

Disciplining Dilemmas Answer Sheet
Early Steps with Jesus
Session 4: Workbook pages 21-22

These answers are not intended to be only possible options, but rather to point you in the right direction as you answer the questions in the Early Steps with Jesus workbook.

1. One child has just started nursery. They spend the time running around hitting other children. What will you do?
 - a) *You need to enforce and keep enforcing that their behaviour is wrong.*
 - b) *They need to say sorry to the other children.*
 - c) *If necessary make them sit next to you.*
 - d) *Make sure you affirm them at some point during the pre-cell.*
 - e) *Inform their parents afterwards of their action.*
 - f) *Pray for the child during the week.*

2. A six-month-old baby keeps crying and crying. How will you discipline them?
 - a) *This child does NOT need to be disciplined – you need to find out why they are crying and help them with that. If nothing helps and they are getting distressed call their parents. Are they:*
 - a. *Hungry*
 - b. *Wet*
 - c. *Tired*
 - d. *Wind*
 - e. *Missing mummy*

3. None of your children will sit and listen during the word. What will you do to change this?
 - a) *Pray.*
 - b) *Review your teaching – is it too long, or is it not interesting.*
 - c) *Use attention grabbing things such as action songs and group activities to get their attention in preparation for the pre-cell.*
 - d) *Keep going – the children may well be taking in more than you think.*
 - e) *Discuss with the other leaders how you can work together to change things.*

4. One child keeps behaving in a sexual manner towards other children. What should you do to stop this behaviour?
 - a) *Pray.*
 - b) *Ask the child what they are doing, tell them to stop.*
 - c) *If they do not stop sit them by you.*
 - d) *Ask questions, but not leading questions: where did you learn this, not does daddy do this with you.*
 - e) *Suspect abuse. Do not speak to the parents about this, but discuss it with your child protection coordinator of your church to know how to proceed. (This will be discussed further in session 6).*
 - f) *Keep an eye out for that child over the coming weeks.*

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5. You see a girl who is normally just one step away from perfection being extremely rude to one of the other children. On further investigation you discover that it seems as if this attack was completely unprovoked. You are surprised that she should do something so out of character. The other child is really upset and justice must not only be done, but also be seen to be done. How will you deal with this situation?
 - a) *She has done something extremely out of character. The most important question to answer is WHY? What's happened during the week, is everything alright at home, etc.?*
 - b) *You can have gentle words with her, enforcing that it is quite unlike her, ensure that she says sorry to the other child, and then follow it up further with her on her own. Also remember to speak with the parents.*

6. You catch one of your children hitting a small baby. What will you do?
 - a) *They may not know that what they have done is wrong. You will need to explain this to them as part of their social development.*
 - b) *Inform the parents, find out if anything is taking place at home, e.g. the arrival of a new baby.*

7. A child has a tantrum in front of you. What will you do?
 - a) *If the child is safe and not hurting others ignore them – this is the best way to end a tantrum.*
 - b) *If the child is a danger or distraction carefully carry them to a different area to finish the tantrum. Speak gently to them as you do so.*
 - c) *If you know the cause of the tantrum (e.g. they want another biscuit and you have said no) do not give in to them, this will only reinforce the tantrum behaviour and the child will be in control of you, not the other way round.*
 - d) *Inform the parents.*
 - e) *Pray for the child midweek.*

8. A child snatches a toy from one of the other children, what will you do?
 - a) *Remember children this age are egocentric. The issue may well be that they need to be taught this is wrong by your words and actions.*
 - b) *Discipline is required here to restore the toy to the first child.*
 - c) *By doing this both children can learn it is wrong and the first child receives a sense of justice (fairness).*
 - d) *It's a great opportunity to teach both children how to share:
"We'll let William keep playing with it for a bit longer.
When you have finished then Lizzie can have her turn."*

