Dave vs the Bully

Romans 12:21

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Advance Preparation

- Prepare the video 'Dave vs the Bully' and 'Dave vs the Bully: Interviews'
- Gather a collection of bean bags for the activity
- Download the song When You Learn to Follow Jesus (You Will Act a Little Strange) or Infiltrating the world, BMSuderman. Download as Itunes from <u>www.smalltallmusic.com</u>
- Prepare materials ready for leading the song (guitar and words, or music player)
- Choose discussion leaders for small groups
- Read the Close to Home pamphlet, "Dealing with Bullying" as a primer on the topic of bullying <u>http://store.mennomedia.org/Close-to-Home-Pamphlets-C1363.aspx</u>

Creating community

- Activity for early arrivals Play a "hot words" bean bag toss. Participants take turns tossing bean bags toward each other. As they catch the bean bag they get to call out any word that they associate with the word bullying. Enjoy all responses. As new responses slow down, shift the association word to conflict, then transformation.
- Welcome: Using the bean bag again, say: "My name is _____ and I like (a favourite game, book, colour, food, movie etc.) Keep going till everyone has had a chance.
- Sing or listen: When You Learn to Follow Jesus (You Will Act a Little Strange) or Infiltrating the world, BMSuderman. With a younger group, enjoy doing the actions of the first song.
- Pray: Jesus, the more we learn what it means to follow you, the more we realize you want us to infiltrate our communities by doing strange things like standing up to bullies without resorting to violence ourselves. Please help us tackle that topic rather than each other tonight. Amen.

Faith Challenge

Conflict can be transformed by partnering courageously with God.



Exploring a new view

• Watch the video 'Dave vs the Bully'

Responding

- In small groups, discuss several of the questions the kids discuss in the video 'Dave vs the Bully: Interviews', then return to the larger group.
- 1. What does this story mean to you? How does it relate to your life?
- 2. How does the story of David and Goliath go? (Check it out in 1Samuel 17)
- **3.** How is this story similar and different from David and Goliath?
- **4.** What are some different ways that Dave could've reacted to the Bully?
- **5.** How would the story be different if Dave had done nothing?
- **6.** What do you think would've happened if Dave had tried to fight the Bully?
- 7. Why do you think Dave decided to do what he did?
- 8. How did Dave solve that conflict without fighting?
- **9.** How did Dave hit the gong at the end? Was it luck? What else could it have been?
- **10.** Bullies are hard to deal with. What advice would you give to someone who's being bullied?
- **11.** Do you think that because Dave did the right thing, God smiled at him?
- 12. Do you think that when you do the hard but right thing, God smiles at you?
- Share stories of conflict managers from your school, or from the story in the appendix.
- Watch & Respond to the video 'Dave vs the Bully: Interviews'
- Bean bag decision time: as the bean bag comes to you, say one positive way you will respond to conflict in your life this next week.
- Use one of the attached, enjoyable ways of memorizing the Bible verse.

Faith Challenge

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Fun ways to memorize a Bible text

- Make up a tune and sing it.
- Write the words on individual cards and lay them out. Take turns removing them and still saying the verse. Continue until all the words are removed.
- Toss a balloon, or bean bag, saying one word with each toss. The person who catches the balloon says the next word.
- Make up actions to go with the words and act it out.
- Say the verse together in different voices, or with exaggerated expressions.



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Snack Time

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