

Attitude

Main Point: Life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we respond to it.

I. OPENER

Game

Hi My Name Is

A great get to know ya game! Plant several people in your crowd who have a one dollar bill, a certificate to something, or any prize of your liking. Tell everyone that they need to go and introduce themselves to and learn the names of as many people as they can meet. Have your "planted people" give the prize to the 15th person that introduces themselves to them. Once the prizes have been given announce who received them and who had the prizes.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

III. STORY

Ronnie a big tough guy is very intelligent, whom always makes the honor roll, and seems to be one of the smartest kids in school. Ronnie is also a member of a local Baptist Church where he helps with Sunday school, ushering, and other church duties. Ronnie's pastor is very proud of him, and wishes all youth were as dedicated to the church as Ronnie. However, there is but one problem, and that is Ronnie's attitude. Ronnie seems to think he is smarter than everyone else, and it's common to find him arguing with kids at school, teachers, and people at church. His pastor does not see these behaviors. Other kids like Ronnie, but he's never been asked to be a team captain in sports, or a leader for anything. Ronnie wonders why... Ronnie has accomplished much in academic standards, but his attitude is severely lacking and a reason why he's never been asked to lead anything or anyone.

Small Group Discussions:

1. How does attitude differ from behavior or conduct?
2. How does attitude affect behavior or conduct?
3. What two main factors affect your overall attitude most of the time?
4. Do you agree or disagree with the statement, "Life is 10% what happens to us and 90% how we respond to it"? Why?
5. When we choose a bad attitude, we usually gravitate in one of two directions – sometimes both – BLAME or SELF-PITY. Which one can you relate to and how so?

6. What are the consequences of either?
7. God has a lot to say about attitudes. Let's look at a couple He wants us to have (for our own good)...

Phil 2:3-8 – Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross!

1. **What attitude are we to have according to these verses?**
2. **What are some practical ways we can act out these verses?**

Phil 2:14 – Do everything without complaining or arguing...

Phil 4:8 – Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things.

Our attitudes begin in our minds, so which of these do you need to compare your thoughts to in order to help your attitude? - or -
What's a bad attitude you have right now that opposes one of these characteristics?

WRAP UP & PRAYER