

## LESSON 3

By now you appreciate the value of beginning each class with a prayer and asking the children to recite prayers they know by heart, so that gradually they will learn to begin every effort by beseeching the assistance of God. The prayer we suggest for today's class is the following:

**“O my Lord! Make Thy beauty to be my food, and Thy presence my drink, and Thy pleasure my hope, and praise of Thee my action, and remembrance of Thee my companion, and the power of Thy sovereignty my succorer, and Thy habitation my home, and my dwelling-place the seat Thou hast sanctified from the limitations imposed upon them who are shut out as by a veil from Thee. Thou art, verily, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Most Powerful.”**

After this prayer, and prayers recited by some of the students, you may direct your attention to helping the children memorize the prayer they have been working on for the last two lessons. Make sure this time that all the children have learned it.

The next activity starts by having the children sing the two songs they learned in the previous lessons. When you feel they have learned these songs well you may introduce today's song:

### Justice is the Way

Chorus:

C  
Justice is the way  
Dm  
To make a brighter day  
F G C  
When people are in need  
C  
Justice is the light  
Dm  
A light that's shining bright  
F G C  
Shining through good deeds

C Dm  
How often have we heard that 'Abdu'l-Bahá  
F G C  
Shared everything He had  
Dm  
He was content with less and led a simple life  
F G C  
So others would be glad

## Chorus

Justice is a little more than just being fair  
To be just we have to give  
Share what we have, share what we love  
Share the joy to live

To introduce the new quotation for memorization, you could ask some of the children to recite the two quotations they already know and then explain the following:

God loves justice. He is pleased with us when He sees us treating other people with fairness and justice. We must respect the rights of every human being and make sure we don't take away from anyone what they deserve. In order to help us be just, let us memorize this quotation of Bahá'u'lláh:

**“Tread ye the path of justice, for this, verily, is the straight path.”**

### Tread

1. Many leaves have fallen from the trees in the forest, covering the path. Fumiko walks through the forest. She treads the leaf-covered path.
2. Pedro likes to help all his friends play happily together. Pedro and his friends are very unified. Pedro treads the path of unity.

### Path

1. Luis has a donkey. He took it to graze in a meadow and left it alone. The donkey found the path home by itself.
2. There are two ways to go to school. Millie always likes to take the path that goes by her grandmother's house.

### Justice

1. Carlos was given crayons to hand out during class. There were ten crayons and five children. Carlos gave two crayons to each child. Carlos handed out the crayons with justice.
2. Anna has lots of water in her water well, but sometimes her neighbor's well runs dry. Anna never allows this neighbor to suffer and always makes her feel welcome to take water. Anna loves justice.

After the children learn the quotation and you talk with them about its meaning, you can tell them the following story about 'Abdu'l-Bahá that helps illustrate justice. In telling it you can emphasize the actions of 'Abdu'l-Bahá that show His quality of justice, and help the children see how they could follow His example.

*One day 'Abdu'l-Bahá wanted to go from Akká to Haifa. He went to take an inexpensive seat in a regular coach. The driver was surprised and must have asked himself why*

*'Abdu'l-Bahá was so frugal as to ride in this cheap coach. "Surely, Your Excellency would prefer to travel in a private carriage," he exclaimed. "No," replied the Master, and he travelled in the crowded coach all the way to Haifa. As He stepped down from the coach in Haifa a distressed fisherwoman came to Him and asked for His help. All day she had caught nothing and now had to return to her hungry family. 'Abdu'l-Bahá gave her a good sum of money, turned to the driver and said, "Why should I ride in luxury while so many are starving?"'*

The activity that follows the story can be the game "Sharing":

A car tire (or other low object) is placed on the ground. Then the children try to see how many of them can stand on it at the same time.

To end the class, each child is given drawing 3 to color.