

Stand Up! Speak Out!

PLEASE GET TO KNOW ME

Prejudice makes it hard to see who someone may really be

Guide for Discussion, Reflection, and Role Play

Can we really know what someone is like before we get to know them? Can someone tell what you're like?

Vocabulary

to judge: to decide if someone or something is good or bad

to pre-judge: to decide if someone is good or bad before we get to know them

prejudice: judging someone—deciding if they are good or bad—before we get to know them

to generalize or stereotype: to see all people in a big group as being alike, not seeing them as individuals

Golden Rule: Treat others the way you want to be treated: kindly!

Prejudice makes it hard to see who someone may really be

1. What can we tell about someone from the outside, before we get to know someone?
 - How they look: the color of their eyes, skin, hair; how they dress
 - How they sound: the language they speak, or the accent they have when they speak English
 - How they live: how they cook, eat, pray, celebrate holidays,
2. What are some things we *cannot* tell about someone from the outside?
 - If they're kind or unkind
 - What they think
 - How they feel

Prejudice is like a blindfold / You can't see for yourself / You believe what you're told

3. Our families are different and special in their own ways. We come from different countries, speak different languages, practice different faiths. We have different colored eyes and shades of skin.
 - Are all people from one country the same? Are they all good or bad?
 - Are all people who speak a certain language or practice the same faith all kind or unkind?
 - Do all people with the same color skin like the same food or sports? Are they all good or bad?
4. Have you ever heard anyone say that "all" people from one group are the same?
 - Is it possible to know how "all" people in any one group are?
 - Are you exactly like other people who look like you from the outside?

Please get to know me before you decide what I'm like inside

5. Imagine if someone tried to guess what you were like, just by looking at you on the outside
 - What do you think they would guess about you (judging by your gender, language, size, etc.)
 - Which of their guesses would be right? Which would be wrong?
 - If they could get to know you, what do you think would surprise them about you?
 - How would you feel if they just guessed what you were like, but never took the time to get to know you?

Prejudice breaks the Golden Rule and tears the world apart

6. Give an example of The Golden Rule or draw a picture of what it looks like to practice it.
 - How does prejudice break The Golden Rule?
 - How does prejudice "tear the world apart"?
 - How does understanding prejudice help us practice The Golden Rule?
 - How can our understanding of prejudice help us look at different people in a new way?

