

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER

Have you ever been out on a boat?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY

Proverbs 4:14

Ask the kids what they think the writer was trying to say when he wrote these words. Then ask them how this verse is connected to today's story.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY

Have the kids create a skit about using their tongues the right way.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read James 3:3-10

How can a tongue be destructive towards other people?

Why is it so much easier to tear someone down when you're not face to face with him/her?

How many of you have been the victims of bullying or gossip?

How hard is it to resist joining in when your friends begin talking bad about someone else?

How can we respond to bullying or gossip when we are the one being picked on?

What if you see someone else being bullied or picked on? How can you use your tongue (or words) in a positive way to help him/her?

SIMPLE PRAYER

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of tongues and speech. Forgive us for using them, and the technology of our time, to hurt others. Help us to become people who not only refuse to gossip and pick on one another, but show love to those who have been picked on by others. Give us courage to take a stand and show God's love to those who need it.

In Jesus' name,

Amen