

LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

Trust God, and do things His way.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that I should seek God's way not my way.

KEY PASSAGE:

Matthew 6:25-34, Do Not Worry

MEMORY VERSE:

"But anyone who drinks the water I give them will never be thirsty. In fact, the water I give them will become a spring of water in them. It will flow up into eternal life."

- John 4:14 (NIV)

SUMMARY:

At Burger King, you can "Have It Your Way." In life though, we can't always have things our way. If we want to be followers of Jesus, we have to put our lives in his hands and strive to do things His way.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to trust that Your way is the best way.

In Jesus' name,

Amen

LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

Trust God, and do things His way.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that I should seek God's way not my way.

KEY PASSAGE:

Matthew 6:25-34, Do Not Worry

INTRO:

How many times have you ordered something at a restaurant that was made wrong? Who got lettuce on their Taco Bell taco when they said no lettuce? Who got onions on their McDonalds cheeseburger when you said no onions? It's very frustrating, isn't it?

Fast food restaurants are able to keep costs low because all their foods are made the same way. They are trained to make that cheeseburger the exact same way every time with ketchup, mustard, pickles, and onions. It makes the food preparation more efficient and keeps costs low. You could order something special, but you'd have to wait for it, and they don't like doing it!

Thank goodness for Burger King! The King may not be number one in fast food, but BK was first in one very important respect. They were the first fast food restaurant to tell you that you can "Have it your way!" Of all the fast food giants, Burger King was the first to say, "We welcome special orders! If you want no pickles, extra pickles, no cheese, extra cheese, bacon or no bacon, however you want your burger, you can have it your way!" Once Burger King did it, everyone had to follow. Now it's no trouble at all to get a custom burger anywhere you go. They want your business, and everyone lets you have it your way.

We like having things our way. We get frustrated when things don't go our way. So it can be really frustrating when God refuses to do things our way. I mean if Burger King and McDonalds and Taco Bell can make dinner our way, why won't God give us things our way?

Here's why. God's not a fast food franchise. He's your Heavenly Father. He knows you better than you know yourself. He knows our needs before we even ask. God does not exist to serve us. We exist to serve and worship Him.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

God will never keep from us the things we need. God wants us to be content with His blessings, and He wants us to choose to do things His way.

God wants us to accept what He gives us without worrying about what we don't have. He wants us to have faith he will provide for all we need.

READ MATTHEW 6:25-34

MAIN POINT:

You don't see birds being picky eaters, do you? Birds won't come and tap on your window and complain if you put the wrong food in the feeder. They are grateful for everything they get. They also don't worry where their next meal will come from. God provides for the birds. He cares for them individually as He does us. They are a model of contentment for us to follow.

God wants to let go of the selfish attitude that says, "I want it MY way!" He wants us to be thankful for our blessings. He wants us to trust Him to provide for our needs and be grateful for everything that comes our way. He will not always give us what we want, but He will always give us His best!

DRIVE IT HOME:

I'm going to guess many of you have parents who don't always do things your way, don't you? They won't leave the broccoli off your plate at dinner. They won't buy the new Wimpy Kid book the day it comes out. They won't take you to the park to play until you finish your chores.

If you have a parent like this, you should thank God for that parent. God is using them to give you His best. A good parent wants you to eat that vegetable because they want you to have healthy eating habits. They won't buy you things you want when you want them because they want to teach you patience and to save your money for those things. They won't let you play until your work is done because they want you to learn responsibility.

Doing things God's way means sometimes we do things we don't want to do. It means denying ourselves wants and being thankful for what we have. It means obeying God, even when no one else does. Choosing God's way often means denying ourselves. It means letting go of our selfish wants and being grateful that we have all we need. It teaches us to rely on God, to obey God, and to be content no matter what we do or do not have.

Getting things your way all the time only leads to more selfishness. It leads to more bitterness when things don't go your way. When we learn to accept what God gives us and be thankful, we will have more joy, more peace, and a whole lot less worry!

LARGE GROUP LESSON

There's nothing wrong with ordering things your way at Burger King, but let me challenge you with something. The next time they mess up your order, don't take it back. Try it. Taste it. You may discover a new flavor that you never knew before. You may find out that Burger King really knows what they are doing by adding pickles to that burger.

God knows what He is doing. When He doesn't give us what we want, it's because He's giving us something better. We can let go of worry and do things His way because we know He will always give us what's best.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to trust that Your way is the best way.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

Who makes a better burger: McDonalds or Burger King?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

John 4:14

Look at the verses surrounding this passage, or read the whole chapter so you can hear this verse in context. What was happening? How do the verses before and after the memory verse help you understand its meaning?

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play a game of hot potato with an onion or a tomato. See who can make it to the end and win.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Matthew 6:25-34

What does Jesus tell us we should not do?

How does God provide for flowers?

How does God provide for birds?

Does God always give us what we want?

Does God always give us what we need?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for always taking care of us your way.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*