

Tribe Time

Sessions Outline

Year 1

Fall Retreat: Undying Fire

Idea: Bonfire overnight that they have to stay up all night to tend. Photo scavenger hunt, including a shopping trip to Target to purchase their sacred underwear and then wear in public in various ways. Prizes to best photo, silliest underwear, closest to Dennis' likely underwear etc.

Theme: How God's presence in you is the only fire that won't go out.

Session One: Tribe Sort

As a take-off of Harry Potter, use sorting hat to divide all the kids into one of the tribes of Israel. Use paint, costuming etc for them to compete (a la Lord of the Flies) and team build in the first session.

Sessions: Based on Leviticus 1-4

Session Two: The Burnt Offering

Idea: Fear Factor type contest of meat and meat parts handled as part of the burnt offering and burn in bonfire.

Theme: The things we offer to God vs the things we offer ourselves

Session Three: The Grain Offering

Idea: Make a human tortilla, roll someone in flour and lard. Make actual tortillas too.

Theme: The things God gives to us through creation that sustain us.

Sessions: Based on Leviticus 5-7

Session Four: Speak Up!

Idea: Role-play peer pressure situations

Theme: Use stipulation to speak up and tell the truth when called upon to testify as a way to talk about bullying and peer pressure.

Session Five: Don't Touch Stiffs

Idea: Tribes vs Zombies- have one tribe dressed up with make-up as zombies

Theme: Introduce the idea of God being the God of Life and Death/Sin being God's enemy.

Session Six: Making Amends

Idea: One tribe has to dress up lambs. Tribes play capture the lamb and then 'sacrifice' the lambs to God.

Theme: What's our equivalent of a lamb? What can we offer to God or others to set things right when we've done something wrong?

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Session Seven: Fat Fast

Idea: Fear Fact type contest using different kinds of fat.

Theme: Discuss how the God of Leviticus loves you enough to tell you what to do in all parts of your life. Contrast avoidance of fat vs our addiction to it and how it impacts the poor of the world. Week-long fat fast for kids and families. Reward for those who follow through.

Sessions Based on Leviticus 8-10

Session Eight: Ordination Day

Idea: Follow ordination of Aaron as closely as possible in detail and props

Theme: Select/Vote for 7 kids to serve as the priests of their peers. Have an ordination service, invite family and pray over them. This can be a good time to discuss the qualities of a 'minister' to others.

Session Nine: The Holy and the Common

Idea: Give them post-its labeled holy or common and have them go around and label things accordingly, in their opinion. Discuss. Take Home: Do same activity at home and take photos of their top choices.

Theme: If all is made by God, is everything sacred?

Sessions Based on Leviticus 11-13

Session 10: What's that on Your Face?

Idea: Tribes vs Lepers- create a tribe of 'lepers' with fruit leather and anything else gross.

Theme: Use stipulations against touching to weave in both Elisha and Namaan and Jesus, ie the larger point is God's desire for us to be made clean.

Session 11: Dirty Jobs

Idea: Tribes gets stuck cleaning things of ascending levels of grossness.

Theme: If God cares about mildew what else in your life seems inconsequential but God cares about?

Sessions Based on Leviticus 14-18

Session 12 & 13: Goat Loading

Idea: Get a Goat, maybe a tribe has to help you the day before or morning of, or watch it overnight. Load it with the sins of the people (solicited from the congregation?). Second session walk through ritual a second time with Jesus as scapegoat and talk about once for all sacrifice.

Sessions Based on Leviticus 19

Session 14: Be Holy

Idea: Some sort of obstacle course, quiz gauntlet, situational ethics game

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Theme: God expects you to be as perfect as him so that others will see through you to see him.

Session 15 & 16: Don't Return the Favor

Idea: Make a metal idol and then destroy.

Theme: Don't return the favor of being made by God by trying to make other gods. What are the actual idols in our lives?

Session 17: Shut It Down

Idea: Do Man-on-the Street interviews of good and bad examples.

Theme: Discuss the right way to rebuke someone for what they say or do.

Session 18: Manly Men

Idea: Pass out fake mustaches. Every one is encouraged to wear it all the time during the week. Prize to whomever wears it the most, with photo evidence to support. Maybe do a group 'Mustache Month' fundraiser- best mustache contest throughout the church?

Theme: Discuss how do people outwardly know what you believe inwardly.

Session 19: Time Capsule

Idea: Plant trees in the church yard with time capsules buried with the tree, containing letters about who each kid wants to be in three years. Tree per tribe.

Theme: Discuss patience and how patience and faith relate.

Session 20: Mars Needs Christians

Idea: Tribes vs Aliens

Discuss: How Yahweh tells us to treat aliens in our land vs how we treat them and how Church is called to offer a different witness.

Sessions Based on Leviticus 20-27

Session 21: Keep Away

Idea: A tribe has to costume up as revolting people and then catch the other tribes- or an outcast from each tribe... so they're competing against each other

Theme: introduce incarnation....who can't come near God vs God coming near.

Sessions 22-25: Jubilee

Retreat: Reward and Punishment...and Grace

Theme: Discuss the material nature of heaven and how, ultimately, its possible because of God's love not our perfection

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Year Two

Fall Retreat: Undying Fire

Idea: Bonfire overnight that they have to stay up all night to tend. Photo scavenger hunt, including a shopping trip to Target to purchase their sacred underwear and then wear in public in various ways. Prizes to best photo, silliest underwear, closest to Dennis' likely underwear etc.

Theme: How God's presence in you is the only fire that won't go out.

Sessions: Based on Leviticus 1-4

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Session 2: The Grain Offering

Idea: Make a human tortilla, roll someone in flour and lard. Make actual tortillas too.

Theme: The things God gives to us through creation that sustain us.

Session 3: The Fellowship Offering

Idea: Blood War, using red paint or syrup. Cover class altar in blood too.

Theme: God gives us one another to sustain our lives. Blood symbolizes life, that's what we offer to give thanks for our fellowship with one another and God.

Session 4: Ripping Off Your Friends

Idea: Role-play 'moral' dilemmas.

Theme: Use stipulation against cheating friends and neighbors to discuss how to be a friend and how not to take your friends for granted.

Session 5: God's Share

Idea: Man-on-the-Street interviews

Theme: Israel had to offer God a share of their everything. How do we honor God in our day to day? Include God in our day to day?

Sessions Based on Leviticus 8-10

Session 6: Unauthorized Fire

Theme: How do we misuse God's things?

Session 7: Ordination Day

Idea: Follow ordination of Aaron as closely as possible in detail and props

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Theme: Select/Vote for 7 kids to serve as the priests of their peers. Have an ordination service, invite family and pray over them. This can be a good time to discuss the qualities of a 'minister' to others.

Sessions Based on Leviticus 11-13

Session 8: What's (Not) for Dinner

Idea: Fear Factor Food Contest

Theme: Discuss boundaries and how we make ourselves 'distinct' from the wider culture as God's people.

Sessions Based on Leviticus 14-18

Sessions 9 and 10: Goat Loading

Idea: Get a Goat, maybe a tribe has to help you the day before or morning of, or watch it overnight. Load it with the sins of the people (solicited from the congregation?). Second session walk through ritual a second time with Jesus as scapegoat and talk about once for all sacrifice.

Session 11: Test for Doneness

Idea: Tribes vs Vampires, Fear Factor blood pudding contest.

Theme: God's commands as freeing, life-giving and protective.

Sessions Based on Leviticus 19

Session 12: Dr Phil Meets Yahweh

Idea: Some sort of spoof Dr Phil type show where a kid and their fictional parents talk through the challenges of honoring parents

Theme: Honor your folks

Sessions 13 and 14: Don't Return the Favor

Idea: Make a metal idol (with Allison) and then destroy

Theme: Don't return the favor of being made by God by trying to make other gods. What are the actual idols in our lives?

Session 14: Cut Off

Theme: Use the community casting some out to discuss peer pressure and how, when you end a friendship that isn't healthy

Session 15: Gleaning

Idea: Work at food bank

Theme: God's compassion towards the poor and God's expectation on us.

Session 16: Watch Your Mouth

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Idea: Pepper or soap eating contest. Give them some of sticker or something to give to someone every time during the week they hear someone slander, swear or say something hurtful.

Theme: Our mouths can be weapons or tools of love. What we say reflects what we are and what we believe.

Session 17: Pervert

Idea: Make ironic protest t-shirts.

Theme: Discuss what justice is, why God cares and how we pervert it as individuals and a community and a nation.

Session 18: Your Body is a _____?

Idea: Tattoo tribes with what they believe about their bodies.

Theme: Discuss how do people outwardly know what you believe inwardly? How you treat your body reflects how you treat God in your heart vs. body image problems in our culture.

Session 19: Stumbling Block Assessment Test

Idea: Give the tribes a test to assess how well the church integrates and welcomes those with disabilities. Does ancient Israel score better.

Session 20: Time Capsule

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Theme: introduce incarnation....who can't come near God vs God coming near.

Sessions 23-25: Party Time

Passover

Weeks and Trumpets

Tabernacles

Retreat: What's Worth Saving?

Tribe Time

Theme: New creation and how God wants everything back.