

TOPIC: PREJUDICE

OBJECTIVE: to help the realize that Christian love must embrace everyone.

MATERIALS: White Address Labels and markers

ACTIVITY: Write on the labels for each student the following:

IGNORE ME

TELL ME I'M STUPID

AGREE WITH ME

TELL ME I'M GREAT

DISAGREE WITH ME

TELL ME I'M A KNOW-IT-ALL

TELL ME I'M RIGHT

LAUGH AT ME

TELL ME I'M WRONG

(Feel free to add your own.)

Place a label on each students forehead. Do not let them see their label! If your class is large enough, separate the class into discussion groups. If not, one group is fine. Give the group(s) a controversial topic for discussion (school, sex, a recent newspaper headline). Instruct the students to react to each other by the label on their heads. Allow the discussion to go on for about 7 -10 minutes. Have the students try and guess what their labels say by the way they are treated. Bring the groups back together and discuss..

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How did you feel being_____? (Ignored, agreed with, told your stupid, etc.) Why?
2. Have you ever intentionally made someone feel bad? When? Why?
3. How do we *label* people? (Fagots, creeps, weirdos, etc.)
4. Why do we *label* people who are different?
5. How do you feel when someone calls you a name? Why?
6. How do you feel when you call someone a name? Why?
7. Have you ever apologized for mistreating someone? When? Would you ever?
9. Would you defend someone that your friend was putting down? Why? Why not?
10. Has anyone ever stood up for you? When? How did you feel?
11. How does putting someone else down make you feel better about yourself? Why? Why not?
12. What are some positive ways you can enhance your self-esteem?

SUGGESTED READING: The Letter to James 2:1-9

Do not let class distinction enter into your faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, well-dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say, "Come this way to the best seats"; then you tell the poor man, "Stand over there" or "You can sit on the floor by my foot-rest." In making this distinction among yourselves have you not used a corrupt standard?

Listen, it was those who were poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be the heirs to the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him. You, on the other hand, have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who lord it over you? Are not they the ones who drag you into court, who insult the honorable name which has been pronounced over you? Well, the right thing to do is to keep the supreme law of Scripture: *you will love your neighbor as yourself*, but as soon as you make class distinctions, you are committing sin and under condemnation for breaking the Law.