

Discussion Ideas



Choose strategies from the list below to facilitate group discussion.

Connecting Activity

Ask each person to share a time someone was kind to them when others were not. How did it make them feel?

Discussion Questions

1. How do Jacob and Thomas respond to Joseph? Why do you think they respond that way?
 - *Lack of knowledge, understanding; fear.*
2. How does Juma respond to Joseph? Why does he respond that way?
 - *Responds with kindness; he lives by the Golden Rule.*
3. What is the Golden Rule?
 - *Treat others as you want to be treated.*
4. ► How do you see Riziki's character grow in this story?
 - *She begins to practice the Golden Rule.*
5. ► Think of the example of Jesus. What character traits do you see in his life? How did he demonstrate the Golden Rule?
 - *Kindness, humility, honesty, generosity, serving, etc.; he cared for and touched the sick.*
6. ► Think of someone you know who is walking a hard road right now. What is one specific thing you could do to be a light to this person in the next week?
 - *Show kindness; serve or help in some practical way.*

Personal Growth Activity

Encourage one of your friends or family members (someone outside of the discussion group) by telling them how much you appreciate a particular character trait in his or her life.

☞ Spiritual Application

Read Matthew 22:36-38. Then ask: Why would Jesus call these the greatest commandments? How, practically, can you follow these commandments in your own life?

☞ Prayer Point

Ask God to grow each person in their love for Him and for one another. Thank him for the example of Jesus and pray that they become brighter lights to people walking hard roads.

☞ Encouragement

Remind group members that they can shine light into someone else’s life, even today. Encourage them to be lights for one another. You might also share how someone in the group has been a light, an encouragement, to you through something they have said or done. Consider reading part of Grandma’s Wisdom to close the group time.

Grandma’s Wisdom

Dear children, do you know someone who is walking on a hard road in their lives? Are they sick? Have they lost someone close to them? Or are they just having a hard time with work or school? You can be a light to them, just as Jesus was the Light. He said “whatever you want people to do for you, you do for them...” How can you be a light when there is so much darkness? By treating others the way you would want to be treated. You can help them if they need it, and just show them that you want to be their friend. It takes courage to follow the Golden Rule. But it will help people along their hard roads, and you will find it will make your life a little brighter, too!

