### Character Lessons

Lesson Number

Lesson Title

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Character Lesson Two

**OPEN** 

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DILIGENT

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STORY - BEE RIGHT

Extra Character Lesson

**FAITHFUL** 

# **Character Lesson One PATIENT**

### **Definition:**

A patient person is able to wait without losing hope or being anxious, and also able to work diligently without becoming discouraged.

# Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. A farmer has to wait patiently for the seeds that he has planted to grow up and bear

2. When we are patient, we can wait for our drink a long time. When you are waiting in line for your turn, instead of complaining that the line is too long, you may sing while you

3. When the Lord Jesus came to be a man He stayed in the womb of a human virgin for nine months before He was born, even though He was the God of the universe. The Lord Jesus waited patiently to become a man.

### Verses:

"... Behold the farmer awaits the precious fruit of the earth..." James 5:7b "... God waited in the days of Noah ..." 1 Peter 3:20b (100 years - Gen. 5:32; 7:6)

### Story:

There was a farmer who planted some wheat seeds in the early spring time. He had to wait patiently through the season until the late summer when the precious grain would be

He did not force the sprouts to grow by pulling them up to make them look taller, or flood the wheat sprouts with a lot of water. Neither did he put flood-lights in the field over the sprouts to make them to grow faster. Instead he let the sun do its job. He watered the wheat sprouts with just the right amount of water. He patiently waited for the little sprouts

Day by day, month by month, the farmer patiently waited, watered, and watched for the sprouts to grow. Throughout the season, the farmer watched the little seeds grow from a little sprout into tender plants and into bigger plants. Finally when it was harvest time, he saw that the little wheat sprouts had grown up to be big wheat plants bearing many grains.

This made the farmer very happy. He worked very hard to take care of the plants and he waited patiently for the little plants to grow. Patience is very precious.

### **Craft Ideas:**

1. Have the children decorate a Styrofoam cup.

2. Put damp cotton or dirt in the cup and place or plant the seeds in it.

3. Explain that they need to water the seed every two days at least.

4. The seeds will begin to sprout and grow. Later when the seedlings are bigger, they can replant them in dirt or a larger container.

[Materials needed - Styrofoam cup, cotton or dirt, seeds (Lima beans grow well), water, paper (optional), crayons, larger container]

# Character Lesson Two OPEN

### **Definition:**

An open person is able to receive something new. He listens to what others say and is willing to receive help. He also knows how not to be open to receive something that will hurt himself or others.

### Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. The shepherds were open for when they heard the angels announcing the good news, they received it gladly and went to find the baby Jesus.

2. We need to be open so we can find the Lord Jesus also.

- 3. An open person goes to others for help and he receives the most help by opening and asking.
- 4. An open and empty container can be filled with many things. For example, use a see-through jar and fill it with different sorts of things. (e.g. rocks, grass, toys, etc.) Then take a small pocket Bible and explain that it can not be added since the jar has already been filled with other things.

### Verses:

"... Lydia, ... whose heart the Lord opened to give heed..." Acts 16:14
"I am the Lord thy God, who bought thee out of the land of Egypt; open thy mouth wide and I will fill it." Psalms 81:10

(See second page for songs and craft ideas)

# Character Lesson Two (continued)

### Songs:

### Hymn #1132, vv. 3 and 5

D A D
Lord Jesus, open us;
D A D
You know the source from which we came.
G D
By calling on Your name,
G A D
Lord, let no earth unturned nor rocks remain G A D
Lord Jesus, open us.

Lord Jesus, we love you; Lord, take whate'er we think we know. We'll open to life's flow, And thus take in the life that makes us grow-Lord Jesus, open us.

### Hymns Jr. #89

Lord, today, keep my heart, keep it all the day-While I'm young, keep my heart Soft, dear Lord, I pray; Lord, I would keep my heart through every day Soft and open unto You.

### Craft Ideas:

1. Have the children color a picture (animals, flowers, etc.) on the paper in crayon, pressing hard.

2. Paint with the water color paint over the paper. The paint will only stick to the paper where the crayon is not colored on.

[Materials needed - crayons, water color paint (in cup), paint brush, sheets of paper]

# Character Lesson Three DILIGENT

### **Definition:**

To be diligent means to be industrious, hardworking, and persevering. A diligent person is one who decides to do a good job and works steadily until it is finished.

### Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. The shepherds were diligent in finding the baby Jesus.

2. A diligent person is one who continues to work until the job is done, for example:

a. practicing the piano every day

b. finishing his homework every day before he plays

c. cleaning up his bedroom every day

3. Describe how ants work.

### Verse:

"... go to the ant and consider her ways and be wise..." Proverbs 6:6

Story: The story of Noah building the ark. (Genesis 6-7)

### **Craft Ideas:**

Have an intricate design with many little spaces to color and have them color each space very nicely.

Egg-carton ants:

1. Cut the egg carton so that you have a strip of three sections for each child.

2. Use pipe cleaners for the antennas and legs.

- 3. Punch the pipe cleaners through the carton and bend them to prevent them from falling out.
- 4. Have the children draw eyes on the "head" section. [Materials needed egg cartons, pipe cleaners, crayons]

### Snack Idea:

Celery with peanut butter and raisins on top "ants on a log". (We found that some children did not like this snack, so it may be wise to have an optional snack on hand such as oatmeal and raisin cookies, just in case.)

# Character Lesson Four OBEDIENT

### **Definition:**

To obey, to do what you are told. An obedient child does what he is told.

### **Examples:**

- 1. An obedient child is one who buckles his seat belt the first time he is told to do so.
- 2. An obedient child is one who does his chores at home when his parents tell him to.
- 3. An obedient child is one who does his homework right away when he is told to.
- 4. An obedient child is one who comes into the house from playing when he is called

### Verse:

"The children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right." Ephesians 6:1

Story: Jesus obeyed His earthly parents while He was young.

### Song:

(Tune: "Battle Hymn of the Republic")

Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right, Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right, Children, obey your parents in the Lord for this is right, That it may be well with you.
This commandment has a promise,
This commandment has a promise,
This commandment has a promise,
That you may live long on the earth.

### Games:

There are several games that you may use to point out this character point, this is a list of some we used:

1. "Parade of Colors" by Hap Palmer in Learning Basic Skills Through Music, Vol. 2 (Obtained through a teacher's supply store).

2. "Mother, May I?"

3. You may use other games that require obeying or following instructions.

[Materials needed - tape or record, tape recorder or record player, and colored pieces of paper to match colors in the song]

# **Character Lesson Five EXACT**

### Definition:

An exact person is one who is not sloppy in words (talking) or deeds (working) and is accurate.

## Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. Let the children count 20 pennies and see how many different numbers they come up with.

(This is good for very young children.)
2. Add up 5 simple numbers, for example, 0+1+0+2+3=, and see who gets the exact answer. (For children who are just learning to add.)

3. Play the telephone game "Gossip."

4. The archer can only hit the bull's eye by being accurate (exact) in aiming and shooting at the

5. When the Lord Jesus lived on the earth, He did things exactly according to the Father's way.

### Verse:

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

Story: The story of an engineer who is unaware that he built the bridge 5" (inches) or 5' (feet) too long or short according to the blueprints.

### Song:

### (Tune: If You're Happy and You Know It)

I'm a child who arrives on the dot, Oh yes, I am. I'm a child who arrives on the dot, Oh yes, I am. When I come at ten o'clock, I just love to sing a lot. I'm a child who arrives on the dot, Oh yes, I am.

Craft: Make cookies, cake, etc. with two recipes

1. One recipe will have one main ingredient missing, e.g. eggs, salt. The other recipe will be made accurately. It will be necessary to have the ingredients for both recipes all measured out and ready to pour into the mixing bowls.

2. Begin with making the two recipes and give the lesson while they are baking.

3. Let the children taste the one that was inaccurately made first. Be sure to stress that it was not the group's fault it tastes so bad, but the recipe was inaccurate and not exact. However, many times we do not do things in a very exact way and we could cause such results by not doing them exactly.

4. Let the children taste the recipe that was accurately made so they can taste the difference. [Materials needed - ingredients for the cookie or cake recipe]

## Character Lesson Six CLEAR

### **Definition:**

A clear person is not confused but understands things and knows what to do.

# Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. In order to solve many problems, you must be able to think and speak clearly.

2. When the Lord Jesus was tempted in the wilderness (Matt. 4:1-11), He was clear in understanding what the Devil was trying to do, and He was clear in speaking the Word of God to answer the Devil.

3. Are you clear about what you would do if you find a wallet with some money and credit

cards?

4. Are you clear about what you would say if your friend asks you to do something your parents told you not to do?

### Verse:

"... and my lips shall utter knowledge clearly." Job 33:3b

### Craft:

Transparencies. The main point of the transparencies is that they are clear, you can see through them. Have the children color the picture (of a pretty day, etc) that is on the paper, then attach the transparency to the top of the page, by a piece of folded construction paper (or other colored paper) stapled to top only. This allows them to pick up the transparency and see that it is there, and you are able to see through it to see the picture they colored clearly. If you have a way to permanently put the verse on the corner of the transparency, that would be nice.

[Materials needed - transparencies (with or without verse printed on it), crayons, stapler with staples, 8 1/2 inch strips of construction paper (or other colored paper) about 2 inches wide]

# Character Lesson Seven CARING

### **Definition:**

A caring person shows an interest or concern for others.

### Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

- 1. How does your mother or father care for you?
- 2. How do your grandparents care for you?
- 3. How do you show care for others?

### Verse:

"And coming to him, he bound up his wounds, pouring on them oil and wine. And placing him on his own beast, he brought him to an inn and took care of him." Luke 10:34

Story: The story of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).

### Craft:

Make paper woven place mats:

- 1. Use 1 inch wide strips of paper.
- 2. Weave paper strips together.
- 3. Have children print at the top "... God cares for you. 1 Peter 5:7b."
- 4. Have children print at the bottom "... Have the same care for one another. 1 Corinthians 12:25b."
- 5. You may put clear contact paper on the mats to make them last longer.

# PAPER WOVEN PLACE MATS

### MATERIALS:

- 1. Colored construction paper
- 2. Scissors
- 3. Construction paper
- 4. Verses on paper

TRIM INTO 1' STRIPS

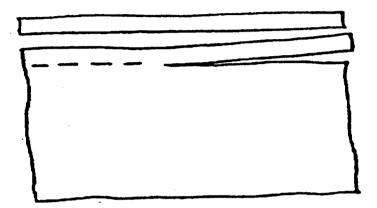
5. Glue

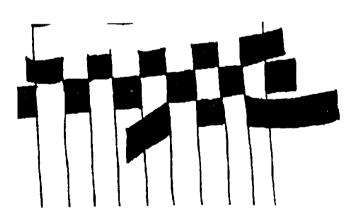
### **DIRECTIONS:**

- 1. Cut up colored construction paper into 1" strips. Cut paper length-wise so the strips are longer.
- 2. Weave strips together. Try different colors to get get different patterns.
- 3. Glue edges together and trim off any excess iwiith scissors.
- 4. Glue printed verse strip or have the children write it on the top edge "...God cares for you.." 1 Peter 5:7b
- 5. Have the children put the verse "...Have the same care for one another." 1 Corinthians 12:25b. on the bottom edge of the mat.
- 6. You may want to put clear contact paper on the mats to make them last longer. This holds the strips together. Also when used as place mats, spills can be wiped off.

### VARIATION (for older children)

- 1. Find two brightly colored pictures and trim them so they are the same size.
- 2. Cut each in 1" strips (keeps strips in order as you cut them)
- 3. Weave two pictures together, glue edges and cover with contact paper.





WEAVE STRIPS OVER AND UNDER

"...have the same care one for another." 1 Corinthians 12:25b

"God cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7b

"...have the same care one for another." 1 Corinthians 12:25b

"God cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7b

"...have the same care one for another." 1 Corinthians 12:25b

"God cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7b

"...have the same care one for another." 1 Corinthians 12:25b

# **Character Lesson Eight** LOWLY

### **Definition:**

A lowly person is not proud and does not boast about himself.

# Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. Show the picture from the Children's Character Book under "LOWLY" (Living Stream Ministry, P.O Box 2121, Anaheim, CA 92814).

2. At school, if you earn the best grade, you should not boast about it, instead you should

offer to help your classmates, not in a proud way.

3. Tell the story of the Lord Jesus in Luke 19:29-48. He rode on a donkey instead of on a white horse. Tell the difference between a donkey and a horse and ask the children why the Lord Jesus rode on a donkey.

### Verse:

"When pride cometh then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom." Proverbs 11:2

### Craft Ideas:

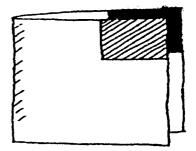
Have the children make "pop-up" cards with the picture from "LOWLY" (reduced in size from the Children's Character Book by Living Stream Ministry) pasted or glued inside the card. See the attached sheet for instructions.

# POP-UP CARD

### MATERIALS:

- 1. Paper (ie. 8-1/2" X 11")
- 2. Glue
- 3. Scissors
- 4. Markers, crayons, or paints

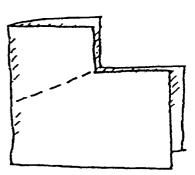
Diagram #1



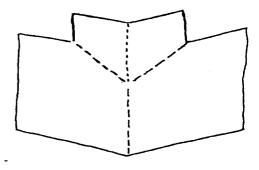
### PROCEDURE:

- 1. Fold in half length-wise
- 2. Cut out a 3" X 3" notch (diagram #1)
- Fold remaining portion that stick out douwn inside the card at an angle. This piece pops-up when you open the card. (diagram #2)
- 4. Put some special greeting, message, or decoration on the part that pops-up
- 5. Decorate the fron cover of the card.

### Diagram #2



It will pop up when the card is opened.



# Character Lesson Nine *MEEK*

### **Definition:**

A meek person is gentle, unresisting, willing to bear opposition, and does not fight for his own way.

### Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. The Lord Jesus was betrayed by Judas, but He did not react to Judas when he brought a great crowd with swords and clubs, but rather, the Lord handed Himself over to them. He meekly gave in to them.

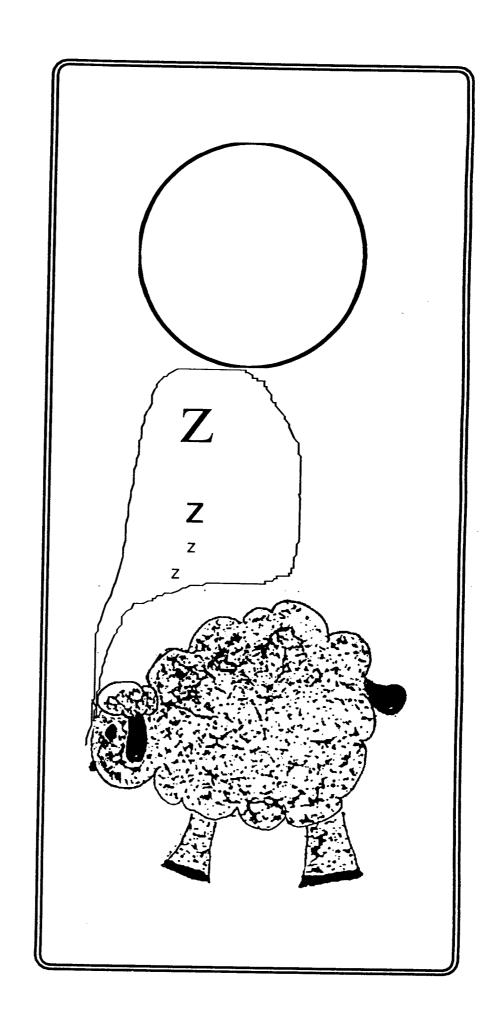
2. When you are playing a game and others insist to play a certain way, you go along with them even though you think your way is better.

### Verse:

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Matthew 5:5

### Craft Ideas:

- 1. Have the children make a sign for a door-knob out of poster board.
- 2. Draw a large lamb and glue cotton for its wool.
- 3. Put eyes and nose with black marker or black paper.
- 4. Cut the hole for the door-knob.
- 5. The children can draw several "z's" to show that the lamb is sleeping and add to it as they wish with further details. See the attached page for pattern.



### **Character Lesson Ten STABLE**

### **Definition:**

A stable person doesn't change easily but is calm, dependable, unwavering, and not easily upset by his environment.

### Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

 The Lord Jesus passed through many tests and judgments, but He stayed very calm.
 When a fire alarm or tornado siren sounds, you listen to your parent's or the teacher's instructions and stay calm.

### Verse:

"... but let your yes be yes, and your no be no..." James 5:12m

### Craft Ideas:

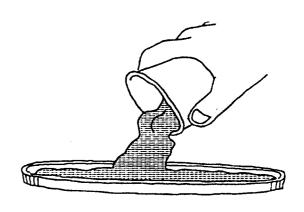
Have the children make plaster of Paris, impressions of their hand. See attached paper for further instructions.

# WALL PLAQUE

### **MATERIALS:**

Plastic lid
Plaster of Paris
Toothpicks or pencil
Large paper clips

A coffee lid or a butter tub lid will work as a base for plaster. Pour the plaster into the lid and press a handprint. Use a tooth pick to write a name and date. Before the plaster hardens insert a large paper clip so it can be hung up later. When the plaque is dry it will no longer feel cold to the touch. Pop the plaster away from the lid. These can be painted.





# Character Lesson Eleven BEARING

### **Definition:**

A bearing person is one who puts up with pressures and responsibilities without giving up. For example, if you do all your chores, you bear responsibility well.

### Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

- 1. Loving and putting up with (or bearing) your little brothers or sisters and your classmates.
- 2. See the *Children's Character Book* published by Living Stream Ministry "BEARING". "Bearing is doing all the dishes for a large family."
- 3. When you help your Mom set the table every day, you become a real help to Mom. You bear this responsibility.
- 4. When you help your Dad to water the garden, you become a real help to Dad. You bear this responsibility.

### Verse:

"So Christ also, having been once offered to bear the sins of many...." Hebrews 9:28a

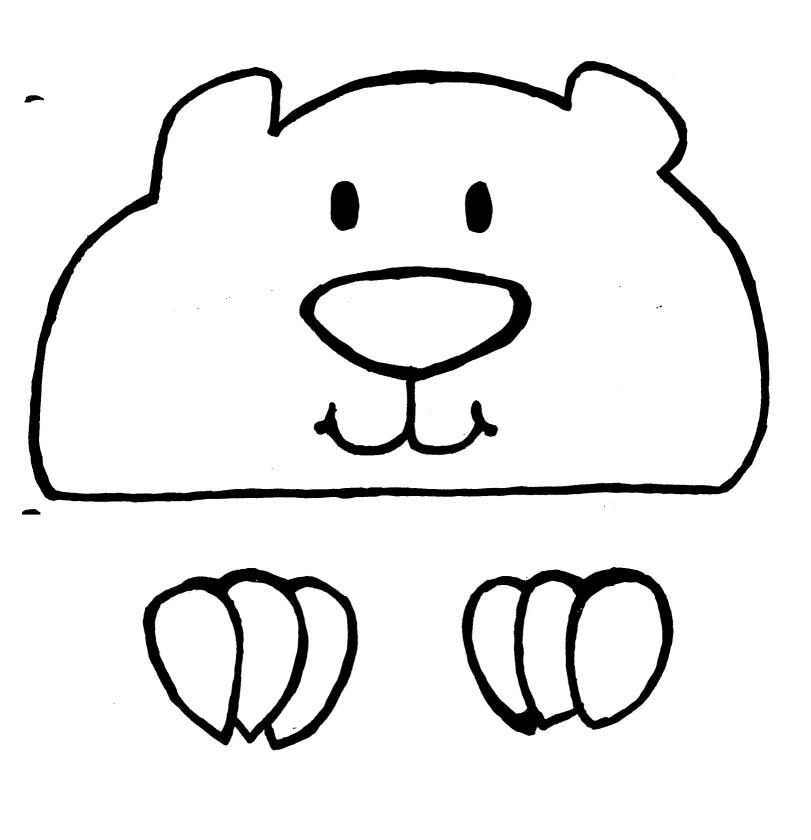
### **Craft Ideas:**

Make a bear-shaped holder out of paper plates.

- 1. Attach half of a paper plate to a whole plate, by punching holes in both when put together with the top of plates facing each other.
- 2. Have the children "sew" with yarn around the plates through the holes.

  3. Color bear pattern (with crayons/markers) and glue them on the plates.
- 4. Add your Bible verse.

[Materials needed - one full paper plate and one half paper plate per person, scissors, hole punch, yarn, and crayons/markers.]



# Love...bears all things

1 Corinthians 13:7

# Love...bears all things

1 Corinthians 13:7

# Love...bears all things

Love...bears all things

1 Corinthians 13:7

1 Corinthians 13:7

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# Love...bears all things

1 Corinthians 13:7

# Character Lesson Twelve ENDURING

### Definition:

Enduring is to put up with something not so pleasant to you yet finish the task.

# Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. Eating something that is healthful, that you don't like.

2. Doing the dishes.

3. Camels endure the desert heat with little or no water

- 4. The Lord endured many sufferings. What were some of the sufferings the Lord endured?
  - rejection
  - pain
  - shame
  - being forsaken

### Verse:

"And you shall be hated by all because of My name; but he who endures to the end, he shall be saved." Matthew 10:22

### Story:

This story is about two little camels, Tommy and Tuffy. Tuffy endures different situations, while Tommy gives up. The story follows this outline:

1. Breakfast--Mom serves soft-boiled eggs, and even though both camels don't like it, Tuffy eats the eggs, while Tommy complains.

2. School--The teacher gives a math paper, and Tommy works a few problems, but gets frustrated, and crumples up the paper. Tuffy toughs it out and finishes the work.

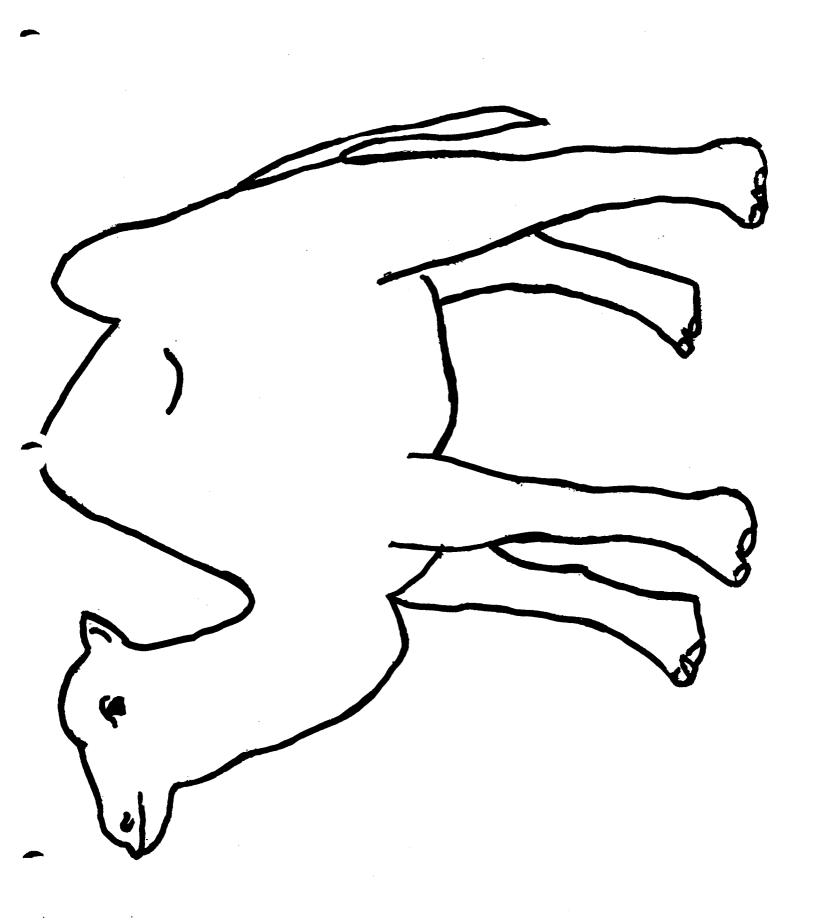
3. Music class--The music teacher teaches the class a new note on their recorders. The only thing Tommy can do is squeak, but Tuffy keeps practicing, even though he, too, squeaks. Soon Tuffy is able to play the new note, but Tommy is just upset.

4. Home--Mom had an emergency while cooking dinner, so the hamburgers were a little burnt. Tommy complained, but he began watching Tuffy who simply thanked his mom for the food and ate his hamburger.

5. Cleaning up-Both little camels did the dishes together, for they had both learned a little about enduring until the job is finished.

### **Craft Ideas:**

- 1. The children are given an outline of a camel on a sheet of paper.
- 2. Glue a long piece of yarn along the outline of the camel.
- 3. Small pieces of unraveled yarn are glued to make the camel's fur. [Materials needed paper, yarn, glue.]



# Character Lesson Thirteen STEADFAST

### **Definition:**

A steadfast person is fixed in direction and firm in purpose, persevering.

# Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

- 1. A steadfast person doesn't easily change his mind but continues until he reaches the goal.
- 2. A steadfast person doesn't give up when things are difficult, but finishes his task.

### Verse:

"... be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Corinthians 15:58b

### Story:

Abraham Lincoln was a steadfast person. He had a goal of making sure that Black people were given their freedom. Many of his friends and co-workers didn't want Blacks to be free. Abraham Lincoln did not change his mind. He fought for the rights of Black people even though so many thought he was wrong.

### **Craft Ideas:**

Make a "Making Friends in Russia for the Kingdom Money Bank" See attached instructions.

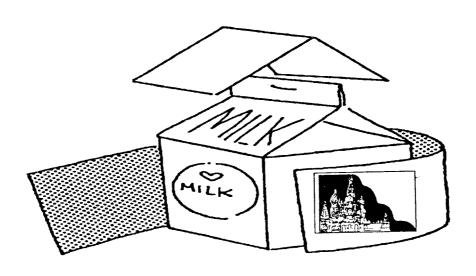
# MAKING FRIENDS IN RUSSIA FOR THE KINGDOM **MONEY BANK**

### MATERIALS:

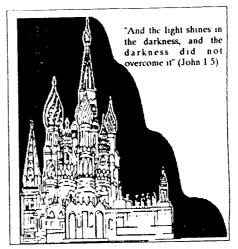
- 1. Empty half-pint milk cartons or similar sized box
- 2. Pre-cut 9-1/2" X 2-3/4" white construction paper OR a strip with will go around the outside of the box you are using. (Next page has panels that can be used for sides or glued on to construction paper.)
- 3. Pre-cut 4" X 2-1/2" white construction paper retangles for roof (see next page for cut out) or a piece the same size as the top of the box you are using.
- 4. Tape
- 5. Scissors
- 6. Glue (rubber cement works best on milk cartons)
- 7. Shiny new pennies, nickels, or dimes (one for each child)

### PROCEDURE:

- 1. Give each child an empty half-pint milk carton or similar sized box and one of each of the two sizes of pre-cut paper.
- 2. Demonstrate to the class how to wrap the construction paper around the milk carton or box and secure it with tape or rubber cement.
- 3. Ask each child to fold the piece of white construction paper in half widthwise and insert the top of the milk carton into the fold. Those using a box will just need a piece of paper cut to the size of the top and it will not need to be folded.
- 4. Have children cut out scenes from Russia and "FOR THE LORD'S MOVE IN RUSSIA" and glue on opposite sides of the carton or box.
- 5. Those using a box should cut out and glue verse or top of the box.
- 6. Cut a slot in "roof" for the coins to be put in.
- 7. Work out a way that the money collected can be given to the church regularly and then passed on to the full-timers serving in Russia or to the Lord's Move in Europe fund c/o the church in Anaheim, or Rhema in Seattle for the printing and distribution of literature in the Russian language.







# FOR THE LORD'S MOVE IN RUSSIA

FOR THE LORD'S MOVE IN RUSSIA

"ROOF"

"MAKE FRIENDS FOR YOURSELF BY MEANS OF MAMMON OF UNRIGHTEOUSNESS, THAT WHEN IT FAILS, THEY MAY RECEIVE YOU INTO THE ETERNAL HABITATIONS" (Luke 16:9).

Cut out for opening

# **Character Lesson Fourteen GENUINE**

### Definition:

A person who is genuine is one who is real and who shows on the outside how he feels on the inside.

# Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

- 1. Genuine leather belt vs. fake leather belt.
- 2. Fool's gold vs. real gold.
- 3. "GENUINE" picture from Children's Character Book published by Living Stream Ministry.

### Verse:

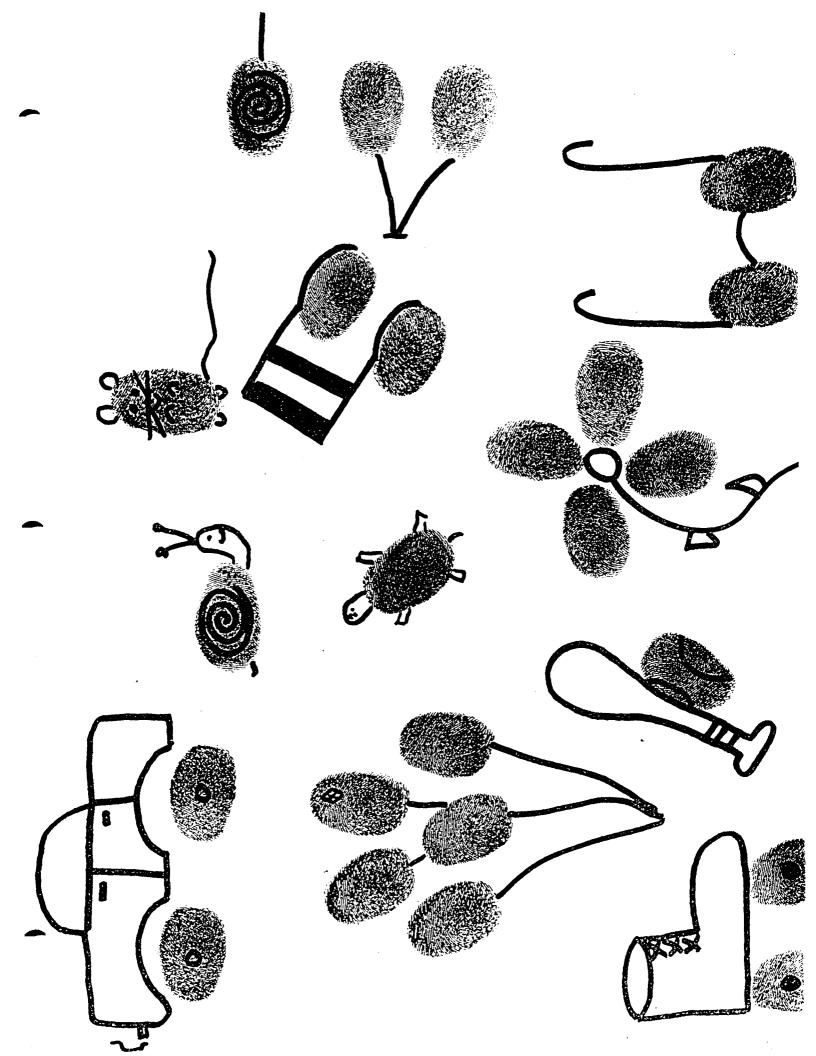
"... the genuineness also of your love." 2 Corinthians 8:8b

### **Craft Ideas:**

1. Have the children make **genuine** fingerprints of their fingers using an ink pad.

2. They can add whiskers, eyes, legs, etc. when the ink dries to create little fingerprint animals, objects, etc.

[Materials needed - Stamp pad, paper, fine line markers or pens]



# **Character Lesson Fifteen** ACCOMMODATING

### **Definition:**

A person who is accommodating is one who knows how to adapt and adjust to any situation. One who is accommodating reaches out to others and meets them where they are.

# Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. The Lord Jesus adapted and adjusted (accommodated) to mankind.

2. Paul adapted himself (accommodated) in everything for the sake of each person.

3. Some animals can camouflage themselves for protection by adapting to their surroundings. Eg. chameleon, snow rabbit, caterpillar, butterfly, grasshopper, etc.

4. Betsy accommodated (or adjusted) to the environment in the library by speaking quietly.

### Verse:

"To the weak I became weak, that I might gain the weak. To all men I have become all things that I might by all means save some." 1 Corinthians 9:22

### Craft Ideas:

A chameleon adapts to its environment and surroundings (hides on a limb, hides in a bush).

- 1. Draw a chameleon on a branch for the children to color according to (or to match) its environment.
- 2. To make it more interesting, you may have the children put real leaves, grass, etc on the picture.

# Character Lesson Sixteen HONORABLE

### **Definition:**

A person who is honorable is one who is deserving of honor. If we are honorable in what we do, people will respect us.

### Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. Firemen risk their lives to save people in distress.

2. Respecting presidents (Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, George Bush) and others in authority.

3. Respecting adults and the elderly.

4. Whom do you look up to with respect and honor?

5. How can you be an honorable person?

### Verse:

"Whatever is true, whatever is honorable ... take account of these things..." Philippians 4:8

### **Craft Ideas:**

Have the children create a medal of honor badge to be given to the person they respect and honor.

[Materials needed - construction paper, pattern for a badge or award, scissors, crayons/markers, glue]

### Character Lesson Seventeen RIGHTEOUS

### **Definition:**

Meeting the standards of what is right or just (morally right).

### Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. During a test at school, your friend asks you for the answer to a test question. Are you righteous if you give the answer to your friend?

2. You find a wallet on the ground - if you are righteous you return the wallet to the owner, or give it to your mom, teacher, etc.

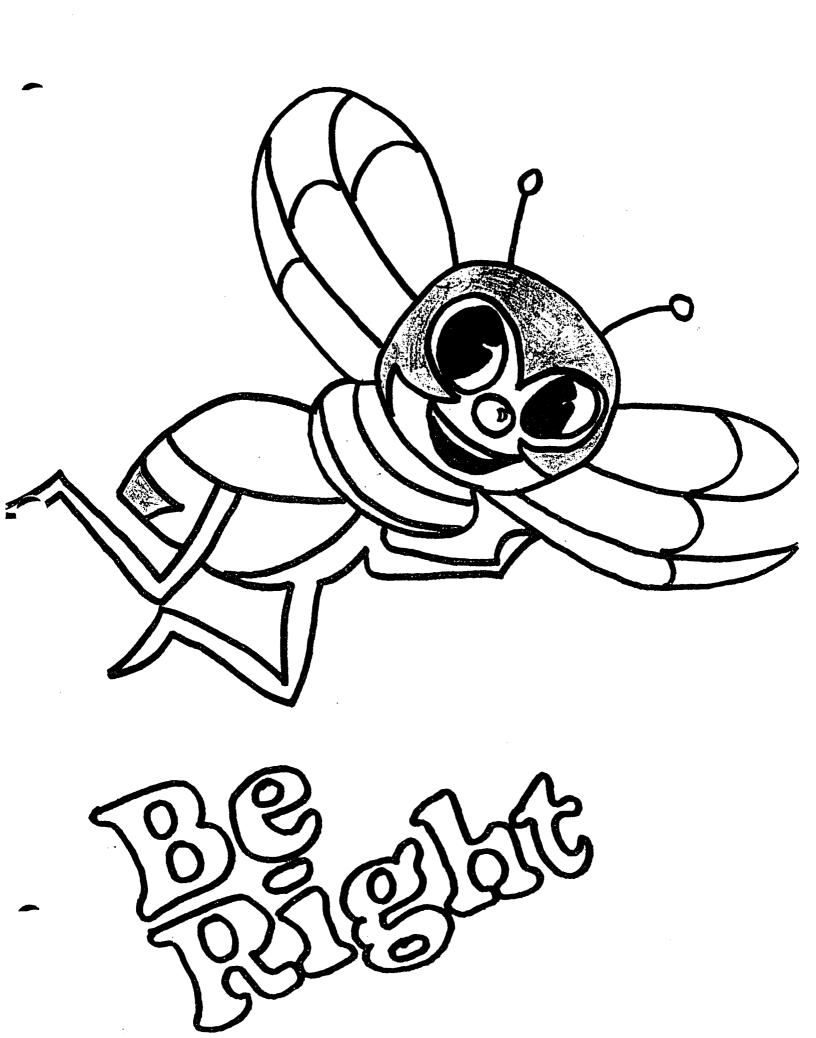
### Verse:

"We should live soberly and righteously and godly in the present age, awaiting the blessed hope, even the appearing of the glory of the great God and our Savior Jesus Christ." Titus 2:12b-13

Story: "Bee Right" taken from A Hive of Busy Bees, see attached copy.

### **Craft Ideas:**

Coloring a picture of "Bee" with words "Bee Right in all your ways."



# **Character Lesson Seventeen** RIGHTEOUS

### STORY - BEE RIGHT

Joe, Henry, and Charles went to elementary school together. They were very good friends. When they were about fourteen, Joe and Henry began to go out nights. It was always late when they got home. Charles stayed at home after school and did his homework, just as he had always done.

Charles always knew his lessons, while Joe and Henry got bad grades.

When test time came, the boys begged Charles to help them. "No," said Charles firmly, "I will never do anything like that. My mom says I must be right; and I mean to be."
"Aw," said Henry, "your mother will never know."

"I say it is okay to give a friend help on a test," grumbled Joe.
"It would be cheating," said Charles quietly, "or helping you to, and that would be just as bad." Then he turned to his own work, and began to write diligently.

Charles passed all his tests with very good grades, and of course, Joe and Henry failed.

Later, the boys were mean to Charles. They called him all sorts of names.

Mother knew, by Charles' sad face, that something was wrong. "What is it, son?" she asked; and Charles told her what had happened. She told him how glad she was that he would not do wrong. She was proud of him.

"I shall never be ashamed of you," she said, "as long as you try to be right. Sometimes you

will find it rather hard; but just wait a few years, and you will see that it pays."

Charles had been almost discouraged; but Mother's words made him feel quite strong and brave again. The next time he saw the boys, he looked straight into their faces, unashamed and unafraid. They dropped their eyes, and hurried away as quickly as they could. They did not bother Charles again. The principal heard what happened, and had punished Joe and Henry.

When it was summer time, the boys began to think about earning a little money. Henry was passing the drug store one day, and he saw a sign in the window---"Help Wanted. Apply

in Person." He went into the store, and asked for the job.

The owner took him to a little room. "Here," he said, "is a chest of nails and bolts. You

may sort them."

Henry worked for a while, and then he said to himself, "What a boring job!" He went back into the store and said to the owner, "If that's all you have for me to do, I don't want the job."

"Very well," said the owner, "that is all I have for you to do now." He paid Henry for the

work he had done, and Henry went home.

The owner went back to the little room, and found bolts and nails scattered all over the

floor. He put them back in the chest. He then hung his sign in the window again.

The next day Joe passed by and saw the sign. He went in and asked for the job. The owner took him to the little room and showed him the chest of nails, and told him to sort them.

When the boy had worked a while, he went to the owner and said, "Those rusty old nails

are no good. Why don't you let me throw them away? I don't like this job anyway."

"Okay," said the owner; and he paid Joe for what he had done and let him go. As he put the nails and bolts back in the chest he said to himself "I am willing to pay more than this to find a person who tries to be right."

Later, Joe and Henry walked down the street, and they saw the same sign in the window. "Guess he doesn't want help very bad," said Joe. "That's no job--sorting those old rusty things. Did you find anything in the chest besides bolts and nails, Henry?"

"I'm not telling everything I found," said Henry with a laugh.

Joe looked up, puzzled and a little alarmed. "Now I wonder--" he began--but stopped suddenly and talked about something else.

A few days later, Charles passed by the drug store and saw the sign in the window. He

went in and told the owner that he would like to have the job.

"Are Joe and Henry friends of yours?" asked the owner, looking at him sharply.

"Oh, no, sir," replied Charles quickly. "We used to be good friends, but something happened that I don't like to tell. They wouldn't have anything to do with me afterward."
"I'm glad to hear that," said the owner. "I think you're the one I want."

For two or three hours Charles worked steadily; now and then whistling a snatch of tune.

Then he went to the owner and told him he had finished the job.

The owner went to the little room to see how Charles had done his work. The boy had found some boxes lying about, and he placed the bolts in one, the nails in another, and the screws in a third.

"And see what I found!" exclaimed Charles. "It was lying under those old bolts in the bottom of the chest." He gave the owner a five-dollar bill.

The owner took the money and said with a smile, "Now you may place the bolts, nails, and screws back in the chest just as you have them arranged in the boxes."

After he did that, Charles was sent on a few errands. He was then dismissed for the day.

A few days later the owner gave Charles a key and said, "You may come early in the morning and open the store. Do the sweeping and dusting."

At the end of the first week, Charles received his pay-envelope. He found the five-dollar

bill along with the week's wages.

One morning not long afterward, Charles was sweeping the floor, and found a few pennies lying near the counter. He picked them up and put them on the shelf, and told the owner about them. Another day he found some pennies, a dime, and two nickels. He laid these on the shelf, telling the owner about them.

About a month later, he was sweeping one morning, and found a brand new dollar. How he did wish he might keep it for himself! "The owner would never know," whispered a tiny voice. Just at that instant, Bee Right began to buzz around his ears. "Don't forget what your mother told you," said the bee. "She said she would never be ashamed of you, as long as you tried your best to be right."

Charles turned the dollar over and over in his hand. The bee kept buzzing--"Never do

anything that will make your mother ashamed of you. Be right! Be right!"

"Yes," said Charles at last, "I will." He put the dollar on the shelf. When the owner came in, he told him about it.

The owner smiled and patted him on the shoulder. "You are a good boy," was all he said. At the end of the week, Charles found the brand new dollar in his pay-envelope, besides his usual wages.

A few weeks later, the owner began to give Charles large sums of money to take to the

bank. "I have found that I can trust you, my boy," he would say.

Charles worked in the store all summer. When school opened again, he helped the owner mornings and evenings. His tired mother did not have to work so much now. Charles always gave her his money at the end of the week.

After he finished school, the owner gave him a steady job in the store with good wages. "Charles," said the owner one day, "do you remember the day you sorted bolts and nails for

me?"

"Yes," answered Charles. "How glad I was to find work that day, so I could help my mother a little. I'll never forget how surprised I was to find a five-dollar bill at the bottom of the chest."

"I put it there on purpose," said the owner. "I wanted to find out what sort of boy you

"You did!" exclaimed the astonished boy.

"Yes. When you brought it to me, I was pretty sure that I had found the right one. However, I wanted to be able to trust you with large sums of money, so I tested you still further. I left pennies, nickels, and a dime on the floor; and last of all a dollar. When you picked them up, and put them on the shelf, and told me about them--I knew then that I could safely trust you."

"I'd like to ask you," said Charles suddenly--"was there a five-dollar bill in the bottom of the

chest when Joe and Henry sorted the nails, too?"
"Yes," said the owner, "each of them found a five-dollar bill, and each of them kept it."

"So you lost ten dollars!" exclaimed Charles.

"Yes, lost ten dollars hunting for someone honest. It was worth it--I found one!"

Years later things happened to Henry and Joe. Soon after Charles started working at the store, Henry was caught stealing things from a department store. He was arrested, but his father paid the fine, so he was allowed to go free. His dishonest habits, though, soon got him into more trouble. He never could keep a job for very long. He was so dishonest that no one could depend on him. Joe forged a check, and was sent to jail.

How much better it would have been if Henry and Joe had listened to the bee in the first

place.

# Extra Character Lesson FAITHFUL

### **Definition:**

A faithful person is one who is loyal, reliable, trustworthy, and dependable.

### Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

To be faithful is:

1. In order to be a faithful person, you must finish the job that you have been given. For example to pick up all your toys and put them away.

2. To help Mom wash dishes after each meal.

- 3. To help Dad wash the car until he say the job is finished.
- 4. To help grandmother water every plant in the house.

5. To make your bed every morning.

### Verse:

"Faithful is He who calls you, who also will do it." 1 Thessalonians 5:24

### Song:

D G A
Diligence, faithfulness, perseverance,
D Stand the test
D G A
Diligence, faithfulness, perseverance,
D Yes!

### Craft/Game:

- 1. Older children: How many words can you make out of the words: "FAITHFUL PERSON". See the form attached.
- 2. Younger children: Outline the word FAITHFUL in large letters for children to color in.

oc in any word.	F	words as you can think of using the wor xample, the letter "F" is used twice, so you FAITHFUL PERSON				•	
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