

✘ Bonding to School ✘

YOUNG PERSON CARES ABOUT HER OR HIS SCHOOL.

By Miesha Martin

Edited by Lyle Griner and Marie Sundet © 2006 EveryDay LLC, Bloomington, MN

Miesha, a senior at Augsburg College loves burnt pizza, popcorn, and hot dogs on the grill. A newlywed military wife, and a mother of a 2 year old daughter, in her spare time she likes to be with her family, and friends. She knits, sews, and does various arts and crafts.


Deuteronomy 10:19 – You shall also love the stranger for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

I never worry _____ I worry a lot


Getting good grades – School spirit – Being accepted by peers – Safety at school –
Doing well at an activity or sport – Everyone being accepted –
How I appear to others – That I may be talked into something I
don't want to do – Keeping up with everyone's expectations –
That I am helping my school be a better place

- Do you like school? Why or why not?
- What is the best thing about your school?
- What is the worst thing about your school?
- Why don't some people bond with their school?
- When have you been a stranger?
- What made you feel like a stranger? What did you do?
- Why might God place so much importance on welcoming strangers?
- What does this say about what God values?
- What does God hope we will be like?
- What makes school easy or hard for you?
- How can you make school a caring place?
- How does bonding to school relate to responding to God's love?
- What are ways to bond with God?
- Why do you think it is so hard to bond with other people at school?



So What? 

- I will take action by...

Candle Time 

The Serenity Prayer
 God grant me the serenity
 To accept the things I cannot change,
 Courage to change the things I can,
 And wisdom to know the difference.

EXPLORE

Leviticus 19:18	... shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am Lord.
Thessalonians 2:7	... we were gentle among you like a nurse tenderly...
Ephesians 6:23	Peace be to the whole community and love with...
Romans 5:8	...while we still were sinners Christ died for us.
Exodus 22:27	... And if your neighbor cries out to me I will listen for...
2 Samuel 2:6:	...may the Lord show steadfast love and faithfulness...



Leader Page

Discussion Goal

Enhance school experience by caring and welcoming everyone.

Background

A mother with a new baby bonds with the baby by spending time, taking care of, being there for the hard times and loving the baby. School Bonding is similar in that it takes time, experiences, navigation of rough situations, and being affirmed as well as giving back to the people and institution. Bonding to school can be a positive experience if it is both a receiving and giving situation. It is in this giving and receiving that students find they are no longer strangers in a foreign land. (Duet. 10:19)

In Leviticus 19:17, the need for supporting one another is emphasized: "You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin, you shall reprove your neighbor or you will incur guilt yourself." We are all sisters and brothers in Christ, meaning that no matter where we are, we are willing to accept others. Schools can be easy places to get lost in the crowd, to feel like we don't have a friend in the world, and needed someone to take the time to welcome and accept us. Open up your heart, and let someone new in.

Motivate

Write on a card "I Never Worry." Write "I Worry A Lot" on a second card. Lay the cards about three feet apart from each other in the center of your circle. Each person is to find a small object that represents him or her such as an earring, coin, key or anything else found in a pocket or purse. Lay your marker along a line between the cards according to how often you worry about each of the issues listed below.

As the facilitator you may want to ask questions such as:

- What was your reason for placing your marker where you did?
 - What would have to happen for you to worry less?
 - What stories or memories illustrate why you placed your marker where you did?
 - How does your answer cause you to feel?
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