

## Lesson #9 – The Blind Circle

The purpose of this activity is to illustrate how the Body of Christ works. (The activity goes well with the Parable of the Orchestra in the lesson itself). Push back chairs and tables so the group members can stand to form a circle and join hands. *The number of people in the circle must be a multiple of four (such as eight or twelve).* You need at least eight to make the activity work. If there are not enough group members present, you may be able to get older children from the host family to participate. If you have more people than is needed, the leftover individuals can be observers and help enforce the rules.

Once the circle is formed, tell the members to hang on tightly to their neighbor's hands and to close their eyes completely shut. They must keep their eyes closed until you say to open them. Now tell them that they have ten minutes to form a perfect square. They can talk to each other but they cannot look or let go of hands. No leader should be appointed ahead of time. Tell them to let you know when the group feels, as a whole, that they are done. When they're finished, they open their eyes to see how their square looks. If the group needs more than ten minutes, add a couple of minutes and countdown for additional excitement.

When finished, members go back to their original chairs and debrief the activity. Ask what they learned about how the Body of Christ should function. Some key points to cover are:

1. How well did leadership function?
2. How well did people communicate?
3. Emphasize especially how important it was that they all had a common mental picture of what a square looked like. If they had never seen a square, it would be impossible to form one together. Likewise, unless they share a common vision of what church should be, it would be just as impossible to form one together. *In fact, the main purpose of the Spiritual Body Building lessons is to instill that mutual vision.*
4. How well did they cooperate?
5. Was everyone's input solicited and valued?
6. How did it feel to be part of the group?