

August 2016

Relationship activity

Say: Relationships are very important!

Ask participants to hold out both hands. Ask them to think of an important relationship (such as a friend, husband or wife, parent, etc.) for each finger.

Say: Jesus knows how important relationships are. He gave an example for us. He showed us that knowing people is important to Him.

What can we learn?

(See p. 118.)

Prepare cards that say “What can we learn from _____?” Fill in the blank with one of the following:

- Nicodemus
- the Samaritan woman
- an officer from Galilee

Ask participants to form groups of three or four people. (If there are not enough people to form groups, everyone can work together.) Give each group a card. (Prepare enough cards so the groups can be small.) Allow time for people to talk about their question.

While groups are talking about their question, write these sentences on the board or a large paper:

- We should not let someone's social position keep us from telling him or her about Jesus.
- We are wrong to judge others by where they came from or how they look.
- We can use everyday things to tell people about God's kingdom.

Bring groups together to share what each group learned. Talk about more information from the Bible study article (pp. 117–118). Give special importance to the three sentences on the board.

Prayer cards

Write on cards these prayer needs from the Lenons:

- the need for more foster families
- the need for practical things like clothes
- *[Use the prayer requests listed on p. 120.]*

Invite participants to pray in groups. Also ask them to take a prayer card home to remember to pray for a need.

Christmas in August skit

In advance, plan for two people to enter suddenly into the room at the end of the meeting. They should wear Christmas sweaters and carry red and green gift bags, ribbons, boxes, and wrapping paper.

A leader says to them, "Excuse me. This is *August*, not December!"

Then the two people give information about Christmas in August[®] (p. 122). They tell how everyone can take part.
