LESSON 4

HUMILITY INSTEAD OF REVENGE



Aim: **To show the children that followers of Jesus Christ should not take revenge but leave judgment to God, as no-one of us is blameless.**

Scripture Reading: **Matthew 5:38-42; Luke 6:27-36; 1 Samuel 24:1-22.**

Memory Verse: **Matthew 6:15 "[I]f you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins."**

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Have you ever seen somebody giving someone else a push from behind? What usually happens? The first person will make the other one lose his/her balance and maybe fall down. If someone hurts us in some way, most of us want to pay them back – often in a worse way. **It would be striking if two children acted this in front of the class. Take care that nobody is hurt!**

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

1. Jesus taught us very differently.
   Show Picture 4. Jesus used the example of a soldier who abused a man. He beat the man and stole his coat. What should that man do? Jesus said he should not hit the soldier back. Instead of beating the soldier, the man had to offer him his shirt, too!
   Jesus teaches that his followers must always try to make a situation better. Taking revenge, by starting a fight, for example, will only make things worse. This is Christ's way, and it is very different from the way in which the world behaves!
   Talk about the examples in Matthew 5:38-41.
   Note: People who harm others should be punished according to the country's laws. But many times the wrongdoer is not caught or the wrong person is held responsible. God is the only reliable judge. We should leave punishment of other people to God and take care not to sin ourselves.

INSTIL THE MEMORY VERSE

2. **Tell the story of David finding Saul in the cave (1 Sam 24:1-22).** David could have taken revenge but he did not. He knew it was in God's hands. David knew that he himself lived by the grace of God, not by his own righteousness.

Look,Listen&Live_Book6.indd 16 2012/09/07 15:22 PM



Our Response to the Story

It is very difficult for us to obey this teaching of Jesus! But revenge is a sin; it means we think we can judge, as if we were God himself.

Here is a true story of a man who did obey Jesus: He was put in prison because he was a Christian and he was treated very badly. His cell was too small for him to even sit down and he was given only salty rice to eat. The authorities burnt his Bible. When he was finally released, a policeman watched his home all the time. To the policeman's surprise, the former prisoner treated him well and gave him a Bible to read. The policeman was converted.



Look,Listen&Live_Book6.indd 17 2012/09/07 15:22 PM