

## **Topic: Proper Humanity - Welcoming**

### **Elementary:**

Verse: "And when we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers welcomed us gladly" (Acts 21:17).

Focus: When people visit us we should welcome them gladly.

Practical Application: Consider the story in Acts 28:7. Sometimes your parents will invite people to your house to visit. What is your attitude when people come to your house? Do you continue playing or reading when they arrive? Do you hide? We should welcome people with a friendly smile and say hello. Have the children talk about different ways they might welcome someone gladly and warmly.

### **Intermediate:**

Verse: "And taking them aside, He withdrew privately into a city called Bethsaida. But the crowds found out and followed Him, and He welcomed them and spoke to them" (Luke 9:10b-11).

Focus: Sometimes people might visit us at an inconvenient time. We should welcome them and speak with them to show that we appreciate their visiting us.

Practical Application: Tell the story in Luke 9:10-11 concerning how Jesus went away to be alone and the crowds found Him. When the crowds found Him, Jesus did not speak to the crowds in an unfriendly way, but He welcomed them and spoke with them. What do you do if you and your friends are trying to play a game by yourselves and another child at your school finds you and wants to join in? Do you welcome him or her and speak in a friendly way?

### **Advanced:**

Verse: "And both the Pharisees and the scribes murmured among themselves, saying, this man welcomes sinners and eats with them" (Luke 15:2b).

Focus: It might be easy for us to welcome people whom we like or who are like us. In the church we should welcome all people including those who are not like us.

Practical Application: Ask the children to discuss what they think sinners look like. If a child from your school who is mean to other children comes to our children's meeting because he or she wants to know God, we should welcome him or her. In the Bible, Jesus welcomed sinners and ate with them, and the apostle Paul remained two whole years in his own rented dwelling and welcomed all those who came to him (Acts 28:30).