

Sabbath School Lesson Notes: The Least of These

Lesson 13: "A Community of Servants"

I. Introduction:

II. Review of whole quarter.

1. How has this quarter's lesson impacted you personally?
2. What Bible passage hit you with new force this quarter? (Explain)

III. Sabbath Afternoon:

1. *What is the advantage of a community of servants over several individuals that serve?*
(The memory text will come under discussion on Thursday page.)

IV. Sunday's Lesson: "Agents of Change"

Briefly share the main idea of the first paragraph.

The church is likened in Scripture to a family caring for one another. The family is a metaphor for a caring church.

1. *What other metaphors are used in Scripture to portray the church's action in the world?*
(See three mentioned in the narrative)
2. *Which one of these metaphors describes best how you like to represent God and His ways in your community? (Explain)*

V. Monday's Lesson: "A Servant Remnant"

1. *What is the standard definition of the remnant in the Bible?*
2. *Why does that come up in a quarterly about justice and mercy shown to the poor?*

Sum up/briefly tell the story of **Exodus 32:1-8** (Golden Calf Apostasy).

I think that we agree that God's people in Exodus behaved much differently from the remnant of Rev. 12:17 who obey God's commandments.

****Read Ex. 32:9-14.**

3. *Was God really planning to destroy Israel and raise up a new chosen nation from the descendants of Moses or was he testing Moses' love for the wayward people?*

4. *If God offered to make a "great nation" from your children, grandchildren, and so on, to replace the lukewarm Seventh Day Adventist church, how tempting would that be for you? Would you have enough love for the people of this denomination to refuse as did Moses?*

5. *What made Moses boldly argue with God? What were His arguments with God for sticking with wayward Israel? (Answer both questions, but do not bring up verse 32 yet).*

**** Read Ex. 32:31-32.**

6. How does Moses' attitude in his prayer compare to the Remnant of Rev. 12:17?

**** Read** the large quote that is the last paragraph of the page from **PP 319**.

7. Ask the question in the box at the bottom)

VI. Tuesday's Lesson: "Reaching Souls"

1. *What are the two main ideas for winning souls, and why can this cause a problem?*

2. *How is this problem resolved?*

We are going to read a couple of verses about the witnessing power of good works.

**** Read 1 Peter 2:12. ** Read Philippians 2:15.**

3. *What do Peter and Paul say about the witnessing power of good works done by God's people?*

VII. Wednesday's Lesson: "Grace Within the Church"

Sum up or share highlights from the opening paragraph.

**** Read Ephesians 2:19.**

1. *What do you think is included in the idea of describing the church community as the "household" of God? How should this description influence how the organized church operates?*

VIII. Thursday's Lesson: "Encourage Each Other to Good Works."

Even with a sincere heart, great effort, and faith in God, working for the Lord can be discouraging. Often people don't seem open to the truth, and there is a lot of pain and sorrow in our world. This is one reason that we need the church community. There is a lot of potential encouragement in the community of believers.

**** Read Hebrews 10:23-25.**

1. Hebrews 10:25 is the best known of these three verses; so, *what do verses 23 and 24 add to our understanding of verse 25?*

2. *What are some ways in which we can encourage each other "toward love and good deeds"?*

Share highlights from the following paragraph if not covered ("In almost any task...").

3. *What Bible verse urges us not to get tired of caring for people, especially when we see such little progress? (It's in the narrative.)*

Share from the final paragraph ("This is why...").

If time: The Teacher's Comments shared an interesting idea called the "helper's high."

Share what that is.

IX. **Conclusion**:

From Friday's page, share from ***The Ministry of Healing*, pp. 104-106**.

Concluding comment if there's time.