

Circle of Friends

TOPIC: *Differences*

SCRIPTURE: *Romans 14:1; 1 John 4:20-21*

SUPPLIES: *masking tape or chalk*

Have youth form two teams. Have one team stand in the middle of the room and bunch up together as close as possible. Make a circle on the floor with the masking tape or chalk, about twelve inches wider than the group itself. Have the other team stand outside the circle.

When you say "go," the team on the outside should try to pull the members of the team on the inside out of the circle. They can do anything except step inside the circle or hurt someone. Those on the inside may do anything to stay where they are, except hurt someone. After the first round, have the teams switch places and play again.

After both teams have tried being on the inside and the outside of the circle, explain that the next phase is to get everyone inside the circle. They may do this by any means—such as stacking on top of each other or one person lying across the arms of others. All persons on both teams must be completely inside the circle.

DISCUSSION

- Which was more fun—trying to get people outside the circle or trying to get everyone inside? Why?
- Why does our society tend to break people into groups and exclude others?
- What does it take to break into the cliques in your school? What does it take to be pushed out?
- How can we celebrate people's differences rather than alienate others?