

## Year 1, Lesson 9 – Lesson Plan (short version)

- Aim**
- a) to learn about Bahá'u'lláh's family,
  - b) to be more aware of the laws of Bahá'u'lláh.

### **Objectives**

*After fully participating in both the lesson and the homework, the student should be able to:*

- a) state the names and/or titles of several members of the Holy Family,
- b) explain one reason why the *Kitáb-i-Aqdas* contains more than just laws to obey.

### **Materials:** (for each student)

Card with holes and five pieces of string (see #6).

Worksheet and song sheet for each student.

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#### 1. Game/News

If a game is to be used, try “Traffic lights”; when you say “traffic lights are red” students must stand perfectly still (if not, they’re out!), when you say “traffic lights are amber” they walk very slowly, and when you say “traffic lights are green” they walk quickly round the room. (you don’t have to follow the normal traffic light sequence, try to catch them out.) A possible variation is to add another colour, e.g. blue, for sitting on the floor.

#### 2. Mark Homework.

See if they can say the quotation from memory. Was the song sung at a meeting?

Ask each to read out what the Fund is used for in their community (if nothing written on worksheet, suggest they write in “Teaching the Faith” since all communities do this.

Did they all put something in the Fund box at a 19-day Feast?

#### 3. Virtue. – also virtue handout available, could be used next lesson for revision.

Enthusiasm makes even the dullest job fun. When you are enthusiastic, you enjoy doing it, and look forward to doing it again.

Do you ever frown, complain and have a miserable time while you do things?  
If so, how can you improve on this?

Let us think of an example, your mother has asked you to help with something in the house – what could it be? (have you been asked to do something recently?) Now how would you approach that job? (or how did you, and how can we improve on that?)

#### 4. New Topic. The Holy Family.

Have a prepared family tree showing Bahá'u'lláh, the Glory of God, who married Navváb, the Most Exalted Leaf, and their children:

‘Abdu’l-Bahá, the Master, Mirza Míhdi, the Purest Branch, and Bahíyyih Khánúm, the Greatest Holy Leaf.

You could draw little pictures relevant to their titles, e.g. the sun in a 9-pointed star, a small leaf in a 9-pointed star, a branch of a tree, a large colourful leaf...

#### 5. Writings.

*“Think not that We have revealed unto you a mere code of laws. Nay, rather, We have unsealed the choice Wine with the fingers of might and power.”*

Bahá'u'lláh: *Kitáb-i-Aqdas*, K5.

Ask students for examples of laws that Bahá'u'lláh gave us and explain how the quotation relates to these, then read the quotation again for them.

6. Activity.

Have, for each student, a piece of card (about A5 should be large enough) punched with 5 holes down each side.

Get them to write the 5 names of the Holy Family next to the holes on the left. Then you write for them their 5 titles, in a mixed up order, by the holes on the right (to save time in class, you could have prepared these on sticky labels). Each student is given 5 pieces of string or wool about twice as long as the width of card, with something small (e.g. a button or circle of card) tied to one end. They thread each free end into a hole on the left, then out of the corresponding hole on the right. You check that they have got them right (your family tree should still be on the board to guide them), then they tie something on the other ends. Now if they pull the string out of any hole, the other end which moves will show the connection between name and title.

7. Story – in worksheet with missing words to write in, so read it exactly as written, rather than in your own words.

At the age of five or six Bahá'u'lláh had a dream. He told His father about it.

In the dream He found Himself in a garden.

Huge birds were attacking Him from every side, but were unable to hurt Him.

He then went to the sea.

As He was swimming the fish of the sea attacked Him.

Again none of them harmed Him.

Bahá'u'lláh 's father called in a famous seer.

A seer was someone who could explain the meaning of dreams.

The seer said that the dream showed that Bahá'u'lláh would become the founder of a Great Cause.

The leaders and the learned men throughout the world would attack Him, like the birds and the fish in the dream.

But, like them, they would not be able to do Him any harm.

He finished by saying that Bahá'u'lláh would be victorious over all.

8. Music.

Sing “God’s love” (see separate sheet).

Could join with year 4 for this, if their teacher agrees.

9. Activity.

Could start to decorate the words of the song, or leave this for homework.

10. Worksheet. give it out at this point.

11. Writings

*“Know assuredly that My commandments are the lamps of My loving providence among My servants, and the keys of My mercy for My creatures.”*

Bahá'u'lláh: *Kitáb-i-Aqdas*, K3 [in the worksheet].

Teacher reads it first, while students follow the words.

12. Activity

Explain any words not understood by students, then explain the meaning of the quotation. Then each student reads the quotation.

13. Revision of this lesson – refer to items in worksheet.
14. Set Homework.  
Fill in the missing words, learn the words of the song, and read the quotation morning and evening. (and finish decorating song, if not already done.)