

VMB

Values, Manners and Fundamental Beliefs



November comes between the fall and winter months. The leaves are almost completely gone from the trees. The crops have been harvested put in storage or sent to processing plants. [Election](#) Day is on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

VALUES

Courage

Daring to attempt difficult things that are good. Strength not to follow the crowd, to say no and mean it and influence others by it. Being true to convictions and following good

Encourage students to:

- Not be afraid to try new things that are good learning experiences.
- Dare to be different.
- Know what they believe is right and stick to it!

In class discuss:

- Choosing good friends.
- Trying good things vs bad things.
- How our actions can influence others.
- Standing up for what is right.

*"Without courage, all other virtues loose their meaning."
Winston Churchill*

MANNERS

Manners at Home, Part I

- Introduce your friends to family members when you bring them to the house.
- Call family members by the name you know they would like you to use – don't use nicknames you know they hate.
- Don't borrow things without asking.
- Don't share personal information about family members with your friends unless they've said okay.
- Let others know when your plans change, especially if it means they will need to change theirs.
- Participate in family activities with a positive attitude.
- Don't wait to be told or asked to do things that are already on your list of responsibilities.
- Sometimes it's really nice to help out, even if something is not on your "to do" list.

FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF

God's Family on Earth

Everyone who loves Jesus is learning to follow Him as a part of God's family on earth. This family is made up of many different kinds of people and Jesus is our Leader.

[Hebrews 10:25; Galatians 3:26-28](#)

Bible Facts:

- The church is God's family and we are all his children belonging to this one body.
- Jesus is the head of the body, the head of the church.
- We are all equal in the church.

Encourage students to:

- Create a family tree of your church members.
- Find out membership in the local church, conference, union. www.adventist.org.

In class discuss:

- Diversity-we are one in Jesus.
- The church as the body of Christ.

Adventist Heritage

Fredrick Wheeler was a pioneer SDA minister, reputed to be the first ordained Adventist minister to preach in favor of the seventh-day Sabbath.

Ways to Celebrate National Authors Day

- Have students research famous authors and share a small bio sketch with the class.
- Invite a local author to come & share about being a writer.
- Have students write a paper about what subjects they would write about if they were a famous author and why.

Ways to Celebrate National Clergy Appreciation Month

- Make a quote/scripture book including favorite scriptures & quotes from student body.
- A gift card for a bookstore or favorite restaurant.
- Make a video recording students saying what the pastor means to them.



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VALUES

Kindness and Friendliness

Awareness that being kind and considerate is more admirable than being tough or strong. The tendency to understand rather than confront. Gentleness, particularly toward those who are younger or weaker. The ability to make and keep friends. Helpfulness. Cheerfulness.

Encourage students to:

- Look for ways to mentor those in younger grades.
- Make a list of ways to keep and make a friend, maybe a how-to paper, poster, or create a brochure.

In class discuss:

- The importance of friends.
- Being aware of those around them-kindness vs. bullying.
- How to have positive attitudes-cheerfulness.

“Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves.” James M. Barrie

Adventist Heritage

Before “The Great Disappointment, the Millerites experienced a first disappointment. They believed that Christ would return sometime between March 21, 1843 and March 21, 1844. But the year passed without the return of Christ leading to continued study on the part of a discouraged William Miller.

MANNERS

Church Manners

- Take care of your bathroom and drink needs before church starts so you can remain in the church for the entire service. It’s disruptive when people go in and out.
- If you absolutely must leave during the service, try to wait to do so until the whole congregation is doing something: Singing, taking up an offering. If possible, try not to leave while someone is giving special music or speaking from up front. Make sure you have your parent’s permission before leaving.
- You’re old enough now to do what the rest of the congregation does: Stand up, sing, sit down, kneel down at the proper times.
- Talk with your parents and come up with ideas about quiet things you can do during church to keep from being bored during sermons that are on an adult level.
- It’s best to not chew gum in church. But, if your parents let you, make sure you are very quiet about it. Most people don’t like to hear other people’s chewing sounds.
- Be quiet in church. Do not talk or whisper during the service. Walk softly, don’t make noise with your shoes, books, magazines, or other stuff.
- When church is over, don’t leave until the deacon dismisses your row.
- Don’t run/play inside the sanctuary.

FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF

The Last Ones Left

The remnant – the last ones left on earth who love and follow Jesus – will have a special work to do in the last days. Matt. 22:14; Rev 14:12; Rev. 12:17.

Bible Facts:

- The remnant is a small group of God’s people who go through difficulties, wars, & persecution in the last days, but who remain loyal to God.
- Just before Jesus’ return, this special group has the responsibility of telling others about God’s final warning in the three angels’ messages of Revelation.

Encourage students to:

- Create a newspaper featuring events that happen during the last days.
- Draw pictures of last day events.

In class discuss:

- Ways to tell others about Jesus and His love for us.
- The definition of remnant.

Celebrate America Recycles Day

- Take the Recycle Pledge.
- Get facts from recycle center as to what can be recycled.
- Volunteer and get involved.
- Purchase products made with recycled materials.
- Make a reminder craft out of recycled items.
- Donate– don’t dispose!



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VALUES

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:

- Practice honesty in every situation...even if it means getting in trouble.
- Become a trustworthy person with integrity.

In class discuss:

- The definition of integrity.
- How to be trustworthy.
- What does it mean to be honest with ones self?
- What are the consequences of being dishonest? How does that effect our relationships with others?

Character is doing the right thing when nobody's looking. There are too many people who think that the only thing that's right is to get by, and the only thing that's wrong is to get caught. ~J.C. Watts

MANNERS

Manners for Borrowing Things
Always ask permission before borrowing something. Even if you're borrowing something for the 2nd or 3rd time from the same person, ask permission.

Let the person give you the item you're borrowing. Don't go pawing through his/her stuff.

Return what you borrow in good condition and on time. If you used up a lot of his/her stuff, replace it. If you break or damage what you borrow, you must fix or replace it.

Always thank the person from whom you borrowed. If it was a "big borrow" you may want to also send a thank you note.

Don't borrow repeatedly. After one or two "borrows" maybe you should buy your own stuff.

FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF

Together in the Family
The church is made of many different people, but they all work together to tell the world about Jesus. Romans 15:5; Eph 4:11-13

Bible Facts:

- The church is one body with many members from every nation, language and people.
- Unity among believers is most effective in witnessing to others about Jesus.
- As one body in Christ, we share the same faith and hope and the mission to share the good news of love with everyone.

Encourage students to:

- Get to know others that differ from them.
- Find out what various jobs members do in their church & how they work as a family.

In class discuss:

- What steps can you take to like & get along with classmates who are different?
- What are the students' roles in the family of God?

Adventist Heritage
On October 22, 1844, the Millerites experienced the Great Disappointment. It was a great disappointment because they believed that Jesus would return on that day & He did not. They misunderstood the prophecy forgetting that no one knows the exact day of Christ's return. They had not prepared for the future putting all their hopes in this event. It tested the faith of many of the Millerites & divided the group.

Ways to Celebrate Vegetarian Awareness Month

- Plan a cooking demonstration of a vegetarian dish.
- Create a cookbook of veggie recipes.
- Have students write a persuasive essay or speech on reasons to be a vegetarian.

Helping Kids Set Goals

- Be careful when setting timeline to not rush/overwhelm child.
- Have kids write goals down.
- Allow kids to come up with own goal-make sensitive suggestions.
- Work on the goal with the child but don't take control.
- Set a good example by setting and working on your own goals.



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VALUES

Self-Reliance & Potential

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

Encourage students to:

- Be unique and not follow others just to fit in.
- Know their own talents and traits & appreciate their differences.
- Learn responsibility for their own actions.
- Set goals-overcome inadequacies by working hard.

In class discuss:

- The importance of individuality & spiritual gifts.
- Taking responsibility for our own actions.

"Be yourself. Above all, let who you are, what you believe, shine through every sentence you write, every piece you finish." John Jakes

MANNERS

Appointment Manners

Be on time to your appointments. It is not polite to make people wait for you.

If you are late, try to phone ahead to let people know. When you finally arrive, apologize to the people you made wait.

If you are late to something, figure out why you were late and what you can do to avoid this problem in the future.

If you have to cancel an appointment, don't wait until the last minute to do so. Cancel or re-schedule appointments as soon as you can.

Always let the person know you are sorry about having to cancel an appointment.

FUNDAMENTAL BELIEF

Baptism

The Bible teaches that we should be baptized to show the world that we choose Jesus as our Savior & that we want to grow to be more like Him. Acts 2:38; Mark 1:10-11

Bible Facts:

- Baptism is a symbol of the washing that has taken place inside of us when we ask Jesus to be our Savior.
- The Greek work *baptize* means "to dip" or "to wash." We believe in immersion.
- Baptism is a symbol of Jesus' death & resurrection.

Encourage students to:

- Display their baptismal certificate in a frame on the wall.
- Study for baptism.

In class discuss:

- How to prepare for baptism?
- How can you influence others to accept Jesus and be baptized?
- Growing in Jesus like a flower seed grows from small to big.

Adventist Heritage

Hiram Edson (1806-1882), was a farmer & lay pastor from Port Gibson, NY. He believed that the people should not be discouraged after the great disappointment & that God would help them find understanding. He was given a vision on Oct. 23, 1844 describing God's prophetic movement to His work in the Most Holy Place before he could return to earth.

Ways to Practice Thankfulness

1. Reflect on the good things in your life instead of the bad.
2. Make a list of blessings.
3. Consider those less fortunate.
4. Volunteer in your community helping others in need.
5. Donate some of your own items to those without.
6. Thank God for the "gift" of life we receive each day.

Pilgrim Trivia

1. How many passengers sailed from Plymouth & how many arrived in New England?
2. How many days did it take to cross the Atlantic?
3. What jobs did children have in the new colony?
4. What book did William Bradford write & what was it about?
5. Where did children go to school?