

Topic: Proper Humanity – Hospitable

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: “...who welcomed us and gave us hospitality three days in a friendly way” (Acts 28:7).

Focus: Hospitable means to generously and warmly welcome another person to your home. We all need to be friendly and nice when other people come into our home to eat with us or stay with us.

Practical Application: Ask the children how they feel when their parents invite some people to their home for a meal. Do you run and hide when they arrive at the door? Do you not speak to them because you are too shy? How do you feel when you go to someone else’s home and the children do not speak to you? We should say “hi” and smile when people are invited into our home.

Intermediate:

Verse: “Be hospitable to one another without murmuring” (1 Peter 4:9).

Focus: Not only should we warmly welcome people into our home, but we also need to do so without complaining inwardly or outwardly to our siblings or to our parents.

Practical Application: When your parents invite others to stay with your family for a period of time, and you have to give up your bed or your bedroom so that the others have somewhere to sleep, do you complain out loud? Do you complain in your heart without saying anything out loud? Or if your parents invite someone to your house for a meal and that person takes the last piece of your favorite pie, do you pout and think badly of that person?

Advanced:

Verses: “Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality” (Romans 12:13).

“Do not forget hospitality, for through this some, without knowing it, have entertained angels” (Hebrews 13:2).

Focus: Being hospitable is something that we should pursue. Our being hospitable is a reflection of God’s love (Luke 15:20-24) and of our love to God (Matthew 25:34-45).

Practical Application: Using the parables in Luke 15 and Matthew 25, illustrate how our being hospitable to others is a reflection of the loving and receiving heart of God. Also, in the Lord’s eyes, our being hospitable to others, especially the saints, reflects how we would treat Him.