

Lesson #13: Reliability

OPENING

Teacher: Instructs everyone to sit quietly, rest their arms in a position that they feel most comfortable and lower their faces to listen to the prayer. Explain when you pray, you have to show respect to God.

Recite opening prayer:

“I bear witness, O my God, that Thou hast created me to know Thee and to worship Thee. I testify, at this moment, to my powerlessness and to Thy might, to my poverty and to Thy wealth.

There is none other God but Thee, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting.”

- Ask the children if any of them know a prayer by heart that they could recite for the class.

Lesson: What is being Reliable mean?

When one is reliable, one is dependable. You can be trusted to do what you said you were going to do.

What would being reliable look like if...

- You promise your Mom to clean your room
- You do your homework when it is due
- You borrow your friend’s book and return it
- You told your sister you would share your candy with her and you remember to do it
- Your Dad tells you to put away your toys after school and you remember to clean up your toys
- Your friends need help with her homework and you make sure to call her
- Your Mom asks you to feed your dog at 5:00 and you remember to do it and don’t need to be reminded
- If your Mom asks you to work in the garden and you make sure you don’t forget to do it.
- If your Dad asks you to clear the dishes after dinner, you quickly get up and do it right now so you don’t forget.
- If your Mom tells you to do all of your homework and she doesn’t have time to check it, she can rely on you that you did it right.

Congratulations! You are practicing reliability when you...

- Keep your promises
- Follow up on things you said you were going to do
- Remind yourself not to forget jobs you were told to do
- Make sure you do what you are told
- If you are to make your bed every day, you do it every day.
- When asked to pick up toys from the floor, do an excellent job and not the bare minimum.

Keep trying! You need more practice when you...

- You don't keep your promises
- You're told to keep the noise down and you forget and get loud in the house
- You are supposed to clean your room and you just forget
- You forget to feed your pet
- You tell your friend you will meet them at recess and you don't show up
- You clean your room, you pick up all the toys but leave all the clothes on the floor

AFFIRMATION

I am reliable. I am trustworthy and you can depend on me to make good decisions. I set goals and persevere until my goals are won. I trust God that all will be well.

Memorizing quotations

Before introducing the next quotation for memorization, review previous quotes. Use Index Cards to help them memorize the quotes. To help us in our efforts to acquire reliability, let us memorize the following quotation:

“Truthfulness, uprightness and integrity are the attributes of the righteous and the hallmarks of the pure.”

Endure

1. Sarah does not lie. She is truthful.
2. Charlie always keeps his promises and is dependable. He has integrity.
3. Jack is honest and is known to be very helpful. He has an upright character.

Singing Time

My First Counsel is This

Love, Love, Love

Busy Hands

This Little Light of Mine

If You're Happy and You Know It (It's best to end with this uplifting song.)

Story

Someone tells the famous story of The Boy Who Cried Wolf. Explain what he did wrong. Describe how people believed him and relied on his warning of trouble.

Activity

- Everybody thinks of a time when they were reliable and acted in good faith. Give an example. Act it out.
- At the next class, what will you do to show you are reliable. Come to class and give a talk on what you did.

END CLASS:

Remind Children that the class was about Reliability. Ask them what the lesson means and give an example.

Someone says a closing prayer. Ask Children to settle down and bow their heads. Remind them that the quote talks about a pure heart.

**“He is God! O God my God! Bestow upon me a pure heart, like unto a pearl. -
‘Abdu’l-Bahá**