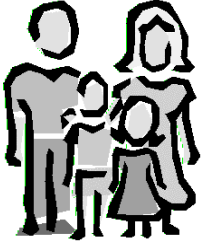


The Picnic Trip

Value: Fellowship

George and Phyllis loved going to their Sunday school and to the different events that they planned for the children. They still had three weeks to go yet before it was time for Bible camp. Both of them could hardly wait because they both loved to go to Bible Camp too.



This was a special Sunday because the Church always did something interesting for the children when it was a couple of weeks before Bible Camp. This was the Sunday that they would announce what was planned.

As soon as their parents parked the car at the church parking lot, Phyllis and George hurried off to their Sunday school while their parents headed to the church.

“We’ll see you after Sunday school,” their parents called to them as the children quickly went into a room.

“Good morning class,” said Mrs. Lewis as she entered the classroom.

“Good morning Mrs. Lewis,” the class responded like one big voice.

“Today we are going to announce a big surprise for all of you,” Mrs. Lewis started saying, “but first, we are going to talk about fellowship. Does anyone know what fellowship is?”

Many answers came from about the room; “to love each other, to be good friends, to help one another, to make people happy,” and many more were spoken.



“Those are all great answers,” Mrs. Lewis said with a big smile, “and all of them are correct in one way or another. You see, fellowship means to be someone’s companion, his or her really good friend. When we are really good friends with someone we show them love, kindness, and try to make them happy. Many places in the Bible it mentions the word fellowship”.

The children had a wonderful Sunday school class on fellowship that day. At the end of the class Mrs. Lewis made the announcement that the children had been waiting for.



“This year children,” Mrs. Lewis said to the very quiet room of children as they waited to hear, “we have been blessed with a way to take all of you on a picnic trip.”

“Yea,” came a loud cheer from the class.

“We are going to go to the State Park and we are going to have a big picnic,” she said. “And,” she continued, not only do we have enough buses for you; we have enough buses for all your friends too. That is why we talked about fellowship today. You can invite whoever you want, and the person that brings the most people along will get a special fellowship award”.

“Hooray,” shouted the class.



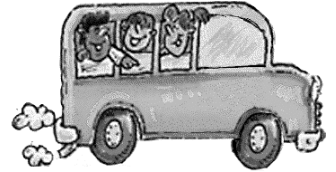
George and Phyllis ran to meet their parents to tell them the great news.

“That sounds like a fantastic idea,” their parents said.

After they got home and changed into their play cloths, Phyllis and George decided that since they were brother and sister, they would ask people together to come on the Picnic Trip.

And so they did. They asked their next-door neighbor, the next house to that person, and the next house and the next.

Seventeen children in all showed up the day of the picnic. The Sunday school class ended up with a bus just for George and his sister Phyllis, and all of their newfound friends.



Phyllis and George got an award for showing fellowship and by bring so many to their church event.



Not only did they start new friendships that day, but also they were long lasting friendships at that. Also, when Bible Camp came around, all seventeen children came to that too, had a great time, and learned so much more about God and the Bible that they didn't know before.