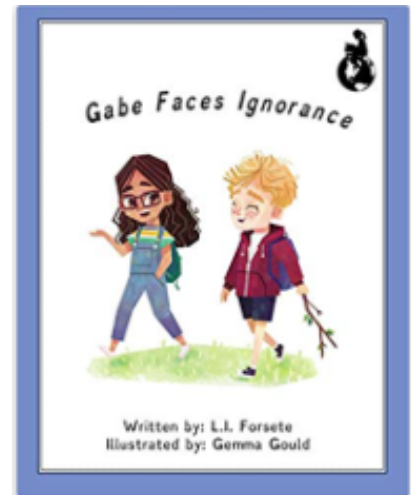


Gabe Faces Ignorance

by: L.I. Forsete

In this book, a boy learns his friend is Muslim and how some games can be hurtful to others.

- On the back of the book, there is a definition of ignorance. Share why it is difficult at times to seek the truth. What part does fear play? What part does feeling safe play? Is it wrong to blame a group of people for the actions of some who identify as the same race or religion?
- Sofia and her family are afraid to share their faith with others. Why do you think that is? What fears do you think Sofia's parents have for her? What do you think it would be like to be afraid to tell people about your faith?
- Share your understanding of jihad. What did you think it was and why? What does it mean? What sacrifices do you make?
- Do you think it would be harmful for people to think you are bad because of your faith or race? Talk about some things you do in your life that might be different if others were afraid of you or believed you were "bad" because of your faith or race. Would it change the way you make friends? Would it change the way you approach other people (meet them or talk to them)?
- Gabe learns that playing games, which make a race of people the enemy, is hurtful to others and wrong. What would it feel like to hear other children playing a game where your family was the bad guys or enemy? Do you think these types of games teach children and others to think badly about a group of people (the ones the children are making the "bad" guys)? What do you think younger children watching older children play this type of game are teaching the younger children about the group they call the "bad guys"? What do they learn? What could you say if you see other children playing this type of game? What would you say if you are asked to play this type of game?
- Sometimes people tell jokes naming a group of people as stupid or bad or ugly. What can we do if we hear that type of joke?
- How can we show respect to someone whose faith is different from ours?



Parents:

It is through learning, listening, and sharing our hospitality with others, we can get to know others. Loving our neighbor includes those whose faith is different from ours.

We are all God's children, we are all created by God, and we are all loved by God. When we love our neighbor, we treat them with kindness and caring. Any game or joke that puts down another is not loving; but encourages mistrust, fear, and cruelty.