

=THE CHRISTIAN'S BEHAVIOR=

Lesson 1

Introductory Lesson

Scripture: Hebrews 10:22; I Corinthians 11:6, 14; Deuteronomy 22:5

Objects to have:

Draw the following objects and put faces on them: (They will be personified in the telling of the story.)

Soap

Toothbrush

Comb

Girl's Dress

Boy's Clothing

Have your Bible with markers at Hebrews 10:22; I Corinthians 11:6, 14; Deuteronomy 22:5.

Introducing the lesson:

(Discuss with the children: How many boys and girls like to watch a parade? We're going to have a cleanliness parade here today. I'm going to show you some of the marchers in the parade. (Pretend to have the drawn characters come by, one at a time, starting their "marching" at arm's length, "marching" them in closer and closer to your face. As they "come" in front of you, talk with them.)

Telling the story:

I think that I know what this is that is coming toward us. This is a cake of soap. What special message do you have, Mr. Cake of Soap? I see. We are to use you often. Are our hands to be washed very often during the day? They are to be washed before every meal, I see. They are to be washed after play and work that makes our hands dirty—oh, and after going to the bathroom. Our faces could be washed with you about twice a day? I see. When are we supposed to use you all over? It's good to take a bath every day. A good time to take a bath is when we can stay warm right after it, isn't it? I like to take a bath every day; and do you know what, my friends are glad, too. I smell better when I take a bath every day. Thank you, Mr. Cake of Soap. This is Sunday school, Mr. Soap, where we learn from the Bible. How do I know that it is God's will for me to be clean? He says this in the Bible? I'll read it when you are gone. Thank you. (Read Hebrews 10:22.)

Here comes another young man. He's rather tall and thin. He has bristles on his head. Here he comes. Hello, there, young fellow. Is there a special job which you do? (Pause, as if listening to him talk.) I see. Your type of person is used more often in some homes than in others. Jimmy uses you at least every morning after breakfast and every night before bedtime. Good. He could use you after each meal, too, couldn't he? (Pause.) Oh, Mary uses your type only when her mother reminds her and scolds her for not having used it. You are a toothbrush, aren't you? Is it important that we have clean teeth? Yes, when our teeth are dirty our smiles aren't pretty, are they? If our teeth stay dirty, we get holes in them, too. When our teeth are dirty, our breath smells bad to other people. Thank you, Mr. Toothbrush, for stopping to talk with us.

Here comes another marcher. This one is very strange looking, indeed. He has teeth from his head to his toes. Hello, there. Do you have a job to do, too? (Pause.) I see, you are used for combing hair. Is it important to have our hair combed two or three times a day? Yes, that keeps out the tangles. Combing our hair also makes us look much better and it makes us feel better. Thank you, Mr. Comb, for stopping to talk with us. Oh, did you have something else to say? (Pause.) I see, there are certain times and places when we are not supposed to use you? What are those times and places? We never sit in our desks in the schoolroom to comb our hair? We never comb our hair in Sunday school or church? I see, it's not polite to use you in the schoolroom or in the Sunday school room or church auditorium?

It is proper to use you only in the bedroom or in the bathroom. Thank you very much. You have something more to say? (Pause.) The Bible talks about how we are supposed to wear our hair? Oh, the Bible says that boys are to wear short hair and girls long hair? I'll read that when you are gone. Thank you. 'Bye. (Read I Corinthians 11:6, 14.)

Well, look here. A dress is coming without having anyone in it. Hello, Dress. Why are you in the cleanliness parade? (Pause.) You want to remind us that we are to be properly dressed, I see. Who wears you? Oh, you are for girls to wear. Yes, I agree with you. Girls are to look like girls and to dress like girls. Girls are to wear dresses. Are their dresses to be clean and long enough? Yes, they are. Thank you, Dress. We'll remember that girls are to dress like girls and to dress in girls' dresses.

Hello, Boy's Shirt and Trousers. What have you to tell us? (Pause.) You are to be worn only by boys? Yes, I agree that girls do not look good in boys' clothing; boys should wear the slacks and girls the dresses. (Pause.) What's that you say—you can prove from the Bible that boys are to wear the slacks and girls are to wear the girls' dresses? Where does it say that in the Bible? Deuteronomy 22:5? Thank you very much. (Read from your Bible Deuteronomy 22:5.)

It's the Devil's way for people to be dirty and not to be dressed right. When Jesus was on earth, there was a man who was completely guided by the Devil. This man lived in caves where dead bodies were buried. This man acted very wild; I think that his hair was long and dirty and messed up. I think that this man was dirty. This man's body was not covered with clothes.

Jesus met this man one day. Jesus commanded the Devil to leave this man alone. The man trusted Jesus, and the Devil had no more power over him. How did the man look after he trusted Jesus? He was dressed properly; he was sitting down with people and was not wild anymore. I think that his hair was combed right and that he was clean. Jesus wants you and me to dress right and to be clean on the outside of our bodies as well as to have our hearts clean.

The Bible tells us about everything that we ought to know, doesn't it? It tells us these things so that we can please God even with the way we look and dress.

LEARN OUR BIBLE VERSE: I Kings 8:61, "Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God...to keep his commandments...."