



THE GOSPEL PROJECT JR. Unit 31.3: No favoritism

Date: Sunday January 28, 2024 **Teachers:** Rachel A, (lead) Eunice H (co-lead), Caleb N

Props: ** from home: items cut out of flyers to tape to the white board **at centre:** activity sheet in the folder, people cards

Bible Passage: James 2:1-3 **Key Passage:** Galatians 2:20

Review Rules:

One Mouth speaking at a time (Teacher points to mouths/kids point to their mouths)

Two Hands kept to myself (kids wiggle hands and keep them to themselves)

Two Feet kept to myself (kids cross legs)

Speak Kind words like our God three in ONE!

INTRO BIBLE STORY: Rachel **"The price is right!"** **materials:** (bring in some items cut out of flyers and tape to the whiteboard)

Can you guess the prices of these items, the closest one to the item "wins" the item (take off and hand them the pic :)). These items all have a price tag, and that price tag determines how much each item is worth, the value in dollars of the item. Do you know that you have a price tag? Your price tag is not in dollars, it's based on the price that was paid for you, Jesus' life given for you on the cross. Isn't that amazing?! Our value isn't from anything we've done or will do, but it's given to us by Jesus and his love for us.

THE BIBLE STORY (VIDEO)

DISCUSSION VIDEO Eunice

Can you think of a time you were treated better than someone else? What about a time you were treated worse? Discuss with kids what favoritism looks like. Who in the video showed favoritism? How does favoritism dishonor God? Until Jesus returns and gets rid of all the sin in the world, we will never live in a world without any Favoritism. We want to show people the beautiful gospel of Jesus treating all people with the same value. James calls us to treat people with mercy because Jesus shows us mercy. It can be difficult to avoid showing favoritism. You may not get along well with some people. Some people may be mean to you. God still calls us to show love and respect to people we disagree with and people who are mean to us. God wants us to show love as Jesus showed love, even when it's hard.

ACTIVITY: "what is different?" **materials:** (activity sheet in folder) **Eunice**

Lead children to point to the item that is different in each row.

Good job deciding what was different! Did you know that God calls his people who trust in Jesus to live differently than people who do not trust in Jesus? Ask kids their favourite colour? Having a favorite colour or ice cream flavour is OK, but showing favoritism with people is not. Favoritism is treating some people better than other people.

KEY PASSAGE **"I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me, and gave Himself for me." Galatians 2:20 Eunice**

(point to themselves for I or me and point up for son of God and Himself)

We are the ones that Jesus loves- our obedience to God is because Jesus gave himself for us!

BIBLE STORY REVIEW AND QUIZ: Eunice (if it's true everyone stand up, if it's false everyone sit down)

1. Believers in Jesus live differently than people who do not believe? (true)
2. Favouritism is treating some people better than other people (true)
3. God has favourites. (False, God has a place in His family for everyone who loves Him.)
4. Obeying God if being kind to some people but unkind to others? (false)
5. Why show kindness to people who do not deserve it because God showed kindness to us when we did not deserve it (true)

ACTIVITY: "line up" Rachel

Guide the kids to line up in order based on different characteristics, such as age, alphabetically by first name, Height (play a few rounds). Although there can be good reasons to line up in a specific order we can learn things and organize things, but there is no first in the kingdom of God. God loves all people and Jesus came to rescue us all- we are all at the back of the line together. Our value isn't determined by how old we are, how tall we are, what language we speak, what colour our skin is, how much money we have. Our value is this: the one that Jesus loves and gave himself for! That is how much we are worth.

ACTIVITY: "Right and Wrong" materials: (red and green paper in bin) Rachel

Tape a sheet of red paper and a sheet of green paper on opposite walls. Explain to preschoolers that you will call out an action. If students think the action is good and right, they should move to the green paper. If they think the action is wrong, they should move to the red paper. Use the following actions or create your own:

Taking something that does not belong to you

Sharing your dessert with a friend

Saying you are sorry when you do something wrong

Pushing someone who is in your way

Saying "no" when a teacher asks you to do something

What about treating some people better than other people? [Allow preschoolers to move to a side.] That is called favoritism, and it is wrong. In today's Bible story, James wrote that people who believe in Jesus should not show favoritism. They should treat everyone the same.

ACTIVITY: "Favourites" materials: (construction paper in Large bin) Rachel

Write the letter A on a sheet of paper and the letter B on a second sheet of paper. Tape each sheet on opposite walls in your space. Read a series of statements, instructing kids to run to one side of the room or the other based on their favorite things. Kids should stay on a given side until a statement requires them to move.

Suggestions: (make up some of your own too)

- Run to A if your favorite color is blue.
- Run to B if your favorite food is pizza.
- Run to A if you like cats as pets.
- Run to B if your favorite movie is a cartoon.

It's OK to have favorite foods, colors, or movies. However, why it is not OK to play favorites with people? God has given us all the same value and Christ's life given for us on the cross- shows us our value! God wants us to treat everyone with love and respect, no matter what.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY: MUSICAL CHAIRS IF TIME

ACTIVITY/SNACK/CRAFT/ PLAYDOUGH/PUZZLES: (last 15-20 min divide time between craft/snack/activities