

Wisdom and Skills

Aim: To show that, to live as people who are growing in wisdom, we need to remember that our words should only be used to show love and compassion to others.

Gathering:

Light candle & say: (Say together words in bold)

Our wise God is with us as we worship/**Thanks be to him**

Sing: An appropriate song would be 'The wise man built his house upon the rock'

Engaging:

1. Ask for 2 volunteers. Give one the banana and bowl and the other the toothpaste. Ask the person with the banana to break up the banana and put it into the bowl. Ask the person with the toothpaste to draw a picture using the toothpaste on the piece of paper. (suggest they draw something simple like a house). The piece of paper will need to be displayed so everyone can see it.
2. After a few seconds tell the person with the banana to put the banana back in the skin so it can be eaten later. Tell the person drawing with toothpaste to put the toothpaste back in the tube so you have some to clean your teeth with tonight. (You could encourage the chaos by asking another child to come out and try to help!).
3. Talk about how impossible it is for the banana to go back in its skin and the toothpaste to go back in the tube once they have come out. However hard you try, it cannot be done.
4. In the Bible James wrote something very important. 'Think about how easy it is for a forest to be set on fire by a small spark. The tongue can be like that too. A careless or wrong word to someone can hurt them forever'. If we say something unkind to someone, calling them a nasty name, saying something about how they look or where they live, they might forgive us if we say sorry but they will always know what we said and sometimes those words can stay with a person for their whole life. (It might be appropriate to make a link to bullying)
5. The Bible tells us that we should try to be wise people. One way we can show we are wise people is to think carefully before we speak to make sure we are not saying anything hurtful to anybody else. To make sure that all the words we say are kind, helpful words that only make people feel better for being with us. Saying words like 'I care about you' is much wiser than saying 'I hate you'. Saying 'Will you be my friend?' is much wiser than saying 'Go away I don't want to play with you'.

Responding

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we ask today that you will give us wisdom to say words to people that only make them feel good and happy because that is what we want for ourselves too. Help us to grow as wise people so that in everything we say people will know it is you speaking through us. Amen

Sending

Challenge everyone to make an effort today to say at least 3 things to different people that will make those people feel really good. e.g saying 'thankyou' for a lovely meal.

Resources needed:

- A banana and a bowl
- Tube of toothpaste
- You may need something to cover the floor under the paper!
- Large sheet of paper pinned up so everyone can see it

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