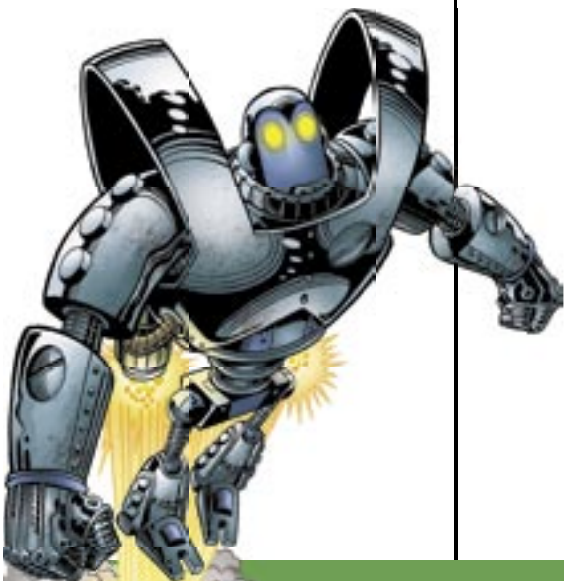


*Using people for your
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Used



How often do we do things for others simply because they have something we want, or we need them to do something for us?

Good deeds are selfless. But do we ever show kindness or befriend someone just because they may have value to us down the road? Help kids learn that showing kindness for personal gain doesn't honor God. It hurts the other person. This is called "using other people."

Teach kids that people around them have feelings, just like they do. It's important to follow the Golden Rule (do unto others as you would have them do unto you). Using people for your own personal gain is not only unwise, it can have unfortunate consequences. For one, the thing you were trying to attain could be lost to you. Secondly, you could damage the other person's impression of how a Christian should live, and what being a Christian is all about. As a result, using people can hinder others from becoming Christians themselves.

Help kids recognize what selfish motivations look like. As they learn to stop using people, they'll grow in their relationship with others and with God.



Holsom Comics Discussion Questions

1. Who has been the most selfish character in Holsom? Why? (*JD Raye; he has used every townspeople, Constance, etc., for his own personal benefit.*)
2. Although we don't know yet, what do you think JD will do with the robots once they come out of the caves? (*Answers will vary.*)
3. What do you think will happen with JD in the next few issues of Holsom? (*Answers will vary.*)
4. What are other ways people have been used for personal benefit in Holsom? (*Jorge made "friends" with Mouse because of the robot; Wendy joined up with the boys to get closer to the robot, etc.*)
5. List three ways in which it would be easy to use someone else. (*Answers will vary.*)



Used!

You need:

Cheap eraser
Sheet of paper

Start by showing the kids the eraser. Say: Today, we're going to discover just how being used affects a person. This eraser represents a kid, just like you. I'm going to read the following scenarios. You tell me if you think a person in the situation is being used.

Read each scenario out loud. If the kids think the situation is an example of someone being used, rub the eraser on the paper. (Be generous in your erasing.)

1. Sheree got a new Wii. Terran doesn't like Sheree, but really wants to play with the Wii. Terran decides to be nice to Sheree in order to play with the Wii. *(Used.)*
2. Brian and Callie are assigned as partners on a history class. Callie is happy, because Brian enjoys history. Callie thinks she can talk Brian into taking care of the project all by himself. *(Used.)*
3. Wes is new in town. Wes decides to invite Justin over to play basketball. Justin loves to play basketball, so he accepts the invitation. *(Not used.)*
4. Kia needs help with her math homework. Ezra is a wiz at math. Kia decides to ask Ezra to tutor her in math. *(Not used.)*

After you go through the list with the kids, show the eraser to the kids and ask: This is what the eraser looks like after our activity. What if this had been a real person? How do you think that person would feel? *(Answers will vary.)* What could Terran and Callie do to change from a "user" to a friend? *(Answers may include: Terran could try to get to know Sheree better as a friend, first. Callie can choose to do her equal share in the project.)*

