

Topic: Proper Humanity – Flexible (Lesson 121)

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

Elementary:

Verse: “At the commandment of Jehovah the children of Israel set out, and at the commandment of Jehovah they encamped...” (Numbers 9:17a).

Focus: To be flexible means that we should not insist on what we like to do, but instead adapt to other’s schedule, suggestion, or rules.

Practical Application: Consider giving the children the following scenario: You are playing in the playground and having a fun time. But your Mommy says, “It is time to go. We need to go to dinner.” Will you leave the playground crying or will you willingly go with your Mommy? A flexible person will willingly go without crying, arguing, or insisting to stay longer.

Intermediate:

Verse: “And whenever the cloud was taken up...the children of Israel set out...” (Exodus 40:36).

Focus: God wanted His people to be responsive to change. It is a great strength to be able to adjust and be flexible.

Practical Application: What kind of friends do you like to play with? Do you like to play with those who suggest their own ideas and accept your ideas for games and activities, or do you like to play with those who only do things their way? What about if you were to move to a new place? How would you feel about changing schools, teams, or neighborhoods? Would you be able to adjust?

Advanced:

Verse: “But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, forbearing, compliant, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial, without hypocrisy” (James 3:17).

Focus: We should not insist on doing things our way. Instead, we should go along with others. We need to learn to be flexible in coordinating with others.

Practical Application: Ask the children what would happen if a group of people were trying to decide on the best way to get to San Francisco. Should they go by bus or by car? By plane? By train? Illustrate to them that there could be many opinions and much time could be wasted deciding on the route. Some might even feel resentful toward the others, thinking their way is the best. The most important thing is to arrive at the destination, not to have one’s own specific way.