

Lesson 11 / August 16, 2009

# Stomp out False Gods

for use as

STEP 1 
**Lesson 11**  
**Focus:**

 Pay attention to  
 God's Word.




**Lesson 11**  
**Bible Basis:**

2 Chronicles. 34:1 – 35:19

**Your students will compare the health, happiness, and hunger rating scale of Webkinz to the health of their relationship with God.**

**Materials:**
 (Optional) device with Internet access like a computer, laptop, or smartphone

**W**ebkinz are one of the latest tween fads. They are stuffed pets that you buy and register online. These cuddly little creatures capture the hearts and minds of kids as they learn to care for their pets on the Web. Kids ages seven and up name these pets, decorate a house for them, feed them, and train them by sending them to school. Each pet has a rating scale that lists their level of health, happiness, and hunger. So, if they have not been fed or played with, their happiness rating scale goes down. For more information on Webkinz see: [<http://www.examiner.com/x-5645-Parenting-Humor-Examiner~y2009m7d17-Parenting-101-what-are-Webkinz>] Ask your students if they are familiar with Webkinz and if they have them. For students who are unfamiliar with these cyber pets, read the description above or have students that are familiar with them share the details. If you have access to an Internet device, you could pull up one of your student's Webkinz account (with his or her permission) and have your student give a demonstration.

-  **How are Webkinz similar to real pets?**
-  **What are the characteristics of a healthy pet in real life?**
-  **How can Webkinz help you become more responsible in real life?**

Webkinz are a lot of fun—and they are cute, too! Part of the fun is taking care of your pet. To keep your pet healthy you must pay attention to its health, happiness, and hunger rating scale. This helps you determine if you need to feed them or play a game with them.

-  **How many of you pay attention to the health rating scale for your Webkinz? Why?**

In the computer world, the inventors of games have found a way to keep kids attached to the computer by creating fun games and making a rating scale attached to each pet. Webkinz need their owners to pay attention to their

Lesson 11  
**Memory Verse**

Blessed rather are those  
who hear the word of  
God and obey it.

—Luke 11:28

health so they can thrive. In real life, we need to pay attention to God's Word so we can thrive.

Discuss:

- ▶ **If you were a Webkinz and had an owner that was responsible for making sure you were healthy, what would he or she say about your relationship with God?**
- ▶ **If there was a rating scale for your health and well-being as a Christian and your guardian angel had to give a report, what would your rating scale say about how much time you spend with God? What would it say about you paying attention to God's Word? What would it say about your hunger to learn about God's Word?**
- ▶ **How can paying attention to God's Word make us healthy and happy?**
- ▶ **When is it difficult to pay attention to God's Word?**
- ▶ **Think of a time you remembered Scripture and put it into practice. What happened?**
- ▶ **If game inventers can make a game to attach you to a computer, what could you invent to keep yourself attached to your faith?**

In our Bible study today we will learn about King Josiah. If King Josiah had a rating scale completed on the health of his relationship with the Lord, he would have a great score. Let's see what he did.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your *Upper Elementary Teacher's Guide*; your Step 4 appears below.)

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# Stomp out False Gods

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STEP 4 
**Lesson 11**  
**Focus:**

 Pay attention to  
 God's Word.

**Lesson 11**  
**Bible Basis:**





2 Chronicles 34:1 – 35:19

**Materials:**

- poster board or a large piece of paper to brainstorm ideas
- markers
- scissors (several pairs)
- tape
- paper big enough for students to trace their feet with shoes on

**W**hen we read the Old Testament, it's difficult to relate to the idol worship that happens in our Bible story today. Our culture is radically different, but we have the same struggles people had in the time of Josiah. Today, false gods are disguised by our fast-paced, high-tech lifestyles. Anything we treat as more important than God can become a false god.

Discuss:

-  **How can our need for belonging become a false god?** *(when our need for belonging becomes more important than making godly choices)*
-  **How can our desire to be happy and feel good become a false god?** *(when being happy causes us to discard others and elevate ourselves)*
-  **How can emotions become a false god?** *(when our feelings determine what is right and wrong and not biblical truth)*
-  **How can our dislike of rules become a false god?** *(when we put our desire to determine what is right over God's truth)*

Have students brainstorm things that could be false gods for tweens. For example, approval, belonging to a certain group of friends, the right clothes, and having the "right stuff." Write their ideas on the poster board. Then, hand out paper and have students each trace one of their feet (with shoes on), and cut it out. Gather the group when they finish and direct their attention to the list of possible false gods. After reading each item aloud, have the class shout "stomp out false gods" as a student tapes one of the cutout feet over that list item. Continue this process until all the false gods are covered with the feet. Try to list enough false gods so every student gets to stick a foot on the paper.

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**Memory Verse**

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Discuss:

- ▶ **What needs to be stomped out in your life that is a barrier between you and God?**
- ▶ **How can we keep our focus so we choose to pay attention to God's Word and not get distracted by things that lure us away from God?**  
*(spending time with God, praying, building each other up in Christ)*
- ▶ **When you think about how you spend your time, what is really important to you?**
- ▶ **What are a few areas in your daily activities to watch closely so they don't become more important than your relationship with God?**

In our Bible study today, Josiah paid attention to God's Word even though leaders before him led others into evil practices. Josiah influenced the culture of his time by leading others to honor God and obey His Word. Let's remember him as an example this week as we choose to pay attention to God.

Close with prayer: Heavenly Father, there are so many distractions trying to capture our attention. Help us to stay focused on You so we choose to pay attention Your Word. Help us to love You with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Amen.

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