

LESSON PLAN

Lesson Number: 124

Grade Level: 4-6

Date:

Title: **SOMEONE TO CARE**

Text/Story: **Isa 35:3-4; John 13:34-35; 15:12-17**

Main idea: **Christians need to have compassion and caring concern for those who are spiritually weak.**

Key Verse: **Rom 15:1**

Time	Activity	Description
	Pre-Lesson Graffiti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials: large poster paper/white board/butcher paper, markers At the top of the paper/board write "Love is..." Provide students markers and have them write their thoughts on the paper/board attached to the wall; encourage phrases, not just one word answers Discuss their responses and highlight any action words that might appear and use them to launch into the lesson on how we 'love' one another
	Lesson List John 13:34, 35; 15:12-17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read the scripture passages as a class and explain key words i.e., commandment, love, disciples, etc. On the chalk board, overhead, or white board, write at the top "How do we love one another?" If time permits, break class into groups and have them list down some ideas on a slip of paper (e.g., visit the sick, encourage, help, cheer up, give, etc.) Make a list of these ideas as a class on the board/overhead
	Post-Lesson 1 Posters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials: catalogues, magazine pictures, glue, scissors, markers, poster paper Students to design a poster in groups using pictures from magazines/catalogues; then write a message about Jesus' new commandment Display these posters around the room
	Post-Lesson 2 Letter Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Materials: writing paper, envelopes, stamps Each student to have a sheet of writing paper, an envelope and a stamp Ask the students to take these letter writing materials home and during the week must write you a letter about what they've learned during the lesson Option: Offer a treat or reward if you receive their letters

WHO IS MY NEIGHBOUR?



Below are some situations that might happen to you. Read each statement and on the lines below, write down what you would do and why.

1. Your bossy sister who tattled on you last week and got you in trouble needs you to help her get her science project to school.

2. A senior lady at church needs someone to help with her yard work. She can't afford to pay any money.

3. You notice that the dog down the street is digging up your rude and cranky next-door neighbour's vegetable garden .

4. The pastor announced that a family in India needs to be sponsored. Your Sunday school teacher wants the class to get involved.

5. The kid who always made fun of you in class just fell off his bike and is hurt and no one is around but you.

LESSON PLAN

TITLE: Someone to Care/Encouraging the Spiritually Weak

TEXT: Isaiah 35:3-4; John 13:34,35; 15:12-17

MAIN IDEA: As Christians, it is important for us to encourage each other. We need to develop extra care and compassion for those who are weak spiritually.

OPENER:

- Have two of your students play a game of tug-o'-war or arm wrestle. When one student loses, have a stronger student join his/her team and help him/her to win.
- Read Galatians 6:2 and Ecclesiastes 4:9-10. Then ask one of your students to carry an extremely heavy box from one place to another in your classroom. When the student finds that it is too heavy, add another helper. Keep adding students until they are able to carry the box to the designated place.
- Make your class time into a pairs event. As students enter the room, give each one half of a two-part puzzle. (Cut shapes out of construction paper, then cut them in half in unusual ways) The person who has the other half of their puzzle is their partner for the rest of the class time. All activities for the day can be done in pairs. For activity ideas see **Pairs Page**.

LESSON:

Skit: (see "**Sadie's Dilemma**) This skit can be used in two different ways. Either arrange ahead for a small group to present the skit to your class, or assign the parts to the students in your class, and read it aloud. After the skit, pass out the **discussion sheet** and give the students a few moments to jot down a few answers or ideas about it. Then, use the sheet to open up a discussion in class about how we can encourage others.

APPLICATION:

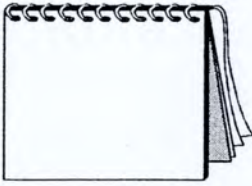
- Skit discussion sheet (see above)
- Ask the students to think of someone who needs some encouragement. Have them write down on a 3 by 5 card one way in which they could encourage that person this week. Cards should be for their eyes only.
- Bring in several objects. (for example pictures, dolls, etc.) Ask the students to think of positive ways to describe these items. Explain to the students that it is easier to encourage others when you make an effort to see the best side of them.



PAIRS PAGE

The following are a few ideas that can be used if you choose to divide your class into pairs for the day.

1. Give each pair a puzzle or brain teaser to do together. Most likely, one member of the pair will be more proficient at doing brain teasers than the other. If so, the stronger team member will help the weaker, and illustrate the lesson.
2. If you use the skit idea, have one member of each team read the part, while the other team member acts it out.
3. Give one member of each pair a task to do. The second member must figure out how to help his/her other half. (*simple task ideas: Measure the length of the room, fold a king size sheet, hang a ten-foot banner, etc.*)
4. Ask each pair to think of someone that they can encourage, and come up with a creative way to do it together. (*Ideas: bake cookies and go to visit someone who is ill or elderly and can not leave their home, Make a miss-you card for an absent student, make an appreciation banner for the pastor or department head, etc.*)



SADIE'S DILEMMA

Characters:

Sadie - A new Christian, has only been saved for a few weeks.

Mark - A classmate who does not do well in math

David - A classmate who is a Christian

Anna - Sadie's school friend who also attends Sadie's church

Teresa - A school friend of Sadie's, she is a Christian and she invited Sadie to the church where Sadie came to know Jesus.

Mrs. Torrez - their math teacher.

Narrator (use only if you are reading this in class instead of acting it out. The narrator can read stage directions, etc.)

A NOTE ABOUT PROPS: Props for this skit should be kept very simple. For the classroom scene you might just want to set out a few chairs. To change over to the lunch room, add a table. For the scene at Sadie's house, take away all but two of the chairs and add a lamp to the table. Have the students carry books, and lunch bags.

Scene 1

(It is the end of math class, and Mrs. Torrez is returning yesterday's corrected homework.)

Mrs. Torrez: *(Speaks while passing out papers)* Most of you could have worked a little harder on the assignment yesterday. I marked corrections on your papers in red. Please go over them. They will help you on the exam tomorrow. *(hands Sadie her paper)* Sadie, this is excellent work! There was not a single mistake in the whole assignment. If everyone in this class was as careful with their work as Sadie is, I'd be able to give everyone A's.

Anna: *(sarcastically)* I guess we're not all as perfect as Sadie, Mrs. Torrez.

Mrs. Torrez: *(Ignores Anna, and hands out the rest of the papers, except Marks.)* Class dismissed.
Mark, please come talk to me for a minute.

(The class shuffles out, talking among themselves. Mark and Mrs. Torrez stay at the front of the class.)

Mrs. Torrez: Mark, I kept your paper because it really needs some extra work. From looking at what you did here, it seems to me that you don't really understand these concepts. Why don't you come in after school today and I'll help you to study for the exam.

Mark: I can't come in today or I'll miss football practice. Coach Saunders would be pretty mad at me if I missed. You know he's counting on me to win the game on Friday. I mean the team would be totally dead if I wasn't such an incredible football player.

Mrs. Torrez: O.K Mark, but remember, you need to get some help before you take the exam. If you fail this class your grades will not be high enough for you to be eligible for football. At least try to get some extra study time in tonight after practice.

Mark: I'll do something about it Mrs. Torrez.
(The two leave the classroom.)

Scene II

(The students are eating lunch in the lunch room. Sadie is eating with Anna and David. Everyone else is in small groups around the stage.)

Mark: *(going over to talk to Sadie and Anna)* Well, thanks to Mrs. Torrez, I know who I'm sitting behind during tomorrow's math test. Sadie, you'd better keep your paper uncovered if you know what's good for you. *(He stalks away.)*

Anna: Yeah Sadie, I think I'll sit next to you myself.

Sadie: I don't think that would be a good idea. You and I both know that cheating is wrong. We just talked about it in Sunday school a couple of weeks ago, remember?

Anna: Now Sadie, you don't really believe all of that stuff they tell us at Sunday School do you? The Bible also says to "Love Your Neighbor." If you really love me like a Christian is supposed to you'll help me to pass the math test tomorrow.

David: Anna, leave Sadie alone. You don't need to cheat off of anyone to pass the math exam. Besides, loving your neighbors doesn't mean helping them to cheat.

(The bell rings. The students leave the lunch room.)

Scene III

(Sadie and Teresa are at Sadie's house after school.)

Sadie: I'm so glad you could come over today, Teresa. I really need to talk to someone about what happened at school today. I just don't know what to do.

Teresa: What happened? Tell me about it.

Sadie: Remember in Math this morning when Mrs. Torrez made a comment about my paper? Well, she kept Mark after class. I guess he isn't doing so well in that class, and she told him he needs to get some extra help. He told me at lunch today that he is going to sit behind me during the exam, and I'd better keep my paper uncovered. Then Anna said she wants to cheat off me too. I know cheating is wrong, but I don't know what to do to get out of this without getting Mark and Anna into trouble.

Teresa: To tell you the truth Sadie, it sounds to me like you are in a pretty difficult situation. I don't know what to do right now either, but I do know the One who does. I want you to know Sadie, that I don't care what Mark and Anna do, I will be your friend no matter what happens. Why don't we pray together and ask Jesus to show you what to do, and to show me how I can help.

Sadie: I'd like that.

(Teresa prays aloud for the two girls, Sadie thanks her, then they leave.)

THE END

Worksheet For:

SADIE'S DILEMMA

Discussion Questions

Take a few minutes to think about the following questions. Write down a few notes about what you think, and be prepared to discuss your answers with the rest of the class.

1. Which character in the story was the best encourager? What did he/she do to help Sadie?

2. If you were David, what else would have you said to Anna?

4. If you were Mark, what could you have you done instead of telling Sadie you were going to cheat off of her paper?

5. What could Anna have done to encourage Sadie? Is Anna's attitude Christ-like? Why or why not?

6. If you were Sadie, how would you feel in each scene?
Scene 1:

Scene 2:

Scene 3:

Write your own ending

What do you think might happen later that evening, or on the day of the exam? In the space below, write your own ending to the skit. Think about what you would do if you were Sadie, and how God might have decided to deal with each character after Teresa prayed.

