Lessons are available at http://www.yorkalliance.org/resources/kidslot for you to print copies of the necessary materials for each child in your group.

Materials Needed
- Individually wrapped candy (be sure to have small pieces and large pieces)
- Paper
- Markers

Today’s Objective
Children will know that God wants them to be humble. When they are humble they will think less of themselves and more of others.

Scripture
Philippians 2:3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.
Proverbs 27:2 Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; someone else, and not your own lips.

Introductory Activity
Ask children if they know what bragging is. Explain that bragging is telling others how great they are, or how good they can do something. When someone brags they are thinking about themselves selfishly and want others to also think they are great. Give each child a chance to brag about themselves. Talk about how each one felt about themselves as they bragged, and also about how they felt toward the ones bragging.

Ask the children what their thoughts about bragging are. Do they like it? Do they think it is good?

Bible Lesson and Activities
1. Have children find and read Philippians 2:3 and Proverbs 27:2. Discuss these verses for a few minutes. Explain that being humble means thinking more of others than yourself, not being boastful (bragging) or being selfish. People who are conceited think they are the best and brag about themselves. That is the opposite of humility. God wants us to be humble. He also tells us in Proverbs 27:2 to let others praise you instead of you praising yourself. Ask children to share how they feel when someone else praises them or says nice things about them. Point out that this is very different than bragging about themselves. When we praise others we are being encouraging and are building them up. God wants us to encourage others in this way.

Have children take turns praising each other and then talk about how different this was from bragging. Remind them that when they were praising someone else they were not being selfish. Actually they were putting others before themselves, just like Jesus wants. Use some of the discussion questions below for continued discussion.

2. Discussion questions - Use some or all of the following questions below. Be sure to end with the FINAL question.
- What does it mean to be conceited?
- What is bragging?
- When people brag, who are they thinking most about?
- What kinds of things do people brag about?
- Do you like when people brag? Why or why not?
- Do you ever brag back after someone else brags and try to out do them?
- What do you brag about?
- Did Jesus ever brag about Himself?
- What is humility?
- Is it okay to brag about someone else to encourage them?
• Is it easier to think more of yourself or others? Why?
• Did Jesus care more about Himself or others? Who? Why?
• If we have the same attitude that Jesus did who will we care most about?
• Are you ever selfish?
• When you are selfish, who are you thinking about first?
• Can you be selfish and humble at the same time?
• Name some ways people who are humble act (let others go first in line, let others pick the bigger piece of something, don’t brag, talk more about others than themselves, etc.)
• Do you ever encourage other people by saying nice things about them?
• Have you ever told someone that they acted just like Jesus would have when they did something kind?
• Has anyone ever told you that you did something that Jesus would have done? How did you feel?
• Which feels better, bragging about yourself or someone else praising you?
• When is it hard to put other people first? Do you like to be first all the time? Would Jesus push to be first?
• When people are able to choose from prizes why do they always pick the biggest or best thing first for themselves? Do you?
• Have you ever thought when you were choosing a prize that maybe you should leave the best for someone else? Why or why not?
• Are you ever afraid that you won’t get a special treat or that they will run out if you aren’t in the front of the line? If this has happened to you, did you get angry, cry or throw a fit? Or, did you walk away and say “that’s OK”? Which would Jesus do?
• When you are treated unfairly, are you humble? Share about a time when you were treated unfairly and how you responded.
• FINAL question - In what way do you think Jesus wants you to be more humble?

Creative Application

Practicing Thinking More of Others with Candy

Set the wrapped candies in the center of the children on the floor or table. Notice that there are large pieces of candy and small pieces of candy. Have children get into pairs. Tell children that they will get to choose 2 pieces of candy each. One they will give to their partner and 1 they will keep themselves. However, have all children choose 1 piece first before anyone gets to choose a second. This way more children will end up with 1 small and 1 large piece and have to choose which to keep and which to give away.

After everyone has two pieces of candy have children give one to their partner and keep one. Observe their struggle, the choices they make and then talk about what happened with them. Ask children if they chose big or little pieces? Which piece did they choose for themselves and which for their partner? Remind them that being selfless and humble means putting others first; it means resisting the urge to brag and to get the best of everything for yourself. It’s important for us to remember that God wants us to be humble and to think of others even when we are picking candy. Be sure to praise the children who gave the larger piece of candy away willingly and without complaining.

Role Playing

Present children with a series of scenarios where they can be choose to be boastful or humble, such as winning a game, getting an A on a test or giving someone a gift. Have children give a boastful response to the scenario. For example, a child could pretend to brag about winning the game to demonstrate boastful behavior and say “good game” to the other players to demonstrate humility. Talk about how everyone involved would feel in the scenario. Then have the child role play the same scenario, but this time give a humble response. Again, talk about how everyone involved would feel in this scenario. Ask and emphasize why choosing to be humble is the better option.

Prayer

Lead children in a time of prayer asking God to help them to be humble and to remember to put others first in all that they do. Encourage them to pray for each other and for any other requests that they might have. Be sure to share answers to prayer too!
Closure

Thankful for Thankless Jobs

There are many people who perform thankless jobs that make your child's life easier. This could be a teacher, janitor, librarian or someone who organizes a community event. Start by helping your child identify these selfless people in his life. Next, provide materials for your child to create thank you cards to give to these people. Helping your child see how he benefits from others humility, can help him become more humble too.
Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Philippians 2:3 (NIV)