

Children's sermon: January 18, 2009
"Martin"

How about this song? ----- Billy Gillman ... singing to the words of our young friend Mattie Stepanek.
It's a song about COLOR.

And it reminds me of a lesson Fred learned long ago ... a lesson about color.

Fred always wanted to be in charge of his own country ... i.e., he wanted to be a RULER.

See this ruler????? (please, don't groan!!)

Now ... as a ruler ... he thought he could decide who is welcome in his county and who is not.

Fred is RED ... so, he only invites red people to come into his country.

Bob is blue ---- Fred says "no."

Sara is pink ---- Fred says "no."

Look what happens when only one color of people is in your country ----- well, the country is out-of-balance ... and ... IT COLLAPSES!!

Along comes Martin.

Martin is a "ruler," too ... but he is different.

He tells Fred ---- "It's good to be a ruler, and you can be a good one. But --- God makes us all different colors ... colors are fun ... and inside each one of us ... we have a heart and a soul.

But, Fred ----- don't keep someone out of your country because of color.

This is not the way God wants us to live."

So, Martin helps Fred understand ... different colors are good ...
and we need all colors in our country.

Let's try building this country again.

This time ---- all colors are welcome: blue, pink, red, black, white, brown ...

And ----- there is balance.

As you can see ... our new country doesn't tip over.

Look what Martin has he has a level.

He puts the level on the ruler ... and when the "little bubble" on the level is in the middle ...

it means: everything in this country is on the level.

My friends ... each of you is a unique color.

Each of you has a heart and a soul ----- and this is what binds us together.

Now ... when you go home ... when you go to school ... when you are on the playground ...

make sure things are "on the level."

And ... if they are not ... well, I'm giving you your very own level ----- to make sure we are always treating each other with love and respect.

Are we on the "same level"????? ... I hope so.