

# THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY

## CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON (Pre-K&K)

### Misc. Lesson #3

**DATE:**

**SUBJECT:** What is a friend? How to be the right kind of friend.

**SCRIPTURE:** Gen. 2:18, Prov. 17:17a, 27:10a, 18:24a, Matt. 22:39b

**AIM:** To show the children what a friend is and to help them to see how to be a good friend.

**MEMORY VERSES:** Prov. 17:17a "A friend loveth at all times..."

**Songs :** 19, 114

**CONTENT:**

I am sure you all have a friend. That means you are also someone's friend. What is a friend? A friend is someone we spend time with and play with and talk to. A long time ago after God created Adam, God knew Adam needed someone to keep him company. So God created Eve and Adam had a friend; someone to talk to and do things with. The Bible tells us "...It is not good for man to be alone..."

Do any of you remember the story of creation? (Try and have the children come up with the sequence of creation.) Even though Adam had all kinds of animals and birds and fish to talk to, Adam needed another person to talk to. It's kind of hard to laugh and sing with a dog or bird. But it's easy to laugh and sing with a boy or girl your own age.

A friend is even a little different than having a brother or sister. We can't choose a brother or sister but we do choose our friends. We usually choose friends who are a little like ourselves. Many times friends like to do the same kind of things. It's fun to have friends to be with. Today we are going to see how to be a good friend.

What do you think a good friend is? How do you treat your friends? How do you like your friends to treat you? (Give the children time to answer these questions. Try and have some of them relate their experiences in dealing with their friends.) The Bible tells us "...Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Suppose you had a friend named Mary and you were outside playing house. After a while Mary got hungry and she went home and brought some cookies out to eat. What do you think Mary should do with those cookies? If she were a good friend, she'd share them. Right? I'm sure if you were playing with Mary and she didn't share the cookies you'd get upset. You might even go home and not want to play with her anymore. And if this was how Mary played all the time I'm sure you wouldn't want to play with her very often.

Let's look at this another way. If Mary came back with two cookies for herself and two cookies for you wouldn't you keep on playing together? There would be no reason to be upset and go home. You should share with one another. You like it when someone shares with you. Friends share.

Another way to be a good friend is to be kind and caring towards one another. This year we had a Bible story that showed a lot of caring. It was the story of Ruth and Naomi. Do you remember the story? (Try and give the children some hints about the story to help them remember.) Naomi wanted

Ruth to go back to her people after Ruth's husband, Naomi's son died. But Ruth would not go. She decided to take care of Naomi. She told Naomi that she would follow her and take care of her and she did. She followed Naomi to Bethlehem and worked very hard in order to help Naomi. In the end Ruth was rewarded for her kindness towards Naomi.

Ruth gave up a lot and worked hard to care for Naomi. You don't have to do such a big thing to care for your friends. Little things are important too. Maybe your friend didn't come to the children's meeting today. Maybe he or she was sick. You could call them up when you get home and ask how they are feeling. You could let them know that you missed them. (At this point it might be good to relate an experience of your own. Either how someone cared for you at one point or something that you did for someone.)

Have the children answer yes or no to the following:

1. A good friend share their toys.
  2. A good friend says "I'm not going to be your friend anymore"
  3. A good friend prays for their friends.
  4. A good friend gets angry if their friend has something they want.
- (You can add anymore that you can think of.)

**Craft:**

Bring in old magazines and have the children cut out pictures of friends doing things together or pictures of things that friends can share. Have them make a collage out of them.