

Use “The Scene” to introduce “No Other Gods” the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for June 3, 2018. The lesson is found on page 5 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

TV preacher Jesse Duplantis is asking his followers to send \$54 million as an offering to his ministry. Not to feed the poor. Or heal the sick. Or give shelter to refugees.

No, he says he needs another jet. His fourth private jet, in fact. He needs it to go nonstop anywhere in the world to get God’s message out to the world even faster. And God told him to buy it, so no one can argue with that, right?

He’s not the only evangelist with a jet. Earlier on this year Kenneth Copeland also bought a jet, and there are some reports that Creflo Dollar did as well.

In one article, Copeland offers some explanation for his need for a jet. He noted that televangelist Oral Roberts had flown on commercial flights at one time. But, Copeland argues, “even back then it got to the place where it was agitating his spirit, people coming up to him, he had become famous, and they wantin’ him to pray for them and all that. . . . You can’t manage that today, this dope-filled world, and get in a long tube with a bunch of demons. And it’s deadly” (Lisa Gutierrez, <http://www.kansascity.com/news/nation-world/article195841759.html>).

Maybe we should start calling Coach/Economy class the Demon class instead?

As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the article. Then discuss in this way:

What do you think about this story?

Sometimes it can be hard to draw the line between what is a blessing from God and what is something we just want for ourselves. How do you think people can distinguish between these two things? How much is too much to wish for?

This is the time of year when a lot of students are graduating and dreaming about what they can become and how they can be successful in life. Some people think success and happiness can be bought. What do you think about that?

The preachers in this article seemed to believe that they couldn’t be successful without a jet. But they seem to be placing importance on things other than God. Today we’ll look at three reasons we can’t do anything without God.