

2.6 CARE ABOUT EACH OTHER

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

Subtopics: Care About Each Other

4B. Communication Skills

Class: Standard II (2nd Grade)

Objectives:

Knowledge: When students are asked how to live in harmony with others, they will say it is important to care about each other.

Attitude: Students will identify ways to care about each other

Materials Needed:

Exercise book and Memory Exercise Book
KSh 50/- and KSh 100/- (US: \$10 and \$20)
Fork and spoon (optional)

Scripture:

Reference: Matthew 18:1-5; Mark 9:33-37
Teacher's Notes

Memory Verse: "Love one another." John 13:34

Teacher Activities

Introduction:

1. Is one in each of the pairs you see here more valuable than another? e.g. KSh 50/- or KSh 100/-, fork or spoon What about the headmaster or an MP?

Bible Story:

2. How does Jesus determine greatness?
Tell the Bible story from Mark 9:33-37

Suggested Discussion Questions:

3. Do you ever think you deserve the better position or first place like Jesus' disciples talked about? When?
4. What did Jesus mean when He told the disciples they needed to become like this child?
5. How would you have answered Jesus's question: "Who is greater, he who sits at the table, or he who serves?" Why?
6. Is Jesus teaching us another basic rule for peacemaking? What is it?

Application:

7. Discuss the memory verse. Does meeting the needs of others first show love for another? How?
8. Use demonstration for caring for others described in Teacher's Notes

Evaluation:

9. How can you care for the other when you are in the midst of conflict?

Student Response

Introduction:

1. KSh 100/- will make larger purchase.
Fork/spoon have equal value.
Headmaster and MP are each important at their task.

Bible Story:

2. Students seek to learn how Jesus defines greatness as they listen to story.

Suggested Discussion Questions:

3. Children might respond with wanting to be picked to be on the soccer team first or wanting to be given a treat first or...
4. Jesus looks upon greatness differently. The child was obedient immediately when Jesus called him. Jesus values obedience.
5. Those who serve are very important because they provide care for others.
6. Jesus says that we need to care about others and not act like we are too important to care for the other.

Application:

7. It shows we care. We aren't too good to consider how to help another.
8. Students will recognize that helping the other can also benefit them.

Evaluation:

9. Help them be comfortable—offer a place to sit, a cup of tea. Provide calmness. Seek to understand the reason for conflict.

Extension Activities

1. Memory Verse: Have students write new memory verse in the Memory Verse Exercise book: “Love one another.” John 13:34 GNT
2. In the other exercise book, write at the top of the next page: Rules for Talking Things Over. Underneath write: 1. Stay calm. 2. Listen to the other. 3. Care for the Other. Beneath the rules encourage the children to draw a picture of helping each other or draw a heart. [They may want to draw children whose arms are in splints feeding each other.]
3. Play a Game: Have one child go out where she can’t hear the others talking. Have the others choose an item that is in the room. The idea is that the child who has gone out will come back in. She will try to guess what the item is by asking questions like “What color is it?” “Is it big?” “Can she see it?” “What does it do?” The children must answer the question the person asks as well as they can without giving too many clues. The idea is that the children want this person to choose the right item so they will indicate when she is getting close to identifying the item. When the child says what the item is, then another child is chosen to go out and the game is repeated. Take time to ask the child who went out how they felt about the other children’s responses. Did she feel like they cared about her?
4. Add next line for Talking Together Chant: Review the Talking Together Chant and add the line for this lesson’s rule. Say it with a little “sing-song” rhythm. “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. To be a peacemaker I have to care about the other, care about the other, care about the other. To be a peacemaker I have to care about the other so we can make things right.”

NOTES FOR TEACHERS

Highlights for the Bible Story

In the introduction you have gotten the children to thinking about values. The KSh 100/- is greater value than the KSh 50/- (US \$20 greater than US \$10) because the larger bill allows you to purchase more. Forks and spoons are equally valuable. A discussion can be placed though on the MP over the headmaster. Why would they say one person is greater than the other? Each has an important task. This discussion opens the way for the Bible story.

1. The twelve men Jesus chose to follow Him thought Jesus was going to set up His own kingdom. They were arguing about who would be given the highest seats in His government.
2. One and then another thought he should be given the most important position.
3. Jesus knew what they were talking about so He challenged them when they reached their destination.
4. The disciples were ashamed that He had heard them talking so they kept quiet.
5. Jesus told them “Whoever wants to be first must place himself last of all and be the servant of all.” Mark 9:35 Then He called a child to Him and had him stand in the midst of the disciples. He told them that they must become like this child if they wanted to enter heaven. Jesus measured greatness by obedience which the child had shown immediately.
6. He also asked who was greater, the one who sits at the table or the one who serves. This is a good question for the children to discuss because the server is very important if you are going to have a guest. Jesus teaches us that we need to care for the other.

Key Points

1. Serving others is something Jesus often demonstrated and He teaches us we need to think of others before ourselves.
2. Obeying Jesus is an important quality for being His disciple
3. Becoming a peacemaker means we stay calm when things are chaotic; we listen carefully to what others are saying; we care about the other and his/her needs.

Caring About Others Demonstrated

Materials needed:

1. Two splints for each participating child's arms
2. Ties to tie the splint on each child's arms at the wrists, below the elbow and above the elbow
3. Bowl of food and spoons for each participating child

Use six volunteers [even just using two will make the point] and have them sit across the table from each other. Place splints on both arms of each child. The splint should extend beyond their elbows causing the children not to be able to bend their arms. Leave their hands free. Place a spoon in each of their hands and put a big pot of rice or mashed bananas in the center of the table. It is there for them to eat. Watch them dip their spoons in but what happens? They can't bend their arms to get the food to their mouths. Let them struggle a bit and see what they can do. Hopefully one of them will come up with the idea of feeding the one across from them and then the others will catch on so that all of them get something to eat. If the children don't discover how to help each other, talk about it with the class until they realize that when you care about the other, you not only make their lives better but often times, you are blessed as well.

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

1. Stay Calm: Have children stand and make fists with both hands. Shake out their fists and let their hands be open which reminds them to stay calm.
2. Listen: Point to their ears
3. Care about the other: place hands over the heart
4. Think and talk together

Teacher Evaluation

Did the children visually see how serving the other is very important for the welfare of all? Do I demonstrate that I care for others first in my daily walk or do I demand to be treated more special?