

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level K • Unit 10 • Week 3

THE GOLDEN RULE

OBJECTIVE:

Through the example of Abraham and Lot, along with a story about children at school, the students will learn about the "Golden Rule," which is to treat others as you want to be treated.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Say: I am going to tell you a story about Dinah Do Good and Selfish Sam. Dinah and Sam went to kindergarten and were in the same class. Selfish Sam always grabbed toys, didn't share, pushed children out of line, teased others and had no friends. Dinah Do Good shared toys, always was kind to the other children, never said anything bad about others and had lots of friends. One day Sam asked Dinah why he didn't have any friends like she did. Dinah said that she learned about the Golden Rule in Sabbath school and knew that she should treat others as she would like to be treated. She told Sam that if he would follow the Golden Rule he would have friends and be much happier.

Ask: Who can tell me what the Golden Rule is? [Be nice to others, share, etc.]

Say: Most of you have the right idea. Let's read about the Golden Rule in the Bible.

Do: Read Luke 6:31 "Treat others as you would like them to treat you" (New English Bible).

BIBLE LESSON:

Prepare: The lesson will be about Abraham and Lot from Genesis 13:5-18. Gather pictures which can be used on construction paper or a flannel board. The pictures should show two types of land. On one side of the paper or board place pictures which would look like a desert. On the other side of the board have trees, water, grass making a beautiful scene. Cut out pictures of two men and place them in the center of the two pictures.

Say: We are going to read about Abram, who later had his name changed to Abraham, and Lot and learn more about the Golden Rule. A long time ago there was a man called Abram, and he had a nephew named Lot. We can read about them in Genesis 13:5-18.

Do: Read from the Bible or from a Bible storybook.

Say: Abram and Lot had families, servants and many flocks and herds. Because there were so many animals, Abram's and Lot's men started fighting about where the animals could eat and drink. Abram did not want their men to fight or quarrel. Abram said that they should choose separate lands to dwell in.

Do: Show the poster or flannel board and talk about how the land looks different on each side.

Say: Abram followed God's ways, and he was not selfish. He told Lot to take the first choice of where to live.

Ask: Look at these pictures. See how one looks better than the other? Do you know which land Lot chose? [Because of talking about the Golden Rule, some might say he chose the land which is not as pretty as the other. Others might guess he chose the best land.]

Do: Read the rest of the story showing that Lot chose the land which looked well watered, was green and would be good for his animals.

Ask: Why did Abram and Lot need to live in different lands?

Say: That's right—it was crowded with too many animals, and that led to the men fighting.

Ask: Who chose the good land? [Lot.]

Why did Lot chose the good land?

Say: Lot was a bit selfish. He thought that land looked the best.

Ask: Did Abram practice the Golden Rule?

Say: Yes, Abram did. He didn't want the men to fight. He let Lot choose first and he accepted Lot's decision.

Ask: Do you think God was happy with Abram?

Say: God was very pleased with Abram and He spoke to him and told him that his family would become very large and have a great deal of land. Jesus told us that it is good to get along with people. A good way to do that is to follow the Golden Rule. God will be happy with you if you follow the Golden Rule.

Ask: What is the Golden Rule?

Say: Let's remember it together: Do unto others as you want them to do unto you. Or another way to put it: Treat others as you want to be treated.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Children will make a decorated plate to either hang on a wall or be a magnet for the refrigerator.

Supplies: Medium-sized paper plates (plain or decorated)
Ribbon
Gold wrapping paper
Luke 6:31 "Treat others as you would like them to treat you"
Magnets (available at hobby and craft stores)
Crayons

Do: Give each child a paper plate. The children can decorate the outer edge of the plate.

Make a hole in the top of the plate and attach a ribbon. Or have the children glue a small magnet on the back to make it into a refrigerator magnet.

Have the children cut out a circle which has been drawn on gold wrapping paper.

Have the children paste the scripture in the middle of the circle.

Music:

Sing to the tune of "Are You Sleeping?"

Are you living?
Are you living?
The Golden Rule?
The Golden Rule?
Helping, sharing, loving,
Helping, sharing, loving,
Pleasing God,
Pleasing God.

MEMORY VERSE:

Luke 6:31 "Treat others as you would like them to treat you" (New English Bible).

family activity

THE POINT:

Through the example of Abraham and Lot, along with a story about children at school, the students will understand the "Golden Rule," which is to treat others as you want to be treated.

ASK ME...

- What is the Golden Rule?
- Why did Abram's and Lot's men argue?
- What did Abram do that showed he lived by the Golden Rule?

FAMILY TOGETHER TIME:

Have your child talk about the Golden Rule and give an example of how they would like to be treated.

Discuss with your child people who live by the Golden Rule and the benefits of living that way.

If you have children in different levels of Sabbath School, you may ask each of them to give a summary of the lesson they learned.

MEMORY VERSE:

Luke 6:31 "Treat others as you would like them to treat you" (New English Bible).