

# **WHATSOEVER YOU DO TO THE LEAST OF YOUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS**

*An easy exercise without much need of preparation*

## **Intent of this exercise**

- ✓ *To grow in kindness and humanity.*
- ✓ *To serve God in our neighbors.*

## **Step 1 Group Singing: “Whatsoever you do”**

- Read the lyrics of the following hymn
- Practice singing it.
- Once all learn it, sing it two or three times.

## **“Whatsoever you do to the least of your Brothers”**

**Stanza:** Whatsoever you do to the least of your brothers,  
That you do unto me!  
Whatsoever you do to the least of your Sisters,  
That you do unto me!

**Verses:** When I was *hungry* you gave me to eat  
When I was *thirsty* you gave me to drink.  
Now enter into the home of your father.

When I was *tired* you helped me find rest.  
When I was *worried* you calmed all my fears.  
Now enter into the home of your Father.

When I was *lonely*, to me you did speak.  
When I was *troubled* you listened to me.  
Now enter into the home of your Father.

When I was *homeless* you opened the door  
When I was *naked* you gave me your coat  
Now enter into the home of your Father.

When I was *laughed at*, you stood by my side.  
When I *was happy*, you shared my joy.  
Now enter into the home of your Father.

## **Step 2 Song Analysis: Personal Work**

Carefully, go over the stanzas of the song and reply in writing to the following points.

1. Who is supposed to speak to us in the song? How? Why?
2. What is the message the song has for us?

3. Which line of the song touches you most? How?
4. Reading the stanzas of the song, do you feel approved or condemned? How?
5. What other lessons can you learn from the song for your daily life? Enumerate.

### **Step 3 Small Groups Work.**

- Divide the participants into groups of 6 to 8 each.
- In the groups the participants will share their reflections on the song.
- Clarifications and discussion will follow.
- The groups will end their work with a shared group prayer.

### **Step 4 Activities (Highly recommended if time is available)**

Activities will help the participants to interiorize the main ideas and leanings of the session.

Keep the activities for the afternoon hours.

### **Preparation of Activities:**

To exemplify the main learning of the session, the participants in their small groups, will prepare some activities of their own choice and invention

### **The main lessons of the event are the following”:**

- The love of God and love of man go together.
- True religion means to love all men without distinctions
- God will treat us as we treat our brothers and sisters.
- Prayers and all religious practices have no value if they are not validated by our love and service to others.
- Any sort of religion that causes “division” and “strife” is not a religion at all. It is an ideology or fake belief masquerading as religion.

### **Activities could be:**

Role-plays	Shadow Plays	Original Stories or Parables.
Radio plays	Dance Drama	Posters
Puppet Show	Action Song	Slogans, etc

### **Hints to prepare their activities:**

- Impress on the participants to be creative, original and practical.
- Give the groups sufficient time to prepare their activities
- Ask them to translate the above mentioned ideas into situations of every day life: for instance
  - ✓ A “holy” man beating his wife.
  - ✓ A “devout” person cheating his customers.
  - ✓ A “pious” dad drinking away all his salary
  - ✓ A “prayerful” teacher neglecting his/here duties toward the pupils.
  - ✓ A “scrupulous” youngster throwing abuses to his companions.
  - ✓ A “godly” lady gossiping and spoiling others good name. Etc.

**Presentation of the Activities:**

- When the groups are ready call the house together.
- Each group will present his “creation”.
- Each presentation will be followed by a short “analysis”, evaluation and discussion.

**Step 5 Closing the Event with a Group Prayer. .**

*Instructions for the participants.*

- Close your eyes. Relax..(*Awareness and/or relaxation exercises will help*)
- Keeping still with your eyes closed. Listen to the song:” Whatsoever you”
- Play in a tape or CD of the song, alternatively, have a good singer to sing it “solo”
- In silence think of those who have been kind and nice to you... Thank God for them as if they were present here and now in front of your eyes.
- In silence remember and renew your resolutions to be loving to all
- Pray for those you have not been loving or kind in the past.