

# Bland Leading the Bland

TOPIC : *Compassion*

SCRIPTURE : *Job 2:12-13; 6:6-7*

SUPPLIES : *a variety of "bland" foods (such as cooked rice, cooked egg whites, cream of rice, and raw tofu), covered bowls, paper, pens or pencils, enough plastic spoons per person to have one spoon per food, blindfolds, candy bars or some other flavorful prize (optional)*

**B**efore the game, prepare the foods, and place them in covered bowls where no one will see them.

Give each person paper, a pen or pencil, and a plastic spoon. Have players sit in a circle and put on blindfolds. Pass one bowl of food around the circle. After each student has tried the food, put the bowl away. Collect the spoons. Then allow players to remove their blindfolds and write down their guesses as to what the food was. Then distribute clean plastic spoons. Have players blindfold themselves again, and pass around another bowl of food. Continue until you've passed around all the foods, giving players clean spoons for each food.

After all the foods have been tasted, reveal the identity of each food and see who got the most right. You may want to give all the students candy bars (or something else with a lot of flavor) to finish off the game.

## DISCUSSION

- What is compassion?
- Read Job 2:12-13. Why would Job compare advice without compassion to food with no flavor?
- Why are we so quick to give advice to someone who is hurting?
- When we're hurting, why do we get tired of other people's advice?
- Read Job 6:6-7. Why didn't Job's friends speak to him?
- When has a friend shown compassion to you? When have you shown compassion to a friend?
- How does God show us compassion?

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