

## **Topic: Proper Humanity – Righteous**

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: “...Jehovah loves the righteous” (Psalm 146:8c).

Focus: To be righteous is to do what is right and proper in all things.

Practical Application: In some situations doing what is right and proper is easy and clear. Sometimes, it is not. What if at school you found a nice keychain and you knew it belonged to somebody else? The right and proper thing to do would be to return the keychain, not to keep it. After a good piano lesson, your teacher allows each student to take a piece of candy from her candy bowl. What if you had not practiced piano all week and your lesson did not go well, would it be okay to take a candy? What if you had a very good lesson, could you take 5 pieces of candy?

### **Intermediate:**

Verses: “Yet the righteous man will hold fast to his way” (Job 17:9a).

“The righteous man will never be moved” (Proverbs 10:30a) (memory verse).

Focus: To be righteous is to do what is right and proper, even if it is difficult.

Practical Application: Discuss the importance of doing what is right and proper, even if that means doing something that is difficult or hard for us to do. Suppose that during a test at school, your teacher steps out of the room for a minute to take a phone call. While she is gone, one of your friends asks you for the answer to a hard question. You know the answer, but giving your friend the answer would be cheating. Not giving your friend the answer might make her upset at you. How could you be righteous in this difficult situation where your friend is asking you to do something that is wrong and not proper?

### **Advanced:**

Verses: “...But the righteous are as bold as a lion” (Proverbs 28:1b).

“The desire of the righteous is only good” (Proverbs 11:23a).

“For Jehovah is righteous; He loves righteous deeds. The upright man will behold His face” (Psalm 11:7) (memory verse).

Focus: To be righteous is to desire what is right and proper, even if the situation may not involve us. Like God, we should desire only what is right and good and hate what is false and evil.

Practical Application: If we are righteous, we should not accept a situation that is wrong and should desire that what is right and proper be done. What if, while your teacher is out of the classroom, someone throws a ball toward her desk and it breaks her vase? When she returns to the room, she asks the class who threw the ball. Although everyone knows who did it, no one speaks up because no one wants to be “uncool.” Is this right and proper? Should you remain silent? What if during recess a bully picks on someone in your class, but no one tells the teacher because they are afraid the bully will pick on them? Should you just not get involved and allow this to happen? It would be possible for us to do nothing, but then unrighteousness would occur. Discuss with the children how to handle these types of situations.