









FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
3	2	3	HOLINESS	Friends with God	3: God's friendship with us

Use the syllabus framework to complete above. Infants: 20 minutes; Juniors: 30 minutes; Middles & Seniors: 45 minutes
(Mod.= Module Number, Module Theme - in the heading, Module Title - uppercase in the cell, Lesson Num [NO. column] and Title)

							
Verbal V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Logical L	Spatial S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kinaesthetic K	Musical M	Intra - personal P1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inter - personal P2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natural N

Tick the appropriate box(es) above [copy this: ☒] for the modes of learning being used in this session.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, you have called me to love you with all that I am, heart, soul, mind, and strength. Today I'm reminded especially of the opportunity I have to love you. All praise be to you, O God. Amen.

Starter:

Friends circle. Invite children to sit in a circle and play a Friends Game. Each child can take a turn at saying another child's name and why he is a good friend. Encourage children to name children who have not been named yet. Children may need ideas of what to say, such as "you are kind, you listen to your parents, you smile, you helped me," etc. After playing the game for a little while so everyone gets called on, invite children to pray in that circle and thank Jesus for being their best friend.

Learning objectives:

To understand that that God created us and that He loves us and He wants to live in a personal relationship with us.

To experience that God's unconditional love is the source of friendship through positive relationships with other children.

Core Activities and Learning

1. The teacher will encourage children to recall what they have learn in previous sessions about friendship.

Then the teacher will explain children that God created us and that He loves us, He wants to live in a personal relationship with us. God's love for us is unconditional outpouring and overflowing of God's divine nature and that God's unconditional love is the source of friendship. Our respect and love for others comes from Him, and our acceptance and affirmation of others comes from Him too. It is the model for building meaningful friendships.

"Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. You are my friends if do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. " (John 15, 13-15)

The teacher will explain to the children why does Jesus call His apostles friends and how are friends of Jesus recognised. Jesus, like the true friends, speaks plainly and honestly with His disciples and through this plain speaking, acknowledges them as His friends. The disciples are Jesus' friends because He has spoken to them openly; He has made known to them everything that He has heard from the Father. Jesus' openness is a model of how we are to treat one another. His friendship is the model for human love and friendship.

2. The teacher will explain to children that friends obey out of love and an internal desire do what is good and right. Those who have this spirit of loving obedience are open to receive and understand the revelations of the Father.

The teacher will encourage a group discussion relating to listening to the parents and use this analogy to explain what it is to have a loving obedience towards God the Father. Then the teacher will tell children that as we become Jesus' friends, He will disclose His plans and purposes to us. He will share His thinking, His goals, and His motivations for doing things. As a result, we will come to know His heart and mind. We will hear the voice of God more clearly. Our thoughts will become more like His thoughts. We will carry out His purposes on earth as they are in heaven. He will express His love to us in new and fresh ways. Our intimate friendship with Christ will make us and our church grow in the love of God.

3. **Craft activity - Heart shapes collage.** Children will be invited to create a collage by using cut out heart shapes on which they written their names on the picture that illustrates the icon of Jesus welcoming the little children. The teacher will talk to the children throughout the activity emphasizing God's love for us

Resources:

Icon of Jesus Christ, Icon of the Holy Apostles, pictures that illustrate family scenes, pictures that illustrate children playing, picture that illustrate the icon Jesus welcomes the children, cut out heart shapes, pencils, glue

Review:

God's relationship with us is one of friendship and fatherhood. The is sealed in the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Follow Up:

Next week we will learn more about becoming a friend of God. How can we become better friends of God?