

**SOCIAL AWARENESS
11 GRADE**

LESSON I

TOPIC: NO MAN IS AN ISLAND

"No man is an island, entirely of himself. Everyman is a piece of the continent, a part of the main."

John Donne

OBJECTIVE: To help the students realize that they each have an important role to play in society and that no one can go it alone but all must work together to create a functioning world.

MATERIALS: Blackboard with colored chalk or poster board and markers or poster board and magazines for a collage. (**TEACHER OPTION:** If you do not have a class that will use them as weapons, you can also use pingpong balls and markers .)

ACTIVITY: Have each student create his/her own planet. This can be done by letting them draw on the blackboard or poster board, or by creating a collage. The choice depends on the type of student you have and/or the classroom setting you are in. This class can cover two sessions, so you might prefer to use poster board so that the planets can be used again in LESSON II.

Ask the students to make a list of 10 people that they would like to accompany them to their planet and start their new world. This activity should take about 15-30 minutes, depending on the size of the class.

Put posters around the classroom and ask each student to explain their planet.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Who did you bring with you? Why?
2. Who will supply your basic services? Food, garbage disposal, medical care, building materials, etc?
3. Who can visit your planet? Why?
4. Who can't visit your planet? Why?
5. What are the restrictions of your planet? Why?

SUGGESTED READING: Genesis: 1:1-13

In the beginning God created heaven and earth...

God said, "Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and fruit trees on earth, bearing fruit with their seed inside, each corresponding to its own species." And so it was. The earth produced vegetation: the various kinds of seed-bearing plants and the fruit trees with seed inside, each corresponding to its own species. God saw that it was good. Evening came and morning came: the third day.

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LESSON II

OBJECTIVE: to help the students to realize the need for laws in society and to recognize the difference between the letter and the spirit of the law (what the law says versus what the law means.)

BACKGROUND READING FOR TEACHER: Exodus, Chapters 21-23, The Book of the Covenant.

MATERIALS: Bibles which include the Old Testament, paper and pencils or black board and chalk.

ACTIVITIES:

I. Have the students write five (5) laws for their planet on paper or the black board. Have them use Exodus , The Book of the Covenant, for inspiration. Example:
"Homicide: Anyone who by violence causes a death must be put to death. If, however he has not planned to do it but it comes from God by his hand, he can take refuge in a place which I shall appoint for you."

Have them discuss their laws.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How difficult/easy was this process? Why?
2. Are 5 laws too many? Too few? Why?
3. Do you think your laws are just? Why? Why not?
4. Do you think the other students laws are just? Why? Why not?
5. How will this benefit your planet? Harm your planet?

II. Have the students decide punishments for crimes against these laws. Discuss their punishments.

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Do you think that your punishments fit the crime? How?
2. Do you think your or others punishments were just? Too harsh? Too lenient?
3. Who will administer the punishment on your planet?
4. Should all laws be obeyed? What if they are unjust?
5. What laws in our country do you think are unjust? Why? Why not?
6. Do you think that the law is applied equally to all people in our country? Why? Why not?
7. Do you think that punishments are just in our country? Why? Why not?

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LESSON II *continued*

SUGGESTED READING: Matthew 22:36-40

"Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?" Jesus said to him, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets too."