



LESSON 12

This lesson also begins with prayers and proceeds with memorization of the prayer that was introduced in the previous lesson. The other activities of this lesson are:

A. Songs (including some previous songs):

God's Creatures

C
The creatures of this big world
Dm
whether they walk or fly, or fly
G7
are part of God's creation
C
like you and I

Chorus:

C
That's why we treat them with kindness
Dm
remember when you do, you do
G7
to care for God's creation
C
brings blessings to you

The dog on our front door step
he is our faithful friend, our friend
we also thank our milk cow
and bees in the wind

Chorus

The donkey carries his burden
the kitty purrs on our lap, our lap
and the bird sings sweetly
when we take our nap

Chorus

B. Memorizing quotations

God wants the Bahá'ís to work for the good of humanity. He wants everything that divides people to disappear so that everyone can live together as one family. To help this happen, we must cleanse our hearts from bad feelings towards others. We must mingle with peoples of every religion, race, nation and class in a spirit of kindness and love. To remember this, let us memorize this quotation of Baha'u'llah:

“Blessed is he who mingleth with all men in a spirit of utmost kindness and love.”²¹

Mingle

1. Egrets and cowbirds are two kinds of birds that live in the meadows. They are often seen together. These two kinds of birds mingle.
2. At the Nineteen Day Feast people of different races were so intermingled that you could tell they all loved each other.

C. Story:

Hakím Áqá Ján, a Jewish doctor, hurried behind Muhammad -Baqir who, lamp in hand, ran towards his home through the narrow streets of Hamadán. His wife was having convulsions and was at the edge of death. A few hours earlier Hakím Áqá Ján had seen her and had given her some pills to lower her fever, yet her condition had

worsened. Upon arriving again at her side he paled as he became aware of the grave error he had committed. In place of the quinine pills, he had given her strichnine, which is a powerful poison. The woman was seriously ill and there was a very great possibility that she would die because of the doctor's mistake. Upon remembering the mistreatment that the Jews always received at the hands of the Muslims in that city, Hakím Aqá Ján feared that if the woman died, he and his entire family and the other Jews of the city would be killed. These thoughts caused him to tremble and he almost could not hear Muhammad - Baqir who was asking him why he was shaking and so upset. The doctor decided to confess the truth and explain his error. To his great surprise, Muhammad - Baqir responded: "Everyone can make a mistake. You have not done so on purpose. Even if my wife dies, no one will blame you." The doctor could not believe his ears. It seemed impossible to him that a Muslim could speak like that to a Jew. But as he had to act quickly, he ran to the nearest pharmacy and bought the medicine with which he hoped to save the woman's life. He spent the whole night with her doing everything possible to save her. Muhammad - Baqir helped the doctor as much as he could and showed the utmost courtesy, friendliness and kindness. Finally, as morning came, the woman showed signs that the danger had passed and she would recover.

Hakím Aqá Ján was very perplexed by the courtesy and kindness that Muhammad - Baqir had shown towards him. He could not hide his surprise and finally asked Muhammad - Baqir why he had treated him with so much kindness. "The reason," explained Muhammad - Baqir, "is that my wife and I are Bahá'ís and we love people of all religions." This is how Hakím Aqá Ján was attracted to the Bahá'í Faith. Later he became a believer.

D. Game: "The Hidden Quality"

All of the children form a circle with their hands out in front of them. The teacher holds a coin or a stone in her hand. The coin represents a quality, for example "kindness". Then as she walks along, the teacher passes her hands over the hands of each child and says: "John is kind, Martha is kind, Dervi is kind," etc. Each child closes his hands acting as though she has given him the coin. The teacher actually leaves the coin in the hands of one of the children. When she has gone around the entire circle, one child tries to guess who has the coin by saying, for example, "Kenji is very kind." Then Kenji should open his hands and show whether or not he has the coin. The child has three guesses to try to find out who has the coin, after which the game is started over with another quality.

E. Coloring: Drawing 12