

Standard 5 – Lesson Two: Social Support – Respecting Differences

Time: 45-minute class period

Materials:

Scripture Reference Guide

Respecting Differences Worksheet and Thinking about Respect Worksheet

A pair of Spectacles

Objectives:

Students will be able to identify ways in which they are alike and different from their peers. Students will be able to describe how differences and similarities in people are to be equally celebrated and respected.

Introductory Activity

Have students brainstorm ways that they are all the same and make a list of the similarities. Have a discussion about what is positive about having similarities with one another.

Activities

Tell students that they are going to do an activity called Diversity Dominoes. It will start with one person holding out each hand and making a true statement about themselves, such as “On this hand I like to read” (holding out one hand, palm up), “And on this hand, I am outgoing” (holding out the other hand, palm up). Let the class know that everyone will need to connect. The next person to take a turn must “connect” to one of the two hands with the same interest. They do this by placing their hand, palm up on top of the hand of the first person. The next person must connect to either person and may connect to both, but it works better if there are a few free hands with more choices for students to connect to at the first. Students continue to “connect” by finding at least one hand (representing an interest or trait) on which they can lay their hand, saying the same words (“on this hand”) as the first person. When all the students are “connected,” they should look like a web of connections. Ask students to tell you what this network of similarities and differences means to them.

Bring a pair of glasses (spectacles) to class. Explain to the class that the glasses are “Respectacles.” Respectacles allow us to see situations with a respectful view. For example, Matthew might not be very smart at Math, so without the Respectacles, we would say, “Matthew is sure dumb in Math.” Then we put the Respectacles on and say, “Wow! Matthew sure is a hard worker in Math!” Put some other disrespectful comments on the board and have different students volunteer to come up and put on the Respectacles and make the statement on the board into something respectful.

Have students read the stories of how Jesus treated the Samaritan woman (John 4:6 -19), the lepers (Luke 17:11-19), and the children (Matthew 19:13-15). Have a discussion of how Jesus was using “Respectacles” when he talked to those who were considered different or not important. Remind students about the verses from Lesson Two, (Psalm

139:13,14). Ask, “If this passage is true, how are we to view and treat each other?”

Ask students to fill out the Respectacles Worksheet. Help them review each story and how Jesus showed respect to the Samaritan woman, the lepers and the children. Ask, “How did one leper put on the Respectacles and show respect to Jesus?”

Have students complete the Thinking About Respect Worksheet. Help them talk about what they think before they write their answers.

Ask the children, “How often does God want us to be “wearing our Respectacles?” Have students memorize the Scripture memory verse: **I John 4:7** *Dear friends, let us love one another, for love is from God.*

“Respectables” Worksheet

Scripture

How did Jesus show Respect in this story?

<p>John 4:6-19 Jesus and the Samaritan Woman at the Well</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Luke 17:11-19 Jesus and the Lepers</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
<p>Matthew 19:13-15 Jesus and the Children</p>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Thinking About Respect

See how Jesus put on his “Respectacles” in **Matthew 5:43 – 45**, when He says, “You have heard that it was said, ‘Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I tell you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven.”

How are we to treat those who treat us badly?

Now, think of our Scripture memory verse for the day.
I John 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another, for love is from God.

How does Jesus want us to see and treat one another when we are wearing our Respectacles?

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