

ACCEPTANCE

BIG IDEA

Acceptance is the willingness to tolerate a difficult or unpleasant situation with grace and kindness.

MEMORY VERSE

Acts 10:34-35

Then Peter began to speak: “I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism but accepts from every nation the one who fears him and does what is right.”

• PREPARATION & MATERIALS •

BIBLE LESSON: SKIT

- Props: blindfold, markers, paper

GAME

- play money (see template)
- dice and pennies (optional)

CRAFT

- Colorful drinking straws (about 3 per person)
- Pipe cleaners (2 per person)
- Clay or playdough

WORKSHEETS

- Photocopies of Coloring Sheet (1 per child)



ACCEPTANCE

Lesson 11

LESSON • INTERACTIVE

In this interactive lesson, students with different “flaws” are forced to work together to overcome them. They can’t change their partner’s flaws and they can’t change their own. Instead, they have to accept the challenges and work together to succeed.

Ask for 5 pairs of volunteers. Partner 1 is blindfolded and will be able to draw, but not see. Partner 2 will have his hands behind his back and will be able to talk, but not move. During the allotted time (1-2 minute rounds recommended) the partners must work together despite their individual “flaws” to have the blindfolded person draw the items listed on a sheet of paper that only his/her partner can see. The non-blindfolded partner helps the blindfolded partner by giving advice and direction, but cannot do the actual drawing him/herself. The Team that finishes drawing the most amount of items wins. In the event of a tie, the leader (or a panel of judges) can judge the quality artwork to determine the winner.

For an extra challenge Partner 2 is not allowed to say the actual word from the list below. He/she can say things like “draw a circle with two dots at the top and a curve at the bottom” instead of “draw a circle.”

Cross
Smiley face
Heart
Stick figure
Tree
Bird
Cat
Football
Chair
The capital letter “G”
Cell phone
Flower

Doesn’t it just stink when there’s something you don’t like, but there’s nothing you can do about it? Sometimes, there are things about ourselves that we wish we could change. Maybe we don’t like our physical appearance.

Sometimes there is something that we wished that we could be better at, but no matter how hard we try, we just don’t improve, at least not in a way that satisfies.

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LESSON • INTERACTIVE (PAGE 2)

What about when your issue is with someone else? Maybe there's a person or group of people in your life with whom you just can't get along.

In the scenarios I have described, the circumstances might be different, but they point to the same unfortunate truth: we can't always make things or people the way we want.

Sure, we can do our best to change our appearance with fashionable clothes, avoiding the activity we struggle at or ignore the people who bother us, but they are still there. Life is often outside of our ability to control.

Don't you wish I could just give you the secret answer that will solve all of life's problems? In truth, I can, but it may not be the solution you are hoping for. The solution boils down to one word—acceptance.

Take a moment to close your eyes and quietly think about these questions. Who is the person or persons in your life that you are having a hard time accepting? Why do you have a hard time accepting this person(s)? It is entirely possible that you have every reason to dislike this person. He/she might treat you poorly, might do things to you that are wrong. That, however, doesn't change God's solution.

“Since God chose you to be the holy people he loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others.” – Colossians 3:12-13 (NLT)

Let's look at a few key points in this verse.

1) God chose you to be holy.

The Creator of the Universe looked down at the billions of people that have walked the earth since He formed it and said, “I choose you.” That's pretty amazing. He chose you for a purpose—to be holy. Because of this He expects us to live a certain way—to be merciful, kind, humble, gentle, and patient.

2) Make allowances for each other's faults.

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LESSON • INTERACTIVE (PAGE 3)

People aren't perfect. If you are willing to be honest, neither are you. Everyone has faults. As much as we would love to be able to fix them, learning to accept others requires us to make allowances—make room—for other people's faults.

3) Forgive like Jesus.

Finally, the key to learning how to accept others is to forgive like Jesus. Jesus forgave when we didn't deserve it. The just reward for our sinful lives (yes, we all sin) is death—an eternity separated from God. Instead, He forgives everyone who follows Him. Second, He forgives and forgets. Boy, isn't that the hardest part of forgiveness? If we are to learn to accept others, we must forgive them even if they don't deserve it. We must also not continue to hold it against them for how they treated us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Volunteers, how hard was it to compete with a blind fold or being unable to use your hands?
2. What are some other "flaws" you deal with in your life? (size, lack of ability in sports/art/academics, fears, etc.)
3. Jesus can heal our bodies, but there is something even more important that he can do. What is it?
4. Why should we want forgiveness of our sins?
5. How can we get forgiveness from Jesus?

SIMPLIFIED LESSON OPTIONS

- Skip the interactive portion of the lesson.
- Ask 3-4 of the simpler discussion questions.

ACCEPTANCE

CRAFT

• CRAFT •

OBJECTIVE: BENDY STRAW MAN

Make a movable man made of straws.

MATERIALS PROVIDED BY EM

- Scissors, staplers, hole punches

DIRECTIONS

- Cut straws into 1/2 inch pieces
- Thread straws onto pipe cleaners
- Follow pictorial directions below

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- Colorful drinking straws (about 3 per person)
- Pipe cleaners (2 per person)
- Clay or playdough

EXAMPLE

1) Bend pipe one pipe cleaner in the middle



2) Create a loop in the center and twist closed



3) Twist ends to become hands



4) Bend ends of second pipe cleaner to become feet



5) Thread legs through loop and twist together



6) Make another twist 3 straw lengths down to create torso



7) Place one leg in a lump of clay



SIMPLIFIED CRAFT OPTIONS

- Precut straws
- Eliminate clay/play-dough holder

ACCEPTANCE

GAME

Lesson 11

• GAME •

OBJECTIVE: MILLIONAIRE

Try to win play money by challenging friends to mini games

MATERIALS BROUGHT BY TEAM

- play money (see template)
- dice and pennies (optional)

INSTRUCTIONS

1) Make sure the kids understand the following 3 mini games:

- Thumb Wrestling - two people hook their fingers and try to use their thumbs to pin the other person's thumb for 3 seconds.
- Rock, Paper, Scissors - Rock-paper-scissors (also known as paper, scissors, stone or other variants) is a hand game usually played between two people, in which each player simultaneously forms one of three shapes with an outstretched hand. These shapes are "rock" (fist), "paper" (flat hand), and "scissors" (a fist with the index and middle fingers forming a V shape).

On the count of three the players show a rock, paper or scissors. A player who decides to play rock will beat another player who has chosen scissors (rock crushes scissors), but will lose to one who has played paper (paper covers rock); a play of paper will lose to a play of scissors (scissors cut paper). If both players choose the same shape, the game is tied and is usually immediately replayed to break the tie.

- Staring Game - two people stare each other in the eye. The first person to blink loses.

2) Each kid begins the game with 10 play dollars.

3) In a 5 minute period kids challenge one another to any of the mini-games. Losers give winners \$1.

4) Players must accept any challenge from anybody. They can only play one game per pair then each must move on to another player.

5) After 5 minutes kids count their money. Redistribute money and play again!

GAME OPTIONS

- Pass out dice to kids and play a simple game in which the highest roll wins.
- Pass out pennies (domestic locations only) and play a simple game in which heads wins.



Kids Club

Lesson 11





Kids Club

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