

Part Three - "The Choice"

Max sat silently in the back seat for the rest of the car ride while Devo was sticking his head out the window and barking at squirrels. Max looked out to see what Devo was barking at and realized something.

"Dad, this isn't the way to the baseball field."

"I know son," Dad replied, "We need to get some ice-cream."

"What is he doing?" Max thought to himself, "Doesn't he realize how important this practice is?" Max dared to speak up, "I don't want to be late for practice."

"You'll get to practice, Max, but first, we need some ice-cream," Dad replied.

Devo was jumping all around the back seat barking out, "Ice-cream, ice-cream!"

Dad got two cones for he and Max and a bowl of vanilla for Devo. They sat down at a picnic table by the ice-cream shop.

"Max," Dad began, "Do you remember Elijah on Mount Carmel?"

"Mmm, caramel," Devo said.

"You mean where the fire came down and burnt up the offering and all the water, that was cool!" Max responded.

"Do you remember why Elijah was there?" Dad asked.

"Because the people were serving Baal, a false god, and Elijah showed them that the Lord was God."

"Right, Elijah told them they couldn't serve both God and Baal. They couldn't do what they wanted and what was right. They had to make a choice."

"You know, Dad," Max said, "When you put it that way, me wanting to play in tomorrow's game sounds pretty bad. I love baseball, but I love going to church and serving the Lord even more. I'm sorry."

"Max," Dad said with a smile, "You're a good boy. Finish your ice cream and I'll take you to practice. We'll talk to your coach. I'm sure he'll let you play in game two of the tournament."

"And the championship game," Max said with a laugh.

Maximum Impact Teachers Guide

Teachers Guide – I Kings Week Four

1. **Set-Up:** Be in class 15 minutes early to greet arriving students.
2. **10 AM Start:** Welcome - Begin class with a song. Take prayer requests and lead class in prayer. *Recognize visitors.* Remember to be caring to EVERY child. Finish welcome by leading class in another song or two.
2. **Review Time:** Ask, "Did anyone complete his/her passport?" *Praise Perfect Passports!* Encourage class to do their passports every week. Talk about Part One of the story. Mention your favorite part. Ask your students what their favorite part was. Keep the atmosphere interesting and fun!
3. **Quiz Questions:** (over part one)
 - a. What kind of a game was being played?
 - b. Why did the coach call the team over to the bench?
 - c. What was the name of the team they beat?
 - d. What tournament is Max's team in?
 - e. When is the first game of the tournament?
 - f. How did Max feel when he found out when the game was?
(You may give treats or rewards for quiz time)
4. **Class review of verse: I Kings 18:21a**
⇒ Play a verse review game.
5. **Lesson:**
 - a. Explain how we must make a choice. Matt 6:24; Josh 24:15
 - b. Explain the choices, show how anything put before the Lord is a god.
 - c. Teach how to make the right decision—what is the difference?
 - d. Teach how the only real choice is God
 - e. God is mighty, loving, and greater than any gods. Why do you serve Him?
 - f. Give an example of something you put before God and the results of it
6. **Read Part Two:** "The Choice"
7. **Supervise** a restroom break. **Escort** class to Maximum Impact Junior Worship. Never leave class unattended.

Part Two - "The Choice"

Saturday morning, Max was rubbing oil on his ball glove while sitting on the front porch of his house. Devo perked his ears up and Max asked, "Is that Dad, boy? Can you hear his car?"

"Huff!" Devo barked out and laid back down as a car went by the house.

"Hmm, guess not," Max sighed, "I wonder what is taking him so long. Doesn't he realize this is the most important practice this year? I don't want to be late."

Just then, Devo perked his ears again, said, "Dad's home," and then ran down the driveway.

"Gotta go," Max said to himself as he grabbed his glove and bat, and ran out to meet him.

On the way to practice, Max said, "Dad, I have it all figured out. I'll go to Sunday School in the morning. All we have to do to get to the game on time is leave fifteen minutes before church is over."

"Max," Dad said, "The game is tomorrow. It's Sunday. It's the Lord's day."

"Dad," Max said, "My teammates need me to be there. We have to win this game. I don't want to let them down. We'll lose the tournament."

"I didn't say you couldn't play in the tournament, Max," Dad scolded, "You just can't play in tomorrow's game."

"But what if they lose tomorrow?" Max asked, "Then there won't be any other games. We'll be out of the tournament. I need to be there. I don't think they can win it without me."

"Max, listen to yourself," Dad said, "Baseball is not more important than going to church."

"But Dad," Max insisted, "This is the most important game of the year!"

Maximum Impact Worship Service Program

1. **11AM Start:** Begin with music. Toss the globe. Seat according to monthly competition. Sing the Maximum Impact song. Sing one or two more children's songs. Welcome visitors.
2. **Review Part Two:** "The Choice"
Ask, "did you have fun in Sunday School?"
3. **Quiz for points:** (Over part two)
 - a. What was Max doing to his glove?
 - b. How important is this practice to Max?
 - c. What does Max want to do so he can make it to the game?
 - d. What day of the week is the Lord's Day?
 - e. What did Devo say?
 - f. What is KJ's verse of the week?
4. **Competition for Points:**
Quick Thinking
5. **Review Rules:**
 1. No talking
 2. No touching
 3. You may only have your hands and you Bible in your lap
 4. Always participate
5. **Country of the Month:** Mexico
⇒ Religion: Mostly Roman Catholic
6. **Medallion Fact:** I Kings
⇒ Author is Unknown
7. **Puppet Show/Skit:** Part Three "The Choice"
8. **Message:** Reflecting Devo's Weekly Super 7.
 - I.
 - II.
 - III.
9. **Final Scoring:** Winning team gets snacks first.
10. **Dismissal:** Passports given on the way out.