Religious Studies- Grade 5

Love and Forgiveness

Curriculum Notes

Please read the curriculum notes carefully. Make sure study the information for any upcoming quizzes or exams.

Love and forgiveness go hand in hand; when you love someone, you also have to forgive their trespasses. It is very important to demonstrate love and forgiveness within the family structure. Families become stronger and more united when love is expressed and forgiveness is freely demonstrated.

Unforgiveness results in bitterness and this can affect individuals both mentally and physically. It can cause stress, conflict and even severed relationships. It may be difficult to forgive a family member, but once you forgive them you eventually feel better.

The story of Joseph is an excellent example of how forgiveness can bring about reconciliation within the family. Joseph was betrayed by his brothers and sold into slavery. In the end, he was able to forgive his brothers. He realized that all he had experienced was a part of God's plan to save a generation of people. This power to forgive caused his family to be reunited and allowed his father, Jacob, to die in peace.

Problems that arise in the family should be solved in a loving manner. If family members hurt one another they should identify the problem, deal with it calmly and forgive one another. The suggestions in the section, "Seven Ways to be Forgiving," could easily be applied when solving problems.

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