

## **Topic: Proper Humanity – Not Comparing (Being Content)**

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

### **Elementary:**

Verse: “A greedy person stirs up contention, but he who trusts in Jehovah will prosper” (Proverbs 28:25).

Focus: We should not compare ourselves with others or what others have with what we have. If we compare, we could become greedy, wanting what others have; we will complain rather than being grateful for what we have.

Practical Application: Bring two different kinds of snack for the children. Hand out one snack to all the children and have them give thanks to the Lord for the snack. Wait a few minutes then hand out the other snack to just a few children. After the children who didn't get the 2<sup>nd</sup> snack complain, point out that they were thankful for their snack, but after they compared what they had with others it caused them to complain and be greedy.

### **Intermediate:**

Verse: “For we do not dare to class or compare ourselves with any of those who commend themselves...” (2 Corinthians 10:12).

Focus: We should not compare the things that we can do with the things that others can do. God has made us all with different capabilities. We should always do the best we can according to our ability and not compare ourselves with what others can do.

Practical Application: Make a sign for each child and on each sign write a different human capability (eg. smart, strong, athletic, creative, ...). Hand out a sign to each of the children and observe their reaction. Ask the children to compare their capability with the other children's capability. Now ask them who thinks their capability is the best (proud) and who wishes they had someone else's capability (disappointed)?

### **Advanced:**

Verses: (Choose one.) “Not that I speak according to lack, for I have learned, in whatever circumstances I am, to be content” (Philippians 4:11).

“But we will not boast beyond our measure but according to the rule which the God of measure has apportioned to us, to reach even as far as you” (2 Corinthians 10:13).

Focus: The main reason why we would compare with others is because we are not content with what we have. God has measured all things to us. What we have and what we can do is according to God's rule (measure). We should be content with what God has given us.

Practical Application: Ask the children what happens when they compare their house, car, clothes, etc., with the house, car, and clothes of other children. Many times, comparing causes us to be jealous of others or to despise our parents and the things we have. To be jealous and to despise others is not to be a proper person. We should be content with what God has given us.