

Learning from Our Leaders

SCRIPTURE

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you." Psalm 32:8

Focus

God gives us leaders who teach us how to love and obey Him.

Object Talk

Have students stand in a circle. **Let's try a wave circle. A wave circle is when one person starts a wave by moving their hands like an ocean wave. Demonstrate a wave motion. The person who starts the wave is the leader. Once the leader starts the wave motion, everyone else follows the leader's actions one at a time. We continue the wave motion until everyone in the circle has had a chance to do the motion. Who would like to be our leader? Choose a volunteer and decide which direction the wave will go. Let's start the wave circle.** Volunteer starts the wave circle by initiating a wave motion. Give help as needed to continue the wave motion around the circle. **Wonderful!** Repeat the wave circle activity as time and interest permit, choosing a different leader each time. (Optional: Students see how fast they can make the wave motion.)

The leaders in our game instructed us on what to do to in the wave circle. Without the leaders, we would not have known when or how to start the wave circle. Just like we needed leaders to play this game, we need leaders to know the best ways to love and obey God. Psalm 32:8 says, "I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you." This verse means that God wants to teach us ways to love and obey Him. One of the ways He does that is by giving us leaders at church, at home and at school.



Conclusion

Think about the people God gives to be your leaders. Pay attention to the ways they act and listen to what they say. Every day try to learn something about how to live in the very best way.

Close in prayer.

Going the Extra Mile

ACTIVITY

Divide class into two equal groups. First group forms a small circle in an open area of the room. Second group forms a larger circle around the first group. **To play this game, each circle is going to walk in the opposite direction. For example, students in the smaller circle walk clockwise and students in the larger circle walk counterclockwise.** Allow time for groups to practice walking in opposite directions. **When I give the signal, walk in your circle. When I say "stop," stop walking and find the person in the other circle who is standing closest to you. That person will be your partner. Face your partner and take turns telling each other the name of a leader who teaches you how to love and obey God. This leader could be a Sunday School teacher, a pastor, your parents or anyone else who teaches you to love and obey God.** Lead students to play game as time permits.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

Let's look at a story in the Bible about a man named Joshua. We can find out how he became a leader. Have a student read Joshua 1:1-2,5-7 aloud.

- Who do you think taught Joshua to love and obey God?
- What did Moses teach Joshua?
- What did God command Joshua to do?

God taught Joshua how to love and obey Him. One of the ways Joshua learned about obeying God was from Moses. Because Joshua learned from Moses, he was ready to lead the Israelites into the Promised Land.

LIFE CHALLENGE

When Moses first started teaching Joshua about God, Joshua probably didn't know that one day he would be the leader of God's people. We don't know what God might want us to do in the future either. But every day, as we learn from people how to love and obey God, it helps us be ready to do the good things God wants us to do. Let's thank God for the leaders He gives us.

PRAYER

God, thank You for giving us leaders. Help us learn from our leaders ways we can love and obey You. In Jesus' name, amen.