



Enmity

Objectives >>>

Students should:

- Understand that sometimes we may not get along with a person for some reason
- Understand that we are not permitted to be bad to anyone, if they might have been bad to us
- Know that there are good ways to deal with those we can't get along with

SOCIAL ISLAM

LEVEL 1

Not Liking 'Everyone'

There are many types of people in the world. We get along with different people in different ways. We love some people, we like some people and there are some people we may not like at all.

Why do we feel like this?

- Some people may be very good to us, or we might like the same toys or games so we *like* them.
- Other people may help us or take care of us, like our parents and family, so we *love* them.
- But some people are mean to us and hurt our feelings and this makes us *not like* them at all.

Today we will learn what to do when we are with the people who are not kind to us, and see if we can try to make them our friends.

When someone is bad to us we also feel like being bad to them. But this is *not* how Allah (SWT) likes us to behave.

- Allah (SWT) has said in the Qur'an that He loves people who do good things. So, if someone makes us angry, we should be patient and try to forgive them.
- Allah also likes us to look for the good side of things instead of the bad.

Is there in your school whom you don't like? Try and think why you don't like them. Then think and see if there is something good about that person, which you can like. In this way, you can look at the good side of people instead of only their negative side.

ALI'S STORY

In Ali's class, there are many children who like to play soccer. Every lunchtime, the children all go up to the oval and play soccer together. Anwar and Hamid don't like Ali because he is very fast, and always scores a goal, so they don't pass the ball to him.



How do you think Ali feels?

Ali is upset, and he feels like getting angry and telling off the two boys. He also wants to tell his friends to kick Anwar and Hamid out of the game.

What do you think Ali should do? Let's think!

If Ali listens to Allah, he will try and find a way out of his anger. He can try and understand how the two boys feel.

- Maybe Hamid and Anwar are angry because Ali always scores all the goals, and no-one else gets a chance.
- Maybe they are jealous because Ali is so good at scoring, and they wish they could be like him.
- Perhaps Ali, Anwar and Hamid could work together. They could help take the ball off the other team, and pass it to Ali. In this way, their team can score a goal!



ZAHRA'S STORY

Zahra was at her Grandma's for a big family party with her cousins. All the girls were together doing some colouring in. One of Zahra's younger cousins Batool was using the gold and silver texta and wouldn't share it with anyone.

The girls decided to be mean to Batool and told her she couldn't colour in anymore until she gave them the gold and silver back for everyone to share.



Batool started to cry.

Zahra felt bad for Batool, and told the other cousins that Batool should be given a chance to share the pencils, not told to leave.

Zahra said Allah is happy when we are kind to others and try to help them. The others were not sure it would work, because they knew Batool could be selfish at times. Then Zahra showed them the fairy Batool had coloured in so well, and repeated that they should give her a second chance.

Batool was so pleased when the cousins allowed her to join them again. She agreed to share the pencils so everyone got to use all the colours.

Do you know someone like Ali or Zahra?

Have you been treated like Batool, Anwar or Hamid by your friends or cousins?

BEING GOOD MUSLIMS

These stories show us that good Muslims should always try their best to be kind to others. There may be times when someone is mean to you, however if you want to please Allah (SWT) you should not be mean back to them. Try and remain calm and think of ways that you can be nice to them.

Allah (SWT) does not allow us to be mean to someone, even if they were mean first. Allah (SWT) asks us to treat them kindly and forgive them, and if we do then they might become our friends.

If we have tried again and again to be friendly and they still won't be kind to us then we should just stay away from them.

However this does not mean that we should tell other people that we hate them because Allah (SWT) does not like this behaviour either.

NO ENEMIES

We have spoken about how to make our enemies our friends, however it is even more important that we do not make enemies in the first place. If we are always kind to people then there will be no reason for them to dislike us.

Therefore whenever someone is not kind to us, before blaming them for being mean we should first look at ourselves and see if we have done or said anything that may have hurt their feelings.

We should always try our best to be kind to people through our actions and words and not make fun of someone even if it is a joke.

MAKING ENEMIES INTO FRIENDS

One day there was a man who came to the city where Imam Ḥasan (as) was living. This man was from a town where people used to say lies about Imam 'Ali (as) to make others hate him.

Therefore when the man saw Imam Ḥasan (as), he knew that it was Imam 'Ali's (as) son and started to swear about Imam 'Ali (as).

Wouldn't it make you angry if someone said nasty things about your father? What would you feel like doing?

Imam Ḥasan (as) knew that this man was wrong and that Allah (SWT) did not love those who were rude, so he remained patient.

Once the man finished swearing, the Imam asked him where he was from and offered to take him to his house. He offered the man some food and a place to rest from his journey.

The Imam fed him lunch and began to talk to the man. He asked him to stay as long as he wanted. At the end of his stay, the man was so impressed by the Imam's behaviour and kindness to him that he became one of his close followers.

This shows us that because the Imam was so kind to this man, he was able to change his heart and make him love Imam 'Ali (as) instead of hating him.

Remember: It is through our actions that we can make friends or enemies.