## Week 1 Breaking News Story

**Supplies:** Print attached story and friendship card, "Token Pieces" (options: Playdough [pulled off in small pieces], buttons, paperclips, small pieces of paper, etc.)



Instructions:

- 1. Print the fist bump friendship card and place in the center of your table.
- 2. Have pieces of playdough for children to put on the card when they hear something bad the elves did as you read the story. (Or use buttons, paperclips, small pieces of paper, etc.)
- 3. Read the story and talk with children as they show interest.
- 4. Say a short prayer after the game thanking God for sending His son, Jesus, to be our Savior.

## **BREAKING NEWS STORY**

Just this morning/evening, the North Pole News station received breaking news about some mischief going on in the North Pole! Apparently late last night, Elmer the Elf got out of his trampoline bed and went down to the kitchen in his house. He cartwheeled over to the plate of chocolate chip cookies his mother told him NOT to eat! Elmer snatched TWELVE cookies and shoved them all in his mouth at once! (Kids place Play-Doh down for Elmer's disobedience)

Then, Elmer was hungry for more sugar. So, he found his dad's wallet and took 20 dollars out of it. (Kids place Play-Doh down for stealing) Elmer snuck out of his house and went to Elvira the Elf's house. (Kids place Play-Doh down for sneaking out of house) Elmer and Elvira took their jet packs and flew to Candies R Us, where they used Elmer's dad's money to buy all the candy they could fit into a bag. When the manager asked them where they got that 20 dollars, Elmer said he got it for making good grades in toy making class. (Kids place Play-Doh down for lying)

Just then, Elmer and Elvira got a great idea! Elvira stood on Elmer's shoulders and climbed onto the roof of Candies R Us. Whenever customers would walk through the door, Elvira would drop a snowball on their heads! (Kids place Play-Doh down for being mean to others)

Elmer and Elvira were feeling pretty tired because it was so late at night, so they jumped into a snowmobile and zoomed home. On their way home, they drove through Cindi Lights-A-Lot's yard, taking out all of the Christmas lights. (Kids place the last of their Play-Doh down for being mean)

This kind of mischief is rare around the North Pole, and it's clear that Elmer and Elvira were being very disobedient. The North Pole Police were able to catch Elmer and Elvira in the act of destroying the Christmas lights. Elmer and Elvira were sorry they had sinned and wanted to make things right. Thankfully, the police were able to tell Elmer and Elvira about why we all need a Savior!

Just like Elmer and Elvira, we have all done wrong things before that have hurt our friendship with God. But at Christmas, we get to celebrate Jesus being born. God sent Jesus to Earth to fix our friendship with Him. (REMOVE all Play-Doh from the Friendship Card) Jesus is the Savior of the world, and that includes you and me!

