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A Spiritual Lesson In Toon Language (For
The Kids Lesson VII)

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(In God I Trust And Write)

Series: The Super Mario Bros. Super Show

Episode: Mario's Magic Carpet

Topic: Pleasures Are Meaningless Without
God In One's Life

I) Opening Prayer

II) Today, we have a lesson on the meaning of pleasure in one's life. What is pleasure in your opinion? What do you do for pleasure? How much importance does it have in your life?

I am going to show a clip from an episode of a cartoon series that you may not have seen before. It is from The Super Mario Bros. Super Show. We will have a Bible study and discussion of things seen.

III) Cartoon Clip: Mario's Magic Carpet

IV) Bible Study And Discussion: Our Bible

study today is from Ecclesiastes 2: 1-11.

What did you think of the king's swimming

pool trap? Do you think he really cared

about his subjects and harem?

The Bible States:

^{Ecc 2:1} I thought in my heart, "Come now, I will test you with pleasure to find out what is good." But that also proved to be meaningless.

^{Ecc 2:2} "Laughter," I said, "is foolish. And what does pleasure accomplish?"

^{Ecc 2:3} I tried cheering myself with wine, and embracing folly—my mind still guiding me with wisdom. I wanted to see what was worthwhile for men to do under heaven during the few days of their lives.

^{Ecc 2:4} I undertook great projects: I built houses for myself and planted vineyards.

^{Ecc 2:5} I made gardens and parks and planted all kinds of fruit trees in them.

^{Ecc 2:6} I made reservoirs to water groves of flourishing trees.

^{Ecc 2:7} I bought male and female slaves and had other slaves who were born in my house. I also owned more herds and flocks than anyone in Jerusalem before me.

^{Ecc 2:8} I amassed silver and gold for myself, and the treasure of kings and provinces. I acquired men and women singers, and a harem as well—the delights of the heart of man.

^{Ecc 2:9} I became greater by far than anyone in Jerusalem before me. In all this my wisdom stayed with me.

^{Ecc 2:10} I denied myself nothing my eyes desired;

I refused my heart no pleasure.

My heart took delight in all my work, and this was the reward for all my labor.

Ecc 2:11 Yet when I surveyed all that my hands
had done
and what I had toiled to achieve,
everything was meaningless, a chasing after
the wind;
nothing was gained under the sun.

I may need to define the word 'harem'. In
short, it means that it's a group of women
that are owned by one man. Usually it is a
term used for the Islamic religion.

However, the word harem applied to a lot of
Jewish kings as well in Biblical times
including Solomon and David. These
women would do absolutely anything that

the king demanded—even things we cannot talk about in this class unless my students are older (teens and adult). It looks to me like King Solomon was perhaps doing an experiment to see if worldly things would make him happy. What do you think of this kind of experiment? What was King Solomon's conclusion?

It looks like the king may have put God on a lower priority than he should have during this time. If this is true though, Solomon found out that doing things that won't please

God didn't please him. Without God, eventually things aren't very satisfying. If we get satisfied without God we need to look out because we will have God in the end to answer to. That would not be pretty.

What have we learned and how do we apply it to our lives?

V) Closing Prayer