

Use “The Scene” to introduce “No Idols” the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for June 10, 2018. The lesson is found on page 11 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

So, in case you’ve been living under a rock (or just without a TV or social media), there was a bit of a storm of controversy whirling around a certain Twitter comment made by a certain comedian. And then that certain comedian’s network cancelled her certain show because her statement did not match up with certain values of their company.

The interesting thing we learn out of this is, image is important. And maybe even that image is more important than what your values actually are. Because this certain comedian had made many, many questionable comments in the past, and had not received such consequences before. What made the difference this time? Image. The company didn’t want to have its image associated with something that seemed not only not within its mission statement, but also (and maybe this was the most relevant factor) not in keeping with the current mood of society.

Just consider what might have happened if the TV star had kept quiet? If, instead of Tweeting away in a foggy haze, she had just turned off her phone? She could have thought hateful, ugly thoughts all day if she liked, and as long as she kept quiet (and the ratings stayed up), her show could have continued.

The only trouble is, “the things that come out of a person’s mouth come from the heart” (Matthew 15:18).

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

What do you think about this story? Do you know to what comedian the story refers?

What do you think—is image more important than values? Explain your answer.

What do you think would have happened if the star had stayed quiet this time? Do you think it would have been likely that she would have said something destructive at a later date? Why or why not?

Have you ever heard the saying that someone is in love with the sound of their own voice? Twitter at times seems to be made especially for people like that. They get so caught up in their own stories and their own witty comments, they can’t help themselves. But God wants us to be clear about whom we are listening to, and about whom we are worshipping. It should be Him! The Bible warns us about what might happen if we place our worship on something other than God alone. It’s called idolatry.