

1. THEME: Law of Equality

2. OBJECTIVE: the child must realize that we are all equal in the eyes of God, who as created us as simple and ignorant beings, but with the same ability of progressing.

3. BIOGRAPHY:

Mt, 16:27, Lc, 12:13 to 21; Jo, 14:12

Le, 803 to 824

Our Home (Andre Luiz/F.C. Xavier), caps. 37 and 45; Moral Laws (Rodolfo Calligaris), cap 31

4. CLASS:

a) Initial Incentive: Eliciting

The teacher can ask the children some questions such as : "Why are there so many differences among people in the world? Why would it be, that some are born rich while others struggle with poverty all their lives?" why are some more intelligent than others?" Why some have perfect bodies while others are handicap?" "Why some are healthy and some are ill"? "Are we, or are we not equal before God?"

b) Development: Explanation with dialogue

Several children may already have a notion of the evolution of the spirit, hence they will answer these questions. The teacher must make notes of their answers during class. From that point, the teacher may develop the following items among others as well:

All religions teach God is fair, but only spiritism demonstrates this justice, explaining these differences are not essential, meaning, not born with the spirit. Kardec asks the spirits:

803. Before God, are all men equal?

“ Yes, everyone tends towards the same goal, and God created his laws for everyone. Frequently you say: *the sun shines for everyone*. By saying this, you are stating something that, in fact, is more real than what you realize.”

From the spirits’ answer, it is understood that when they say: “ We all tend towards the same goal”, they mean to say that we have a destiny outlined by God. That we know how to be the perfection. Well, if we all have the same destination, means also, in the beginning we were all the same, and we came from the same starting point. When God first gave us life, he also gave us the same ability to progress, and to achieve the understanding of sentiment and knowledge. Therefore, these are accidental differences, transitory by nature, for they depend on the evolution level of the creature at a particular moment in time. In the face of so many different aptitudes demonstrated by people, such as arts, science, and while others are completely incompetent, some with noble sentiments while others are rude and even cruel, Kardec asks again:

804. Why God has not given us the same aptitudes?

“ God created all spirits the same, however, each spirit has lived, more or less, for a period of time, and , consequently, has added more or less aptitudes. The difference lies on the level of the experience they have achieved, and the willingness with which they choose to act, willingness which is each one’s free will. Hence, the progress of some is faster than others, consequently also the diversity of their aptitudes.”

The spirits’ clarification shows us that the differences we notice among the creatures are merely accidental, transitory, for these differences depend on the level of evolution of the person, not on the nature of the person as spirits. Hence, the level of evolution of each spirit depend on two main factors: Age, for they have not been created at the same time, and the use of free will. As God gave us life, he gave us also the same ability to advance. Notice that, as the Superior Spirits answered Kardec, they did not mention that God gives the same aptitudes, but the ability to develop aptitudes. This knowledge reveals God’s absolute justice, for according to the Spiritist Doctrine, God created us all “simple and ignorant”.

In fact, only through reincarnation we can see God's justice truly manifesting itself. The spirit, in the course of various reincarnations, experiences a variety of behaviors and situations which he/she can either make the most of or he/she can disregard and take these experiences for granted; it's all up to his/her free will. The creature can take advantage of the opportunities to advance, achieve wisdom and improve in the area of feelings. On the other hand, the creature can acquire more debts, thus getting behind, and creating situations that may seem unfair, if one is under the belief we only live once on Earth.

There are some people who believe there should be absolute equality on Earth. They claim all resources should be shared equally among people. But if God had created things as such, in a matter of a short time, this equality would disappear by the action of man himself. Let us contemplate a father sharing his wealth equally between his children. It's easy to conclude that the value of the equal parts of the wealth would soon be different: One of the children would increase the value of his wealth, the other would decrease his share of the wealth, and another wouldn't have anything left in short time. Why this? That demonstrates the use of the free will of each individual.

However, when studying the law of equality, and by explaining the differences amongst people, we must emphasize that the Spiritist Doctrine does not in any way or manner justify the enormous social differences in society, and according to what the spirits answered Kardec:

806. *Is it a law of nature, the inequality of social conditions?*

"No, it is men's doing and not God's".

a) *Will this inequality someday disappear?*

"Only the laws of God are eternal. Don't you see that day by day it is gradually disappearing? It will disappear when selfishness and pride no longer prevails on Earth. Then the only inequality that will remain it is the one due to merit. The day will come when God's children will no longer consider pure blood. Only the spirit is more, or less, pure but this does not depend on the social position."