

Life Applications

*But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.
For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer,
he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror.
For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.
But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres,
being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts,
he will be blessed in his doing.*

James 1:22-25

Life applications put Sunday school lessons into practice. With these as part of the lesson plan, teachers and students make a commitment to live God's word every day. In many respects this is what Sunday schooling is about. It is what life is about. And it is not as hard as it sounds.

Chose one thing that is related to the lesson.
Talk about it. Pray about it together.
Try to do it in the week ahead.
Encourage each other in the doing.
Be blessed in the doing.
And share the outcome with everyone next week.

A Bride for Isaac – Genesis 24

Abraham's faith and way of life affected others – Genesis 18:19 (his household); Genesis 24:12, 27, 52 (his servant); Genesis 24:62-67 (Isaac). The promises of God became the center of their lives as well. They acted accordingly.

- We witness to others by the faithful way we live. Develop a list of attitudes and behaviors that show our faith to others. Select something from the list to try and do more conscientiously in the week to come. Give progress reports next week.
- Ask the children to identify faithful role models in their families, in the ecclesia, or elsewhere. Let them tell why they look up to these individuals.
- Invite an ecclesial role model to come to your Sunday school class and talk about their faith: what they believe and why, and how it affects their daily life.
- Talk about the role that a child has in the home. How should they behave in a faithful home? How should they behave in a home that is not centered in the truth?
- Abraham's servant is an exceptional role model. Before Isaac was born, he would have been Abraham's heir – Genesis 15:2-4. After Isaac was born, Isaac became the heir – Genesis 25:5. If the servant had been a selfish man, how might he have reacted to this? Have the children find evidence in Genesis 24 that Abraham's

servant was not selfish. Based on the evidence, have them create a character sketch of this man.

- Role play a family situation in which parents show favoritism to one of the children. Have the rest of the children decide how they will act toward the favored child. What are faithful ways to act? What are unfaithful ways to act?
- Look at the prayers of Abraham's servant in Genesis 24. What is the servant doing in vv.12-14? What is he doing in vv.26-27? What is he doing in vv.42-48? And what is he doing in vv.50-52? Use this as a model for a class prayer. Talk about things to pray for that are related to God's mercy and truth (Genesis 24:27). Then pray together.
- How was Rebekah a suitable wife for Isaac? Identify her personal qualities in Genesis 24. Have the children say why these are important. Do they see the same qualities in themselves?
- Have the children identify a married couple that they look up to in the ecclesia. Invite the couple to talk to your class about the role that the truth plays in their married life.