

# **CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER LESSONS**

## **HUMILITY:**

### **“SIBLING RIVALRY”**

#### **Read Numbers 12.**

#### **Questions for discussion**

1. Are your brothers and sisters good at something that you would like to be good at too?
2. What is it?
3. Why were Aaron and Miriam jealous of Moses?
4. Why was God not happy with them?
5. What does the Bible say about Moses in Numbers 12:3?
6. Why do you think God had chosen Moses, and not his brother or sister, to lead Israel?
7. What was the result of Aaron and Miriam’s jealousy?
8. How are jealousy and pride connected?
9. What should you do when you are tempted to want the honour or attention someone else is getting?

#### **Key concepts**

Moses was chosen by God to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. God talked with Moses directly and gave Moses directions as to how to lead His people to the Promised Land (a new home that God had chosen for them). Even though Moses had the honour of being chosen by God as a leader, he was still very humble.

Miriam and Aaron were Moses’ sister and brother. They were jealous of Moses’ position of honour and leadership. They envied the fact that God spoke through Moses. Due to their envy, Miriam and Aaron began to say bad things about Moses. This made God mad. He disciplined Miriam by allowing her to get leprosy (a dreaded skin disease).

When we see other people receiving honour from God, we can be tempted to want the same honour for ourselves. For example, if we had a proud attitude, we might think, *I’m just as good as that other person. Why isn’t God honouring me too?*

If we find ourselves desiring the honour that God has chosen to give others, we can remember Proverbs 18:12 (see below). Instead of asking God to honour you in the same way the other person has been honoured, you can pray and ask God to teach you to be humble and to teach you His ways (Psalm 25:9).

#### **Relevant Scripture**

- ❖ Psalm 25:9 “He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them His way.”
- ❖ Psalm 101:5 “Whoever slanders his neighbor in secret, him will I put to silence; whoever has haughty eyes and a proud heart, him will I not endure.”
- ❖ Proverbs 18:12 “Before his downfall a man’s heart is proud, but humility comes before honor.”
- ❖ Romans 12:3 “For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.”