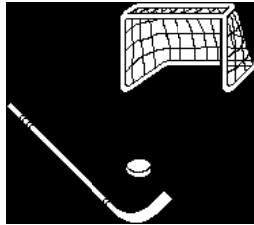


An interactive “God Talk”

Loving Our Enemies

By Barry Beeler



Audience: 5-11 year olds

Materials: - Bible
- some kind of reward (ex. Chocolate Easter eggs)

Time: 10 minutes

Introduction Question:

Who can explain what a reward is?

- Something you get for doing something good.
- I have a reward for the quietest people during half-time tonight. We'll hand them out at the end of the night.

Illustration:

During the past couple weeks some of you have told me how one of your friends has been bugging you (ex. Slashing you, shoving your stick around, not sharing the goalie position or not sharing the face offs). You shared this with me because you were upset about how someone was treating you.

How do you feel like treating someone who is mean to you?

- I feel I deserve to get back at them for what they did to me.
- The last thing I want to do is be kind to them.

This is what Jesus says about our enemies, **(read from Luke 6:35-36)**

“...love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked.”

Who is our enemy? - Someone who is opposed to us or against us.

Why will we be rewarded and called sons of God, the Most High when we love our enemies?

- Because that's what God is like... He is kind to other people and to us, even when we are ungrateful and wicked.

Application:

What are some ways we can love someone who is not kind to us?

- let them be goalie
- let them have a face off
- kindly ask them to stop hitting our hockey stick

Instead of getting angry, let's try to think of ways we can love others the next time we are hurt.

(Converse with "undercover judges/volunteers" about who listened most quietly. Hand out rewards to the winners after the game).