

LESSON 9

Begin the class by reciting a prayer from memory, then ask some of the children to recite prayers. In this lesson, the children should finish learning the prayer they started to memorize in Lesson 4, so that they can dedicate the next class to reviewing the prayer. The other class activities are the following:

A. Songs (also including some of the previous songs):

Prefer Your Brother

Chorus:

F G C Am
It is a blessing to prefer your brother
F G C Am
This is a way to show you care
F G C Am
It is a blessing to prefer your sister
F G C G C
You are richer, the more you share

C G Am7 C
I am thirsty, I am thirsty
Dm G6 C Am7
but my brother, he comes first
F Em Dm C
so I offer him the water
Dm G C
that will quench his thirst

Chorus

I am hungry, I am hungry
and my sister, she is too
so I give her some of my food
that's what's best to do

B. Memorizing quotations:

God wants all of us to live happily. He wants us always to be looking for ways to serve others and bring them joy. In order to live in this way, we should not only wish for other people the good things we want for ourselves, we should wish even better things for them. Let us memorize the following quotation of Bahá'u'lláh:

“Blessed is he who preferreth his brother before himself.”¹⁷

Blessed

1. There is a well and a bucket but no way to use the bucket to get water. Amelia, using her intelligence, finds a rope to tie to the bucket, lowers the bucket, and gets water. Amelia's intelligence is a gift of God. God has blessed Amelia with intelligence.
2. Victor's family says prayers every morning in the living room of their home. The home of Victor's family is blessed

Prefers

1. John likes to eat chocolate and vanilla ice cream, but when he has to choose, he chooses vanilla. He prefers vanilla.
2. Anindo can go out and play, or go help her father in the garden. She decides to help her father in the garden. Anindo prefers to help her father.

C. Story:

'Abdu' l-Bahá preferred inexpensive clothes for himself. When he had extra clothes he always gave them away to others. One day He was going to entertain the Governor of Akká. His wife felt that His coat was not good enough for the occasion. Well ahead of time she went to the tailor and ordered a fine coat for 'Abdu' l-Bahá. She thought He surely would not notice that His old coat had been replaced; he desired, after all, only to be scrupulously clean. When the day of the governor's visit arrived, the new coat was laid out for 'Abdu' l-Bahá, but He went searching for His old one. He asked for His old coat, saying that the one laid out could not be His. His wife attempted to explain that because of the occasion she had bought him a new coat, but He would not accept it. He told her that for the price of this one coat they could buy five simple ones like He normally wore. He told her that there was no reason to spend so much money on a coat just for Him. If He needed a new one, they could send the expensive coat back to the tailor and order five ordinary coats for the same amount of money. "Then, you see, I shall not only have a new one, but I shall also have four to give to others!"

D. Game: "The Snail"

All the children line up holding hands. The children at one end of the line stand in place, while the others begin to walk around them. Little by little they wind themselves into a spiral to form a snail.

Variations:

- a. Those at one end begin to turn in a circle, winding the others up around them. (Be careful they don't step on each other's feet)
- b. Once the snail is formed, those in the middle can squat down and go under the legs of the others - with none of the children letting go of each other's hands.

E. Coloring: Drawing 9.