

GENTLENESS – Week 4 Skit

Definition: Responding in a kind and careful way.

Verse: Ephesians 4:2 (NLT) – “Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowances for each other’s faults because of your love.”

Week 4: We can respond gently when others are against us

Main Scripture: Acts 6-7

Other Scriptures: 1 Peter 3:8-9, 15-16

Characters:

Joe

Hank

Props:

Mirror

Wrestling costumes

Bible

At Home Suggestions:

- Choose an area in or around your house for the stage. This week is set before a big wrestling match, so you can set up a room in your home to look like a gym!
- Easy costumes for this skit – grab a pair of gym shorts and a t-shirt
- Not a fan of wrestling? Feel free to change up the script and incorporate your favorite sport instead!

Helpful Hints:

- Stage directions (what the characters are intended to do or how they are intended to act) are written in *ITALICS*.
 - Read the story of Stephen from the book of Acts. Tell your kiddos about Stephen being one of the first Christian martyrs...*and* how God redeemed Saul, who was in the crowd that day!
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SFX: Let's Get Ready to Rumble

Joe is on stage doing pushups. Hank is reading his Bible.

Joe: 497. 498. 499. 500. 500. (*Jumps up and starts jogging in place.*)
Okay, okay feelin' good, feelin' strong! Leeeetttt'ssss geeettt
reeeeeeeadyyyyyy to ruuuuuuummmmblllllllllle! Hank!? What are you
doing?!

Hank: Just reading my Bible. Keeping up with the Journey.

Joe: Great...well, could you journey on over here and help me train?
We've only got two hours left until the big wrestling tournament. How
can you sit there reading when we're going to have the strongest team
in the entire wrestling tournament against us?

Hank: Well, Joe, we've been training. We're strong. We're ready. Hey
man, I think you're ready too. Why don't you take some time to rest
before the big tourney?

Joe: Alright, fine. Lett me do just one more set, and then I'll be
ready to go.

*Joe steps up to the mirror and starts making angry/ tough faces,
flexing his muscles, growling at the mirror. Hank gets up and walks
over to him. He stares at him amused, but Joe doesn't notice.*

Hank: Hey Joe?

Joe: Grrrrrrrr. What? (*Still staring at the mirror*)

Hank: Whatcha doin'?

Joe: OBVIOUSLY...I'm practicing my meeeeeaaaaannnnn face.

Hank: Uuuuhhhhhh okay. Obviously. And why are you doing that?

Joe: Hang on, I've got one more. (*Strikes one more tough/ mean/ silly
pose.*) Okay, that's all of 'em. So yeah obviously I'm practicing my
mean face because we're gonna have THE toughest team AGAINST US! I
have to be ready. I have to be tough (*air punches*) and mean (*air
punches*).

Hank: We may be wrestlers, but we don't have to be mean. Or do
whatever you were just doing...did you know that God actually calls
us to be gentle by responding in a kind and careful way to others?

Joe: Ummm Hank, I love the Bible as much as you do my dude, and I think gentleness is just great and all...but this...this is wrestling. And do you know what rhymes with wrestling?

Hank: What?

Joe: Meeeeaaaaaan and toooooouuuuuuuugh. Grrrr.

Hank: Actually, no, those words do not rhyme. At. All.

Joe: Okay whatever. But do you know what rhymes with Gentleness?

Hank: What?

Joe (*Thinking*): Ummm. Actually I don't really know what rhymes with gentleness...how bout we stop with the poetry. My point is that gentleness and wrestling do not go together. You just can't be gentle when others are against you.

Joe goes back to the mirror and the tough/ mean faces.

Hank: Well, actually **we CAN be gentle... when others are against us!** We can always respond gently.

Joe: Are you serious?

Hank: I'm very serious. The Bible is full of examples of people who knew how much God loved them, and they were able to respond gently...yes, even when others were against them.

Joe: Prove it.

Hank: Alright, let's take Stephen as an example. Stephen loved and served God and others and some people who didn't like that about him, told some lies about him.

Joe: Oh man. I hate lies. If someone told a lie about me, I would be mad. I might just show them my meanest face ever.

Hank: WELL JOE...listen to this, Stephen was able to respond gently... even when others were against him. People believed the lies, and they dragged Stephen outside the city and began to stone him, and he died.

Joe: What? That is a terrible story!

Hank: That's because you haven't heard the most important part of the story yet. Before Stephen died, he responded gently to the people who were against him by asking God to forgive them. Now THAT, is being kind.

Joe: The people who were about to kill him? (*Hank nods*) And he asked God to forgive them? (*Hank nods*) Wow. (*Hank nods*) That is...gentleness? (*Hanks nods*) ...well, how can I respond in a kind and careful way to the other wrestlers?

Hank: Well, why don't we spend some time praying for the other team before the tournament?

Joe: Yeah! Sure, I could do that.

Hank: Let's pray for them and let's honor God in the way we act toward them during the match. Then maybe, when the tournament is over, we could invite them out to lunch. Maybe we'll get an opportunity to tell them about Jesus and about how much He loves them and wants to have a relationship with them.

Joe: But, how could I pray for them when I still want us to win against them?

Hank: Just because we pray for them and treat them with gentleness, doesn't mean we won't try our hardest to win the match. We've trained long and hard...and I do hope we win today too! But, how we treat them, win or lose, should be the same! With kindness.

Joe: Yea...that makes sense. So meeeaaaaannnn with our wrestling moves but gentle in our hearts?

Hank: Hahah yea, sure think Joe! Come on, let's pray then go get warmed up!

Joe: Let's geeeeeet reeeeeeeady toooooo...rummmmbb- beeeeeee gentleeeeeeee!

SFX: Let's get ready to rumble