

## Lead on ... Session Seven

### Working Together

**Aim:** To help children to recognise that it is important that we help one another by working together.

**Preparation:** Each child will need a desert spoon.

Set up the room with chairs for children to sit in pairs directly opposite each other, about 60 cm apart, (either across tables or on a floor) – so that bowls of food can be placed in the centre between them.

Have ready bowls with a tasty snack that needs to be eaten with a spoon- perhaps a mix of rice krispies, smarties or other small chocolates and small pieces of dried fruit. Or otherwise a bowl of jelly, ice-cream and/or custard.

(ENSURE THAT FOOD IS SUITABLE FOR ANY CHILD WITH ALLERGIES).

Puppet dressed to look like Moses (as a young man). If possible have a microphone to use as a prop.

Suitable props for children to use to create drama of the Bible story of Moses.

**Warm up Activity:** Prepare as detailed above.

Seat children opposite one another in pairs. Tell them that we have a tasty snack but there are two rules – they must eat with the spoons and they may not bend their elbows.

*(With young children before approaching the table, talk about the body parts we can bend (e.g. elbows / knees. Have children name and touch one of these body parts at a time and experiment with moving their bodies without bending that body part).*

(Let children experience mild dismay at this task. Hopefully some of them will recognise that the only way to eat is to feed each other. Drop hints if necessary!)

After the fun of eating, ask children what we can learn from the activity - say a short prayer thanking God that we can help one another.

**Looking at the Bible:** Have a leader 'interview' the Moses puppet – who describes his experience in getting others to help him lead. (Exodus 18:13-27)

#### **Discussion:**

1. What was it that Moses was doing?
2. Why was he doing it?
3. Why didn't it make sense to do it alone?
4. Are there times when we also need to help one another?

(Refer to the warm up activity – also talk about times like getting ready for the session and clearing up afterwards – encourage the children to help you and thank them for their efforts).

**Activity:** Encourage the children to create a drama of this story of Moses. Discuss that it's important that every child has something to do. (Try to let the children take the

leadership of this activity – they learn by doing. However if there is conflict or you are aware some child is unhappy / feeling left out – then gently encourage the group’s awareness to the problem and encourage them to come up with a creative solution).

If possible arrange for the children to act out their drama to the parents (perhaps in church the following Sunday). Get permission to do this before suggesting it to the children. If all the audience are not working through the same series, briefly explain to the adults the aim of the activity.

**Conclusion:** After creating the play, discuss with the children how they felt when they were working together. (If any ‘negative’ feelings are expressed it’s important to listen to these, acknowledge how the child feels and to ask the group if there is any way we could make sure everyone feels good about the activity. Problem solving is an important skill in leadership!) Help them to recognise that as they created the story / discussed what to do / roles / what to wear etc. they took turns in leading.

End in prayer, thanking God that He wants us all to help with leading.