**Baby Food Baseball**

**Topic: Character**

**Bible: I Samuel 16: 7-12**

Supplies:

* Wiffleball bat/fat bat
* A wiffleball
* 4 baseball bases or something you can use as bases
* Squeezable baby food

Directions:

1. You are going to be playing a wacky game of wiffle ball/baseball with a wiffle ball filled with a variety of baby food.
2. Before the pitch, you will squeeze in a good amount of baby food into the ball.
3. Every time the ball is hit, of course, baby food is going to go spinning out of the holes causing a mess.
4. Rules can be the same as regular game of wiffleball/baseball, or you can create your own house rules.
5. Here are some modified rules you might want to include.
   1. You can throw the ball and hit someone to get them out.
   2. Allow as many people on a base at a time as you like.
   3. To make sure the less athletic students will have a good time, make a rule that there are no strike outs.
   4. Also it is might be good before the game to determine where in the outfield is a home run
6. A few additional Summer Time substitutions for baby food:
   1. Ketchup
   2. Mustard
   3. Mayonnaise
   4. Relish
   5. EZ Cheez

Say: Clean up time! That was a bit messy but so delicious!

What made it fun and different was the thing that was hidden inside the ball.

Ask:

* What are some other things that would have been fun to squeeze inside our ball?
* What are something things that might have not been a good idea to put inside our ball?

Say: What is inside us and others is honestly what should matter, but so often we are more concerned with the outward appearance. God however is always more concerned with the inward. Check out this verse and story….

Read: I Samuel 16: 7-12

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” Then Jesse called Abinadab and had him pass in front of Samuel. But Samuel said, “The Lord has not chosen this one either.” Jesse then had Shammah pass by, but Samuel said, “Nor has the Lord chosen this one.” Jesse had seven of his sons pass before Samuel, but Samuel said to him, “The Lord has not chosen these.” So he asked Jesse, “Are these all the sons you have?” “There is still the youngest,” Jesse answered. “He is tending the sheep.” Samuel said, “Send for him; we will not sit down until he arrives.” So he sent for him and had him brought in. He was glowing with health and had a fine appearance and handsome features. Then the Lord said, “Rise and anoint him; this is the one.”

Ask:

* What was Samuel looking for in choosing a king?
* What were God’s instructions?
* Who did God choose?
* Why does what’s inside matter so much?
* In our game, when did what was inside come out?
* Once the ball was hit, what happened to what was inside?

Say: Let’s look at one more verse….

Read: Luke 6:43-45

No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thorn bushes, or grapes from briers. A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Say: See what is stored up inside will come out in times of pressure and when we are “getting hit by the problems of life”. You fill your inner self with evil, evil will come out. You fill your inner self with good things of God--good, godly things will come out.

Close in prayer.