### LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE - VOL. 1

# Lesson 8 - Theme in Stories



### **Bible Point - Jeremiah 29:11**

Jeremiah 29:11 – "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future."

We were lost in our sin, but God had a plan to give us hope and a future, to provide a way for us to be with him. That way is Jesus! The theme of his story with us is love. He did it all because he loves us!

### **Key Theatre Concepts for the Day**

- Theme is the underlying idea of a story.
- "Story is King," meaning it is the most important part of a show and characters should point to the theme and help tell that story.

#### **Before Class:**

- **Decide which students will be in each group** (groups work best with 3-5 students, information on pairing children is available in the tips section)
- Choose a fable for each group to perform (a list of fables is provided at the end of today's instructions)

## **Step by Step Instructions for class:**

- **Pray.** Ask God to draw us to himself, to teach us and build our confidence that we may serve him with all our gifts.
- Play the Video for Lesson 8
- Warm up with a round of "Zoof" if time allows (review rules in Lesson 4 if needed)
- After the game, **tell students which group they will be in**, which fable they will present, and give them a specific amount of time to develop their skits before they present it to

#### Step by Step Instructions (cont')

the audience. 15 to 20 minutes is usually an appropriate amount of time, though if students have been industrious and would like more time to work, give them all the time you can spare.

- As students are working preparing their skits, float around the room or watch closely. This presence of the teacher will keep them on task and accountable. (See notes on helping students with skits in the tips section of the guide)
- Watch the clock and **give them a five minute warning** before showtime, so they can be prepared.
- When the time has elapsed, tell students it is time to perform. Pick a group that seems to be confident to go first.
- After each skit, **give vocal feedback** before you call the next group. Encourage any specific students that need it. (*Tips on feedback are available in, you guessed it, the tips section*).
- When the last skit is over, ask students theses <u>reflection questions</u>, and allow discussion as time permits.
  - How does the story of your life display the theme of God's love? Can you think of an example of God directing your steps?
  - Does it give you comfort to know that God has good plans for you?
- <u>Pray to close the class</u>. Thank God for the students and the gifts he has given them. Pray that he would continue to teach them and train them that they might use their gifts to bring him glory and tell the world about his great love.

# **Suggestions for Fables to Perform**

(feel free to add your own favorites)

Tortoise and the Hare The Gingerbread Man

The Three Pigs Hansel and Gretel

Goldilocks Red Riding Hood

The Boy Who Cried Wolf

The Ant and the Grasshopper