**Juniors Lesson 6**

**October 19, 2015**

OBJECTIVE everyone tells a joke; Conversation lesson about keeping an “I” out, and that showing interest takes effort!

1:30-1:35 Handshake exercise. We do this every week. It is corny, and that is OK. Make sure every person shakes every other person’s hand. Hand shakes should be firm and strong. Not too hard, but not like a wet noodle either.

1:35-1:40 Review from last week:

What are some ways to display confidence? (strong voice, eye contact, good speed, no shifting feet)

What are some ways to develop real confidence? (think about what God wants us to become, practice!, get good at something)

Why do we want to learn and practice having conversations? (it is a way for us to focus on others; exhibit caring about others)

What is impromptu speaking? (speaking without preparation)

How are conversations a type of impromptu speaking?

What a some keys to having a good conversation? (listening, asking questions)

1:40-45 **Lesson: Impromptu speaking in the form of a story**

When we compete, there is a category of Speech that is called Impromptu. You choose 1 of 3 topics, think about it for 2 minutes, and then talk about it for up to 5 minutes. For a lot of people, this is a really hard thing to do!

What would make this hard? (lots of common sense answers possible here ☺)

One way to come up with something to say is to think about stories—bible stories, stories about you or your family, stories from a book you’ve read or a movie you have seen.

Today our speaking practice will be to tell a story. Try to think of one of your favorite stories and make sure it has a beginning, a middle, and an end.

1:45-2 **Exercise: Impromptu story**

Take a couple of minutes to let students think of the story they will tell. Student will stand in front of group to tell their story.

The AUDIENCE’S job will be to tell what the theme of this story is. (this may be a little difficult for the audience, but let’s give it a try).

Examples of themes are: courage, faith, heart warming/feel-good, growing up, hard work, loyalty, etc.

It is a main idea that the audience gets from the story.

Interns will probably need to help here—the purpose is to learn that an audience has an active role to play; the audience needs to listen, process, and synthesize information they hear.

Interns give High 5s or encouraging words!

If you get done with this before 2:00, ask the kids what they did this weekend and let them take turns telling the group. They don’t have to stand up to tell this. Once everyone is done, ask if it is easier to talk sitting down or standing in front of the group? Why?

**Let each student who brought a joke to tell take turns telling his/her joke. Have students come to the front of the room to tell the joke. Remember the 3-sec rule!**

2-2:10 SNACK and clean up; take kids to water fountain and bathroom if they need it.

2:10-2:15 **Lesson: Keeping an “I” out**

Intern 1: Hey, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, isn’t this amazing weather?

Intern 2: Yes, when it is pretty outside I really like to walk my dog.

Intern 1: That’s sounds cool, what kind of dog do you have?

Intern 2: My dog is a poodle. She is really smart. I have some cats too. I think I like dogs better than cats though. The cats have a litter box that I have to clean, and I hate doing that.

Intern 1: I have cats too.

Intern 2: My dog is smart enough to let us know when she needs out, so no litter box for her!

Intern 1: Our cats go outside…

Intern 2: If my cats stay outside after dark, they disappear into the bellies of local coyotes. I have had five cats in the last five years go missing after dark. I am pretty sure they have all been bobcat or coyote food.

Intern 1: oh, that’s terrible…

Intern 2: My favorite cat was Fido. She used to try to lick my eyelashes. But she disappeared after we had her for about 1 year.

Intern 1: oh my…

What do you notice about this conversation? (it is pretty one-sided)

Who asked questions? Who didn’t ask questions?

What does this kind of conversation tell intern 1? (intern 2 doesn’t really care much about him, not interested in having a conversation/only interested in talking about himself, etc )

What would be a better way to have this conversation go? (have each person ask and answer questions, if each person cared about the other, etc)

Lesson: be careful about monopolizing a conversation or talking too much about yourself.

What is a better way to share something with friends?

Let’s say you had a dream that you’d like to tell some friends. What would be a good way to share that without too much focus on yourself?

* Hey, y’all, can I tell you about a dream I had? …
* After you have told your dream, “What is the weirdest dream you remember having?” or “what kind of dreams are your favortites?” etc

2:15-2:45 **Exercise: Interest and Effort**

To CARRY a conversation requires listening and thinking!

Have 1 student come to the front.

Intern will ask a question about that student.

The Audience will go in order, and have the first 5 people ask the standing student additional/different questions about that topic.

Then another student takes the floor.

Intern asks that student a question.

The next 5 audience members ask further questions about that answer. The point here is that everyone has to ask questions; everyone takes 1 turn answering questions.

For example, student 1 takes the floor. Intern asks, “Do you have a hobby?”

Answer: I like to garden

The next 5 audience members ask questions about her gardening. (e.g. what do you grow in your garden? Is there something that grows pretty easily? Is there something that is really hard to grow? What do you like about gardening? How long have you been gardening? Do you sell the things you grow? )

Possible questions:

What do you like to do in your free time?

What do you do when you are not doing school work?

What did you do for your birthday this year?

What is a family tradition you do at Christmas time?

What did you do yesterday?

What is something you like to do with your family?

Did you go on a vacation this year?

What is something you like to do outside?

What is something you like to do inside?

Do you like school?

What was the most fun thing you did last week?

Do you have chores you have to do at home?

What is the rule in your house you like the least?

2:45-2:50 Exercise de-brief

Was there anything hard about this? Easy about this?

Was it harder to think of a question to ask? Or harder to answer a question?

When you are talking to someone you don’t know yet, do you ask them questions?

If there is time left over at the end, play a listening game with the kids back in a circle. Purpose is to get the kids to listen and pay attention!

2:50-3:00 Play charades.