

Use “The Scene” to introduce “Take Charge of Your Emotions” the Young Teen Sunday school lesson for September 16, 2018. The lesson is found on page 17 of *Young Teen Teacher* by Standard Publishing.

the SCENE

Viewing the latest news through the lens of Scripture

Controversy erupted in the tennis world when Serena Williams was given a game penalty and lost the match (and some debate, ultimately the title) in the championship round of the US Open. Williams was penalized for arguing with the umpire, Carlos Ramos, for allegedly receiving coaching during a game, smashing a racquet, and for calling the umpire a thief. To her credit, Naomi Osaka—Serena’s competitor—managed to keep her focus and played extraordinarily well to win her first Grand Slam title.

Though Williams does not dispute her loss of temper or Osaka’s skill, her claim is that in this case and others, judges penalize women more often than men for similar outbursts of emotion during games. American tennis legend Billie Jean King said this in support: “When a woman is emotional, she’s ‘hysterical’ and she’s penalized for it. When a man does the same, he’s ‘outspoken’ & there are no repercussions. Thank you, @serenawilliams, for calling out this double standard.”

As students arrive, give each of them a copy of the above story to read. After all teens have had the opportunity to read the article, discuss it in this way:

What do you think about this story? What did you hear about this match?

In your experience, are angry women treated differently from angry men in sports?

How do you think Serena Williams could have handled the situation in a better way?

It’s all too easy to let our emotions control our lives. Today we’ll learn a biblical three-step strategy for taking charge of our emotions.



MEETING GOD FACE-TO-FACE

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