LIFE OF CHRIST
from the gospel of
Luke

Lesson 16

How to Treat Others

Before we talked about Jesus dying on the cross and coming back to life, we were talking about things Jesus taught His followers. Let’s find out more about how Jesus wants us to treat other people.

What is an enemy? Sometimes people don’t like us. Maybe they are jealous of us. So they are mean to us. Jesus told His disciples, “Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. . . . Pray for those who hurt you.”

Jesus went on to say that if someone hits you, turn the other cheek. If someone asks for your coat, give him your shirt also. Give what you have to others, and don’t try to get it back. And Jesus sums it all up by saying, “Treat others just as you want to be treated.” In other words, think about how you would want someone to treat you, and treat them that way.

Jesus explained how easy it is to be nice to someone who is nice to you. He also said it is more difficult to be nice to someone who is mean or cruel to you. That’s what He is talking about—doing good to people who don’t deserve it, just because God wants us to.

Jesus wants us to love others no matter what they have done. God created every person and He loves them, no matter what they may look like or the attitude they may have. Now, God loves the person, but He does not love the wrong behavior. He wants us to love Him and follow Him with ALL our heart. That means that we do things His way and treat others with kindness and love, instead of hatred and cruelty.

The next thing Jesus talked about was judging others. What does that mean? When you judge someone, you are putting them down for something they have done. Really, you are acting like you are better than them.

Jesus said that before we judge someone else, we need to look at our own life. The Bible

says that every person has sinned. We have all done wrong things. Jesus said that before we look at the speck in someone else’s eye, we need to take the log out of our own eye! Sometimes it is easier to see someone else’s faults than our own. We don’t want to deal with our weaknesses, so we focus on someone else’s. Jesus says that is not right. That is not His way. 

Jesus wants us to say and do things that please God. He wants our thoughts and words to be kind and helpful to others. This is NOT easy. It is hard being nice to mean people. It is hard to see good in others instead of judging them. When we have Jesus in our life, He helps us know how to love people the way He does.

Some people tried to judge Jesus, too. They did not understand that He was really God’s Son. They had a trial and brought in people who lied about Jesus. They judged Him guilty when He was innocent! They crucified Jesus on a cross. However, this is not the end! Jesus died, but He died for a special reason. He died to pay the price for all the wrongs WE had done. He traded places with us! Then, He came back to life three days later! If we believe in Jesus and ask Him to come into our hearts, He will clean out all our sins and make us pure. We do not have to worry about all the wrongs we have done. He has forgiven them. He will stay with us and help us live for God and do things His way.

1. How did Jesus say we should treat those who are mean to us? (We should love them.)
2. Jesus said we should do for others as we would _________. (want them to do for us.)
3. What did Jesus say we should do before we judge others? (We should look at our own lives.)
4. How can we treat others with kindness when they are mean to us? (Because we have Jesus in our lives to help us.)

Jesus gave us an example of how He loved His enemies. When He was in the garden praying, soldiers came to arrest Him for no reason. He did not fight or ask God to hurt the people. Instead, He freely went with the soldiers. Even when the soldiers spit on Him and whipped Him, He loved them. Even on the cross, Jesus asked God to forgive them! Even after all the pain and suffering He went through, He still loved those who hurt Him.

Think of a way that you can love your enemies. Really, when you love them, they are not your enemies any more!

Planning for Lesson 17
Two Kinds of People
Luke 6:43-49
Preschool Lesson
for
How to Treat Others

Today, we will talk about being a friend to everyone. Ask: Is it easy to be nice to people when they are mean to you? Jesus wants us to be nice to everyone, even those who are not nice to us.

Jesus told His friends that they should love everyone, not just the people who were nice to them. Jesus said something that is sometimes called the “Golden Rule.” He said, “treat others just as you want to be treated.” In other words, think about how you would want someone to treat you, and treat them that way.

Jesus explained how easy it is to be nice to someone who is nice to you. He also said it is more difficult to be nice to someone who is mean or cruel to you. That’s what He is talking about—doing good to people who don’t deserve it, just because God wants us to.

Jesus wants us to love others no matter what they have done. God created every person and He loves them, no matter what they may look like or the attitude they may have. Now, God loves the person, but He does not love the wrong behavior. He wants us to love Him and follow Him with ALL our heart. That means that we do things His way and treat others with kindness and love.

The next thing Jesus talked about was judging others. What does that mean? When you judge someone, you are putting them down for something they have done. Really, you are acting like you are better than them.

Jesus said that before we judge someone else, we need to look at our own life. The Bible says that every person has sinned. We have all done wrong things. Jesus said that before we look at the speck in someone else’s eye, we need to take the log out of our own eye! Sometimes it is easier to see someone else’s faults than our own. We don’t want to deal with our weaknesses, so we focus on someone else’s. Jesus says that is not right. That is not His way.

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Hands-on Activities for How to Treat Others

Bring a piece of sandpaper for the kids to feel. Scratch it on a surface—paper or wood. Ask the kids if they would want to sleep on or sit on sandpaper. No! It doesn’t feel comfortable. Sometimes we don’t feel comfortable around certain people. We may think they are “rough around the edges.” When we pray for them and love them, God will smooth out the rough edges and we may become good friends! Let the kids feel something soft like cotton or silky material.

Bring two magnets that repel on one side and attract on the other side. Have the magnets face the repelling side. Try to slide the magnets together. As they repel, share how most people feel like this towards their enemies. Now turn the magnets so that they attract. Explain that Jesus wants us to love our enemies and pray for those who want to hurt us. Show the kids how the magnets stick together.

Make hearts with construction paper. Have the children write “Love your enemies” on their heart. Then on the other side, write “Pray for your enemies” to remind them to pray for those who have hurt them.

We have all heard that we should walk in someone’s shoes before we judge them. Bring all kinds of fun old shoes to class. Let the kids try to walk around in the shoes. Be sure to bring ladies high heels, little baby shoes, etc. Share how hard it is to walk in the shoes. Explain that we should not judge others because we do not know what has happened in their life.
Treat others just as you want to be treated.  
Luke 6:31
Treat others just as you want to be treated.
Luke 6:31
Word Search

love  enemies  judge
speck  log  pray
mean  forgive  treat others
do good  be nice
How did Jesus say we should treat people who are mean to us?

L__v__ them and

PRAY

for them.

He also said that before we look at the tiny speck in someone else’s eye, we should take the

__________

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