

Lesson Plan | Kingdom Principles | Lesson 2: Judge and be Judged

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INTRO

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Lesson Plan: Judging

Before using this lesson it is recommended you read the book 'The Cloud and the Line' by Paul Gibbs. This will help you understand the principles taught. For more information and purchase details please go to

<http://www.paismovement.com/resources/the-cloud-and-the-line-book>

MAIM AIM: To teach the results of judging, how to decide when something should be judged and what guidelines can be used in judging well.

AGE RANGE: 12 – 18 Years

TIME: Approx 45 minutes

RESOURCES:

- Labels
- Marker Pens
- Tape or Blue tac / White tac
- Power point containing pictures of famous people
- Blank golden pieces of square card
- Several water pistols of different sizes. [One as big as you can get.]
- Towel
- Work sheet [Provided]
- Two large pieces of white card. One that says "Revenge" on one side and another that says "Grace."

ATTENTION: What is judging?

TIME: 15 minutes

MODULE 1

As the students enter the classroom put labels on their forehead that state bad and good things people do. Make the things personal. Some examples might be: "I stole from my brother.", "I gave food to a homeless man." "He's black, he must not be educated."

Make sure that every student has a label then ask for a volunteer. Have the volunteer put students in a line with the 'worst' person on the left hand side and the 'best' person on the right. Ask if anyone would line people up differently. Why? Give a few students the chance to change it if they wish.

LINK: We all judge people. We do it all the time. Sometimes we judge because of something we see them do. Sometimes we judge based on appearances and other times we judge on race etc.

MODULE 2 [Optional]

Show the pictures of famous people. At each picture ask the class what they are famous for. Since they are famous for something ask if we have judged them? What do we believe about them and why? Is there a difference between judging someone famous and judging someone you know?

APPLICATION: When do we know it's right to judge and how to we respond to judging?

TIME: 20 minutes

LINK: Are there times when it is right to judge?

BIBLE: There's a saying that goes like this "Do not judge or you too will be judged?"

MODULE 3

Invite a student up to the front of the class. [Make sure they are okay with being wet.] Hand him a small water pistol. Then place the two "revenge" and "grace" cards at the front of the class face down. Explain that if you hit him he will want to do something back. Let him fire the water pistol at you. Now explain that maybe you will get annoyed with this, and now you want to do something back to him. Fire a slightly bigger water pistol at him. Let this go on to bigger and better water guns. Stop it when you think it is appropriate.

When we judge someone we often retaliate because of how they act. We call this "revenge." Turn over the first card that says 'revenge' on it.

But perhaps this saying about judging means that in some situations we can act differently. Turn over the second card that says 'grace' on it.

Ask people in the class if they know what 'grace' means? Can they share an example of how they have experienced grace in their life or have given grace to someone else?

MODULE 4

Hand out the "Cloud and the Line" worksheet.

We are trying to learn how to live and respond in a better way. Something we are calling "Cloud living." We want to learn to live in such a way that it surprises people because it's not typical. In fact the way we live should reveal what's really the most important thing to us. At the top of the worksheet write down what you think are things that should be judged 'good' and things that should be judged 'bad.'

LINK: Does this mean that we should never make a comment on what is right or wrong? Do you know of anything that can help you live differently? Do you ever tire of trying to do this?

BIBLE: That same Proverb we read about judging goes on to say , "For in the same way you judge others, you will be judged, and with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

MODULE 5

Discuss:

- How can we live in a good way if we are not judging what is good?
- Does it therefore make sense that we should judge some things?
- Now what do you think of the phrase: "Do not judge or you to will be judged"?

LINK: You see, in this last Proverb we are given more of a hint about judging. If we judge others we should just be prepared that we are asking them and to judge us in the same way. Grace often goes beyond forgiving an action that should be judged. Sometimes it reaches out and actually does something that breaks down barriers and causes the other person to change the way they live their life.

Can you think of famous people who have shown grace?

Grace doesn't say the action is acceptable, but it does change the situation. It shows love to the individual while not agreeing with what they do.

APPEAL: Using the golden rule to judge well

TIME: 10 minutes

BIBLE: The classical philosophers have a 'golden rule.' It goes like this: "Do unto others as you want them to do unto you."

LINK: This teaching goes beyond judging. Instead it asks us to be pro-active in changing the way we live our lives. It's a golden rule that is different to "Don't do to others what you don't want them to do to you." This last Proverb is called the Silver rule. The golden rule is a rule that if people lived by it, would radically change society.

DISCUSS: What do you think is the difference between the two rules? Which one do you want to live by?

MODULE 6 [Optional]

Look at the "Cloud and the Line" worksheet. We have already mentioned a behavior that can be judged as 'good' or as 'bad.' But what does the cloud mean? It is where 'grace' comes in. The golden rule is "Do unto others as you want them to do unto you." Using this phrase think about a situation in your life where you are judging someone. How are you currently responding to that? If you were living by the golden rule how would you respond? Write your response in the cloud on the work sheet.

LINK: The challenge of cloud living is to not only stop doing things like being prejudiced, but to love others and act towards others in such a way that it compels them to live differently as well.

MODULE 7

Take 1 minute, think about any situations where you are judging others right now. Decide to act in this situation as the golden rule would allow you to. Take one of our golden cards to remind yourself of the golden rule. Write this rule on your card and put it in a place that you will see it regularly.



Write on the line above, the things that you think should be 'judged' good and bad. Good on the left, bad on the right.

The Golden Rule:

The golden rule is _____

Is there someone or something you are judging right now?



Does the golden rule affect the way you will judge them/it? If so write down here how you will now respond:

