



DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER

This *INspire* video explores the theme of judgement and assumptions.



Isaac explains the danger of making assumptions and judgements about people simply by looking at their outward appearance.

You will need:

- *INspire: Don't judge a book by its cover* video, available from scriptureunion.org.uk/inspire
- a means of playing the video to your group
- pens and paper
- 5 printed, copyright free images of people in various styles of clothing
- 5 groups of character traits that pair with the 5 images, written on separate pieces of paper

A short activity to help your group explore the video theme:

Invite the young people to match the character traits to the images, then discuss the following questions with the group:

- What do you think the profession or job is of each of the people in the images?
- What assumptions have you made to match the character traits with the person?

Questions to help your group explore the video theme:

- What do you think the phrase 'don't judge a book by its cover' means?
- Has there been a time when you made a wrong assumption about someone, based on their appearance?
- In the *INspire* video, Isaac made a judgement about his opponent, based on his age. Why was he wrong?
- We often have strong opinions on celebrities and sports-stars etc, based on what we see on TV. Why can this be unfair?
- What things can we do to avoid making assumptions and judgements about people?





Scripture Union

Questions to help your group explore the video Bible passage (1 Samuel 16:7):

- In 1 Samuel 16:7, God tells Samuel that he does not see a person's outward appearance but looks at their heart. What do you think this means?
- Why do you think God looks at the heart and not the outward appearance?
- Can you give examples of how we can apply this to our everyday lives, particularly when meeting people and making friends?
- Often, we focus on our appearance rather than our character. How can we be more focused on our heart?
- How can we help others to look at people's hearts rather than just their outward appearance?

If you are not sure if your group is ready to explore the Bible passage for themselves, you may prefer to say the following words instead – allowing time for your young people to reflect on what you have shared

Isaac made a wrong judgement about his table tennis opponent because of his age and appearance. In 1 Samuel 16:7, God tells Samuel not to look at a person's outward appearance, but to look at their heart. We should never judge a person by their gender, race, age, height, weight, clothes etc, but seek to understand that person by speaking with them and building a relationship.

For hints and tips on Using the Bible with the 95, please visit the Scripture Union website and search for 'Bible Exploration Principles'.



INSPIRE

www.scriptureunion.org.uk