

# VMB

Values, Manners and Fundamental Beliefs



The month of August was named for Roman Emperor Augustus, Julius Caesar's grandnephew. Augustus & Julius were the only rulers with months named after them. July & August were each allotted 31 days so one month would not seem inferior.

## VALUES

### Kindness and Acceptance

Awareness that being kind and considerate is more admirable than being tough or strong. Show acceptance of others that are new at school or are different. The ability to make and keep friends. Gentleness, encouragement and support for those who are younger and weaker.

#### Encourage students to:

- try to get to know new students in their class or school.
- watch out for younger students that may be bullied or left out.
- develop an awareness and respect for others who are different.
- treat others the way they want to be treated-think that way before they act! Matthew 7:12.

## MANNERS

### Manners at School, Part I

- Try to say hello to everybody in your classroom every morning.
- Call teachers and other adults in the classroom by their title, "Mrs. Smith," "Mr. Jones."
- Rather than say only "Yes," or "No," say, "Yes, sir," "Yes Ma'am," or "Yes, Mrs. Smith."
- Call your friends by the names they prefer. Don't use nicknames unless you're completely sure the person doesn't mind.
- Keep the area around your desk and locker neat and tidy.
- Take turns to talk, use the computer or other classroom material.
- When in doubt, ask the teacher's permission.

## FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF

### The Bible is God's Book.

It is His message to us. In the Bible, we can hear God's voice speaking to us. [2 Timothy 3:16, 17](#) [2 Peter 1:20-21](#)

#### Bible Facts (GLM28Ways)

- The word Bible comes from the Greek word *biblia* meaning books.
- Written by different people over 1600 years.
- Has 66 books and is divided into the Old & New Testaments.

#### Encourage students to:

- share favorite Bible text.
- memorize Bible books.

#### In class, discuss:

- our belief the Bible is inspired & what that means.
- various types of writing in the Bible, parable, poems, narratives, etc. & how they teach us about God.
- ways we can use the Bible to build our relationship with God.

### Adventist Heritage Tidbit

It was in Aug 14, 1831 when William Miller preached his first sermon on the return of Jesus in 1843 or 1844. He was a reluctant preacher & begged God to send someone else. He told God he would only preach if he received an invitation, thinking he never would. There was a knock on his door within 30 minutes with an invitation to speak.

### Ways to Honor "Happiness Happens Month!"

1. Declare a theme for the day/week & be creative.
2. Give out Hershey's Kisses to remind others to look for the silver lining in even the cloudiest of days.
3. Journal about happy moments in your day.

### Celebrate Back to School!

1. Hold a class photo shoot!
2. Bury a time capsule to be opened at the end of the year.
3. Have student present one thing they would like to learn more about this year. Make a list & display it.
4. Measure each student's height and track it on the wall throughout the year.

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### Honesty

Honesty with other individuals, with institutions, with society, with self. The inner strength and confidence that is bred by exacting truthfulness, trustworthiness and integrity.

#### Encourage students to:

- consider the pros and cons of being honest in all situations.
- Think of honest people in their lives/history (Abe L)

#### In class, discuss:

- the definition of being honest with one's self.
- academic honesty and their responsibility as a student.
- what it means to be trustworthy/have integrity & why they want others to view them as such.

***The most dangerous untruths are truths moderately distorted. ~Georg C. Lichtenberg***

## MANNERS

### Manners at School, Part II

- Say, "Good-morning," to your teacher and friends when you arrive.
- Always ask permission before using someone else's stuff. When possible, get your own stuff so you don't have to borrow too much.
- Do not interrupt the teacher or another classmate when he/she is talking.
- Cheerfully help a classmate or your teacher if he/she needs help.
- Keep your desk and the area around your desk neat and clean.
- Make sure everybody gets to take part in activities both in the classroom and at recess. Never say, "You can't play with us!"

## FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF

### God is Three Persons:

God the Father; Jesus, who is His Son; and the Holy Spirit. Because They act the same and think the same, we think of Them as one God [2 Corinthians 13:14](#) [Matthew 28:18-20](#)

#### Trinity Facts (GLM28Ways)

- Trinity= Father, Son, HS
- All members work together & love each other.
- Though made up of 3 persons, God is united in one purpose-salvation.

#### Encourage students to:

- find examples in the Bible where the trinity is mentioned.
- think of other things that run on the power of 3: (i.e. - a computer= CPU+ monitor + keyboard)

#### In class, discuss:

- the complexity & greatness of God
- the single purpose of the Godhead

### Adventist Heritage Tidbit

Samuel Snow published his article *The True Midnight Cry* on August 22, 1844. This article was written based on his sermons given at camp meeting earlier that summer. This was an important paper as it gave hope to those who experienced the first disappointment that there was another date soon to come.

### Ways to Honor "Happiness Happens Month!"

1. Look at the ways exercise lifts a person's spirits-how does this happen?
2. Consider positive thinking- discuss optimism.
3. Laugh a lot-discuss the benefits of laughter.

### Celebrate Back to School!

1. Hold a library scavenger hunt making a list of 5-10 questions your student can answer using library resources.
2. Provide Welcome Back Treats!
3. Turn book covering into an art party. Bring covering supplies and make covers together!
4. Have students complete a How I Spent My Summer Vacation project (see description).

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### Self-Reliance & Potential

Individuality. Awareness & development of gifts & uniqueness. Taking responsibility for own actions. Overcoming the tendency to blame others for difficulties. Commitment to personal excellence.

#### **In class, discuss:**

- What is integrity?
- What are individual spiritual gifts? Why is it a good thing to be uniquely you?
- Goals: How to set them and why it is a good idea.

#### **Encourage students to:**

- List talents/traits unique to them.
- Set manageable goals and track their progress. Celebrate success and look at setbacks as feedback not failure.
- Take responsibility for their own actions, even if there are consequences.

### Adventist Heritage Tidbit

From the first the SDA church has advocated non-combatancy for its members. During the Civil war, a law passed that all able-bodied males must serve- no provisions made for conscientious objectors. The early Adventist pioneers were among many who worked to change this during the last days of the Civil War. Although all was not resolved before the end of the war, progress was made.

## MANNERS

### The "Magic Words:"

- Please
- Thank-you
- Excuse Me
- You're Welcome
- May I?
- Yes, Please;
- No, Thank-you

### The Art of Conversation

- Show interest
- Look at the person
- Pay attention
- Don't interrupt
- Speak clearly
- Speak slowly
- Ask for clarification
- End the conversation pleasantly

### Ways to Honor

#### "Be Kind to Human Kind Week"

1. Lead a Sunshine Band at a nursing home.
2. Offer to help parents or a neighbor with yard work.
3. Help a fellow student with homework
4. Hold open the door for someone behind you.

## FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF

### God is the eternal Father, Creator, Source, Sustainer, & Sovereign of all creation.

[Exodus 34:6, 7; Isaiah 45:22](#)

#### **Facts about God:**

- God is holy & perfect.
- God has no sin.
- God is love & gave his son Jesus to die for our sins.
- God is eternal.
- God never changes.
- God is everywhere.
- God is faithful.
- God is merciful & forgives.
- God is our Creator.

#### **In class, discuss:**

- The size of God's universe & his power.
- How the Father & Son are alike-What is the character of God?-Look at Jesus.

#### **Encourage students to:**

- Talk about a time when God was like a Father to them.

### Hurricane Katrina Resources

- [http://serc.carleton.edu/research\\_education/katrina/](http://serc.carleton.edu/research_education/katrina/)
- <http://www.teachervision.fen.com/tv/tvsearch.php?keywords=katrina&sitesearch=1>
- <http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/kids/specials/articles/0,28285,1100402,00.html>