

## 2.5 LEARN TO LISTEN TO OTHER

Topic: Basic Skills for Peacemaking: Rules for Talking Things Over

Subtopics: Learn to Listen to Other

4B. Communication Skills

Class: Standard II (2nd Grade)

Objectives:

**Knowledge:** Students will value the second basic rule for peacemaking—listen to other.

**Attitude:** Students will practice the skill of listening to one another.

Materials Needed:

Memory Verse Exercise book

Exercise book

Props for acting out the story (optional)

Scripture:

**Reference:** Acts 18:1-4;18-28

Teacher's Notes

**Memory Verse:** “Everyone must be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to become angry.” James 1:19 GNT

### Teacher Activities

#### **Introduction:**

1. This past week did you get angry with someone? What did you do? Did you remember the first rule for talking things over? What is it?
2. God gave us two ears and only one mouth. Listening to one another is the second basic rule for talking things over. What is the second rule for talking things over?

#### **Bible Story:**

3. Tell the story of Priscilla and Aquila from Acts 18:1-4; 18-28. Emphasize their listening to Apollo. Students can act this out as you narrate.

#### **Suggested Discussion Questions:**

4. Have you ever been blamed for something you didn't do but nobody listened to you? How did you feel?
5. How did you feel when someone did listen to you?
6. How did Priscilla and Aquila help Apollo when his information was incomplete?
7. By listening to Apollo and talking with him privately, how do you think Apollo felt?

#### **Application:**

8. What does the memory verse teach us about the importance of listening to the other?
9. Review the first and second basic rules for peacemaking with actions.

#### **Evaluation:**

10. When do you think it is especially important to listen to the other?

### Student Response

#### **Introduction:**

1. Children will describe what they did when they were angry with someone. The first rule for talking things over is Stay Calm.
2. Listen to one another.

#### **Bible Story:**

3. Students will listen to the Bible Story or act it out while it is narrated.

#### **Possible Answers to Questions:**

4. Angry, worthless, unnoticed
5. Cared about, respected, liked
6. Priscilla and Aquila invited Apollo to their home where they could listen to one another and share information privately.
7. Apollo felt respected and appreciated. He was not shamed in front of others.

#### **Application:**

8. Listening to each other is something God asks us to do.
9. Students will learn the actions for the second basic rule of peacemaking and then review the first and second rules together.

#### **Evaluation:**

10. When we are angry or hurt, we need to stay calm and listen to the other so we can find harmony with each other and work out the problem.

**Extension Activities:**

1. Memory Verse: Have the students write the new memory verse in the Memory Verse Exercise Book: “Everyone must be quick to listen, but slow to speak and slow to become angry.” James 1:19 GNT
2. In the other Exercise Book, write at the top: Rules for Talking Things Over. Underneath write: 1. Stay calm. Beneath that write: 2. Listen. Then draw an ear as a reminder of the need to listen.
3. Play a Game: Have the children sit in a circle. [If the class is large you can have more than one circle or have a few students demonstrate in front of the others.] Tell them that you are going to whisper one sentence to the first person. You will say it slowly, but only once. Then that student turns to the person next to him and whispers what he has heard. Repeat that until everyone in the circle has heard. Ask the last person to say out loud what he heard. Chances are pretty good it will be very different than what you said in the beginning. Close the game by reminding them that if we don't listen really well, we can think wrong things about the other so we need to listen carefully and talk things over quietly to gain a good understanding.
4. Add next line for Talking Together Chant: Review the two rules learned so far that are basic to peacemaking and specifically for Talking Together. Repeat the chant they learned for the first rule and then add the second line: “To be a peacemaker I have to stay calm, stay calm, and stay calm. To be a peacemaker I have to stay calm even if I'm not wrong. To be a peacemaker I have to listen carefully, listen carefully, and listen carefully. To be a peacemaker I have to listen carefully to hear the words of the other.”

**NOTES FOR TEACHERS**

**Highlights for the Bible Story**

Maybe you know an incident when someone, maybe in your class, was not listened to or was embarrassed by someone pointing out something he had done in front of everyone. Share that as you lead into this Bible story. Important points to include in telling this story follow.

1. Paul was a missionary who needed work and met Priscilla and Aquila because they were tentmakers like he was.
2. Paul used this opportunity to teach people about Jesus.
3. Priscilla and Aquila grew in their faith and understanding of living for Jesus. They joined Paul he went to Ephesus.
4. In Ephesus, they met a man by the name of Apollo who was very knowledgeable about the Bible. He had never met Jesus and didn't know that Jesus had died on the cross and risen from the grave so we might have eternal life.
5. Priscilla and Aquila listened to his teachings and knew that it was correct as far as it went, but there was so much more. They could have stood up in the meeting and corrected him but instead, they invited him to their home where they were able to listen to one another.
6. They shared with him the new truths that Jesus had taught.
7. Apollo listened to them because they had listened to him and shown respect by not embarrassing him in front of others.
8. Apollo's life was enriched and his ministry was strengthened.

### **Key Points**

1. It is very important to listen carefully to each other so we understand each other. To be a peacemaker, listening is the second basic rule that leads to talking together.
2. When you listen to one another, you show respect for each other.
3. Obeying the teachings of the Bible will make us more like Jesus. Listening to one another is a teaching from the Bible.

### **Continue with Learning the Rules to Talk Things Over [with actions]**

1. Stay Calm: Have children stand and make fist with both hands which is symbolic of how we act when we are angry. Shake out their fists and let their hands be open which reminds them to stay calm.
2. Listen: Ask the children what part of their body they listen with? [Expect them to say Ear]. So when we say the second rule, point to their ears. Repeat these two rules with action until children are very familiar.
3. Care about each other
4. Think together.

### **Teacher Evaluation**

How can I observe if the student has really learned the first two rules of talking things over?  
How can I reinforce these rules in every day occurrences? Ask God to help you be a good example of being a good listener and showing respect to all of your students.

