can be taught on temptation, the leader must say the secret word."

Leader: What's the secret word?

REGINA: (*shows the leader the page she is reading*)

Leader: (*reads it and looks confused*) The secret word is...Crustaceans?!

Leader: RULE BREAKER!! (*smacks the leader with the clip board*) So long boys and girls! I'm Regina Rulebook, and RULES ARE MEANT TO BE FOLLOWED!!



GAME ON!

“Mouse Mania”

Items Needed For Game:

The Data Disc

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Preparation:

Open the Data Disc to the PowerPoint Presentation for Lesson Six; begin with the slide titled “Mouse Mania”

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How To Play:

Choose three boys and three girls to compete in the game. Take turns answering the crazy questions about “mice.” The team to get the most correct answers by the end of the game is declared the winner.

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After the game, say:

“That was a fun game about mice. But, it’s not very fun when a mouse gets caught in a trap, is it? It’s also not fun when people fall into the devil’s trap of sin. Today, we are going to learn some very important lessons about how to avoid the trap of sin.”



Bible Story

“The First Temptation”

Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; the PowerPoint presentation for Lesson 6; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the story in Genesis 3; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today, I am going to tell you a story that you may have heard before. It’s one of the most famous Bible stories ever. This story takes place at the very beginning of time. There was no earth, no moon, no sun. Everything was dark and empty. Then, God spoke and created the Heavens and the Earth. He created animals, plants, and finally - human beings. The first man was named Adam, and the first woman was named Eve.

Adam and Eve had a wonderful life. They had everything they needed. God gave them only ONE rule. He said, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.” Well, that’s pretty easy. Just one rule.

(*show pic*) One day, while Adam and Eve were walking in the garden, Satan took on the form of a serpent and came up to them. Satan asked Eve, “Did God say you can’t eat ANY fruit in the garden?” Eve answered, (*show pic*) “We can eat any fruit EXCEPT this tree!” Satan responds, (*show pic*) “God just doesn’t want you to be as smart as He is.”

Eve listened to Satan’s lies and fell for them. (*show pic*) Eve took some of the fruit and ate it. With that, she fell right into the trap that Satan had set for her. To make things worse, (*show pic*) Eve turns and offers some of the fruit to Adam. Guess what? (*show pic*) Adam falls for the bait Satan set as well. Adam eats of the fruit. With that, Adam and Eve committed the very first sin.

It’s hard to believe isn’t it? Adam and Eve had a perfect life with only ONE rule. They listened to the lies of the enemy and fell for the bait that he laid out. They fell right into the trap of sin. If only they had listened to God instead of the devil. If only they had obeyed, then sin may never have entered into the world.

Today, we are going to learn from this story. We are going to learn about how we can avoid the bait of temptation and the trap of sin. Listen closely. It could save your life.





Call To Action

“Mousetrap”

Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; a mouse trap; a piece of cheese; a pencil; a pair of sneakers

Preparation:

Open the PowerPoint presentation on the Data Disc titled “Lesson Six,” begin with the slide titled “Mousetrap”



The Message: *(title slide)*

Today, we are learning from the game, “Mousetrap.” It’s a game where the goal is to trap your opponent’s mouse and keep them from winning. The game comes from something that happens in real life. Mice can be a real problem if they are in your house. They get into your cabinets, your food, and other places. If you want to catch a mouse you need two things, right?

The first thing you need is (hold up the mouse trap) a trap. The trap is what will hold the mouse in place. It might even kill the mouse. But, mice won’t just wander onto the trap. In order to get the mouse to actually come near the trap, you need the second thing - bait! What is the best bait for mice? (allow response) That’s right, CHEESE! (hold up the cheese) Why do we do that? Because cheese is all we have? No, because we know that the mouse loves cheese. If we put cheese on the trap, we know the mouse will be drawn to it and be caught in the trap.

Satan wants to catch us in the trap of sin. So, you know what he uses to get us to fall into the trap? BAIT! That’s right! He uses things that he knows will be tempting for us. He uses our weaknesses to tempt us. Maybe your weakness is lying. Maybe because you want people to think you’re cool you make up lies to tell about yourself. Maybe your weakness is watching bad stuff on TV. Maybe your weakness is hanging around with the wrong crowd. Whatever your weakness is, the devil will try to use that weakness as bait to try to trap you into sin. Just like we use this cheese to try to trap the mouse, the devil will use the most tempting thing for us and try to *(place the pencil in the trap and make it “SNAP!”)* trap us into sin.

He’s been doing it since the world began. Do you remember the story we heard today about Adam and Eve? God had created them and put them in the Garden. Life was perfect. But, Satan came along and dangled the bait in front of them. He said, “Hey, it’s OK if you eat of the fruit of this tree. I know God said you would surely die, but that’s not true. He knows that if you eat this fruit you will become just like Him.”

Satan lied to Eve and told her that God wasn’t telling her the truth, that He just didn’t want them to become like Him. Eve made the mistake of believing Satan’s lies. She bit the bait, and BOOM! She was caught in the trap of sin. If you want to avoid the “Mousetrap” of sin, then...

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Call To Action (Continued)

Don't Listen To Satan's Lies, Trust God's Plan (slide)



Satan lies to us all the time just like he lied to Eve. He may not come to us in person with his lies. Many times he uses television, movies, and even friends to lie to us. He tells us that we won't really get in trouble. He lies and says that one sin won't really matter. He lies and says that “Everybody's doing it, so it's OK.”

We have to not listen to Satan's lies because they are not true. God loves us and has a plan for our lives. If we trust Him, we will listen to His words in the Bible and obey Him, not listen to Satan's lies. Eve listened to the lies. You know, once she heard the lie the story should have ended right there. The story should have read like this: “You will not surely die,” the serpent said to the woman. “For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” And so, Eve looked at the snake and said, “See ya” and took off running. Eve ran as far and as fast as she could and from then on, whenever Eve saw the snake, she ran. And – they lived happily ever after in the Garden of Eden.

But, that's not what happened, is it? Nope. Eve didn't run from temptation, she hung around. Here is the lesson we learn:

Don't Hang Around - RUN From Temptation (slide)



Kids, do you see these? (*hold up the pair of sneakers*) These can be your best weapons in fighting temptation and avoiding the trap of sin. When the devil starts lying to you, don't hang around. Strap your shoes on and RUN! Run as far and as fast as you can. It's hard to give in to temptation when you are running in the other direction. Sadly, Eve didn't run. She hung around. Worst of all, she ended up eating the fruit that God told her not to. Then, she turns to Adam and offers him some.

Here's where we can learn a lesson from Adam. He sees Eve giving in to temptation. He should have spoken up and told her, “DON'T DO IT! YOU'LL RUIN YOUR LIFE! RUN!” Instead, what does he do? He takes the fruit and eats some, too. Instead of following what God told him to do, he follows Eve. The lesson we can learn is:

Don't Follow The Crowd - Do What's Right (slide)



Kids, let me tell you something. When everyone else around you is choosing to do wrong, you do what's right! If everyone around you is going the wrong direction, you do what's right! Set the example! Follow God's plan! Speak up! Don't let them believe Satan's lies. Don't follow the crowd! Do what's right! It's so sad what happened to Eve. She didn't have to give in to the bait. She could've ignored Satan's lies and turned and ran away. Adam could have chosen to NOT follow the crowd and do what is right. Sadly, he didn't. We must follow God's plan - that will help us avoid the bait of temptation and the “Mousetrap” of sin.

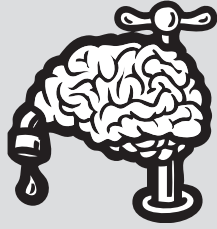
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Call To Action *(Continued)*

ALTAR RESPONSE *(play soft music)*

Now, that you have laid out the steps to avoid giving in to temptation, recognize that many of the children in your group have given in to temptation even this week. Allow them to confess their sin to God. Then, pray with them that God will help them follow the three steps in the plan to avoid the “Mouse-trap” of sin.



BRAIN DRAIN

Materials Needed:

The Data Disc; The DVD

Preparation:

Play the “Brain Drain” Video Intro off the DVD; Open the PowerPoint presentation on the Data Disc titled “Lesson Six,” begin with the slide titled “Brain Drain”; there is a slide for each question

1. Watt’s Up today?

Answer: “I Must Be Careful To Avoid The Trap Of Sin!”

2. What were the names of the first two humans created?

Answer: Adam and Eve

3. What form did Satan come in when he tempted Eve?

Answer: Serpent

4. Who did Eve offer the fruit to after she ate it?

Answer: Adam

5. What game did we learn lessons from today?

Answer: Mousetrap

6. According to our lesson today, “Don’t Listen To Satan’s Lies, Trust God’s _____.”

Answer: Plan

7. According to our lesson today, “Don’t Hang Around - _____ From Temptation.”

Answer: Run

8. According to our lesson today, “Don’t Follow The _____ - Do What’s Right.”

Answer: Crowd

9. What do we call the “bait” that Satan uses to get us into the trap of sin?

Answer: Temptation

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Matthew 26:41