

CHARACTER BASED CURRICULUM

OBEDIENCE

LESSON OBJECTIVES

1. To help students understand the meaning of obedience and the importance of respecting authority figure, laws and regulations
2. To help students understand that obedience is a choice and there is either rewards of obedience or consequences of disobedience; depending on the choices made
3. To share with students about obedience to God, obedience to parents/elders/family, obedience to teachers and officers as well as obedience laws, regulations and community

MEANING OF OBEDIENCE

1. Dutifully carry out commands, orders or instructions of those in authority and responsible for us. Obedience is the act or practice of being obedient.
2. Children must be taught that obedience is:
 - a. No complaining, No arguing,
 - b. Act immediately with a cheerful heart though they may not like the tasks given
 - c. Respond with a verbal commitment and completes tasks given accordingly
 - d. To report back to say they have completed what was expected of them and that they have the opportunity to go the extra mile.

MODULE 2: OBEDIENCE TO MY PARENTS AND FAMILY

LEARNING GOALS

- Children would be aware of the importance of obeying their parents and embrace discipline as an expression of care / love
- To help them understand that Gods wants them to obey their parents and it's a way they show their obedience to God

Be sensitive to those who come from broken homes, have abusive parents, live with one parent or guardians. Pray for wisdom, right choice of words and God's healing to flow through)

TEACHING IDEAS

- **The Obedience Game**
 - Create an empty space in the room with 2 lanes like a highway.
 - Indicate the lanes, the beginning and finishing points with masking or duct tape
 - On the outside of the marked lanes, place some medium-size lego block or empty boxes and put a pack of snack or a can of soft drink at the finishing line
 - Keep the children out of the room so that they do not see what's going to happen. Ask them to off their shoes and socks before they enter the room
 - Blind-fold the first child and tell him/her that this game is about obedience. Tell her that if he/she obey your instructions, everything will go well
 - Now coach the blind-folded children along the line, one step at a time
 - Half way through, say, `Let's see what happens if you disobey my instructions. Tell them that they are to disobey your instructions while you coach them along – try to coach them close to the side of the marked boundary so that they will step out of the line
 - They will stumble upon or hit the lego blocks or empty boxes when they wander outside of the lanes – OUCH!

- Explain that pain is the natural consequence of disobedience. Now coach them back into the lanes and to the finishing point.
- Take off their blind fold at the finishing point and let them have the snack or drink. Explain to them that obedience brings positive results / rewards.

▪ **Don't Tell Me What To Do!**

- Mark a circle of about 3ft diameter or use a large hula hoop to indicate the circle
- Prepare squirt gun or plastic spray with water. Alternatively, you may use books, newspapers or magazines as tools
- Invite a child to come up to the front of the room. Ask him/her to stand inside the circle and say, obedience keeps us out of danger. Moving outside the circle is disobedience and will bring danger
- Tell your story while the child is staying inside the circle. Ask them to move outside of the circle as the character in story disobeys his/her parents.

Ensure that you pick children who would not be upset by getting a little wet.

▪ **Tell The Story!**

- Cathy does not like her Mandarin class and it just seems to hard to understand what was taught. She will try to avoid Mandarin class whenever she can. However, her parents have clearly lay down the house rule that she must finished her Mandarin homework before she can log on to her face book.
- One afternoon after school, Cathy's friend, Minzy came over to her house and instead of completing her Mandarin homework, Cathy spend hours on face book together with Minzy. *(Ask the children, should Cathy stay inside or outside of the circle? Cathy will stand outside of the circle and gets wet).*
- Later in the night, Cathy lied to her parents that she has no homework for the day. She informed that her Mandarin class teacher did not turn up in school. *(Ask the children, should Cathy stay inside or outside of the circle? Cathy will stand outside of the circle and gets wet).* Cathy was reprimanded by her Mandarin class teacher when she did not hand in her homework. The teacher called her parents immediately.
- Ask the children: *What do you think might happen next?* Let the children share their thoughts. Some possible answer – Cathy will be scolded by her parents, Cathy will eventually get bad grade for her Mandarin, etc. You may give Cathy a little squirt from the water after each answer. Be sensitive and watch how the child in the middle reacts.
- Then you may say: These are some terrible consequences for not obeying our parents. Ask the children, what can Cathy do now? As they share with you the right choice, move the child back inside the circle.
- Alternatively, you may end the story by - Cathy felt sorry for lying to her parents. She asked her parents to forgive her and promised that she will not lie again. *(Ask the children, should Cathy stay inside or outside of the circle? Cathy will stand inside of the circle again)*

LESSON PLANS REVIEW / GAME DEBRIEF

- Divide the children into groups of 4-6 members and let them share on the following:
 1. What do you think it means to obey your parents?
 2. Is obeying our parents hard to do some times? Why and why not?
 3. What are some of the ways you can obey your parents?

Let them share their discussion and you may wrap up with **Ephesians 6:1-3: Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.**

Closing:

- Obedience can be hard. Pray together and ask God to help you in areas where you struggle with obedience. Thank Him for guiding us in how we are to live our lives.

LIFE APPLICATION**Reflection Time**

- Go through a simple reflection session with the members on areas they have obeyed their parents and members in the family as well as areas they have failed to obey.
- You may share your struggles in obedience on these areas when you were young or even at this moment
- You can share with the members how Jesus obeyed His parents (Luke 2: 41-52) and lessons we can learn from him

SUGGESTED ASSESSMENT**▪ OPTION 1: I PROMISE CARD**

- Members can do a 'I Promise Card' stating how they can obey their parents over a period of time. For example; I will diligently clean up my room every day, I will diligently complete my school work daily, etc.

▪ OPTION 2: HOW AM I DOING?

- Members can keep a record of areas where they fail to obey their parents on a daily basis for a period of time, maybe for 3 months. In this exercise, members will also record down how they have overcome or what they have done to overcome their failure to obey their parents.