

“Faithfulness”

Readings: Ruth 1:16; Psalm 86:15; 89:1; 100:5; 1 Samuel 12:24; Hebrews 11:1; Romans 3:3-4

Lesson Objective: The student will learn the importance of faith.

Materials: not needed

Memory Verse: *“Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths”* (Proverbs 3:5-6).

Lesson Summary

What is faith? The Bible tells us that “faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (He 11:1). Hebrew 11:6 reminds us that “without faith it is impossible to please” God. The story of Ruth is a perfect example of what being faithful means. Ruth was the daughter-in-law of Naomi. Tragedy struck Naomi’s family, and she lost her husband and both of her sons. Ruth remained faithful to Naomi in the most difficult time of her and Naomi’s life. Ruth could have returned home to her own family after her husband died, but she refused to abandon Naomi and chose to suffer with her. Because of her faithfulness, she and Naomi were blessed abundantly. God blessed Ruth with a husband, a son, a home, food, and someone to help take care of her and Naomi. God expects us to be faithful in all that we do for him – faithful in our prayers, in Bible reading, and in church attendance! As Christians, we may have to endure some difficult times in our lives, but if we remain faithful to God he will be faithful to us. Ruth’s loyal devotion to her mother-in-law should inspire us to be faithful to God, to his truth, and to his church.

BIBLE POINT: Keep the Faith

Ideas to Illuminate

Have the students to take turns falling into the arms of the Teacher. Before each child falls into your arms, ask him/her, “Do you trust me?”

Once each child has had a turn, explain to them that you were faithful in catching them. All they had to do was trust you and be obedient.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What does it mean to be faithful?
2. How was Ruth faithful to Naomi?
3. What can we learn from the story of Ruth?



“Meekness”

Readings: Numbers 12:3; 1 Peter 5:5; Matthew 5:5; 11:28-30; John 13:4-5, 12-17; Philippians 2:3

Lesson Objective: The student will learn the meaning of meekness.

Materials: Straws, M&Ms (or any similar candy), and four bowls.

Memory Verse: *“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls”* (Matthew 11:28-29).

Lesson Summary

Meekness is a fruit of the Spirit. It can be described as being mild, gentle, humble, tenderhearted, patient, slow to anger, controlled, moderate, not self-seeking, and self-less. The meek person is a gentle person. They do what is right before God in every situation. They do not have a dominating spirit but will often give up their rights for the good of another. Meekness prefers a brother. Meekness is being happy when others have things that you don't. A person who is not meek thinks highly of himself and isn't happy unless everyone is doing what he wants to do. When you are meek, God will make you strong. Often, people think of meekness as weakness! Numbers 12:3 tells us that “Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.” This proves that meekness cannot mean weakness! The task given to Moses by God was not an easy task. He confronted Pharaoh at least a dozen times and led the largest group of grumblers through the wilderness for forty years while all along solving problem after problem for them. Moses thought of himself as a servant in relationship to God, so he quietly and gently submitted to God's will. He refused to elevate his own importance over that of God, exercising his authority in humility. He sought to glorify God in all that he did. Meekness is a part of God's character therefore we must make every effort to make meekness a part of our character.

BIBLE POINT: Be Gentle

Ideas to Illuminate

Divide the class in to two groups. Have them to move the M&Ms from one bowl to another by sucking through the straw and getting the M&Ms to stick to the straw. The team that moves the most M&Ms at the end wins. Gentle movements are the key. If they move to abruptly the candy will fall off the straw.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What is meekness?
2. Other than Jesus, who is a person in the Bible who was meek?



“Temperance”

Readings: James 1:19-20; Mathew 4:1-11; Proverbs 16:32; 21:23; 25:28; 1 Peter 2:23; Romans 13:14

Lesson Objective: The student will learn why self-control is important.

Materials: bubble mixture, marshmallows or any type of candy

Memory Verse: *“He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls”* (Proverbs 25:28).

Lesson Summary

Temperance or self-control is a fruit of the Spirit. Do you know what it means to have self-control? Self-control is being in charge of your feelings, your actions, and your thoughts. It’s being nice to someone who hasn’t been nice to you or waiting patiently for something you really want now! Jesus is our perfect model of self-control. In Matthew 4:1-11, Jesus was tempted three times by Satan. Each time he was able to resist Satan and remain obedient unto God. He resisted Satan through self-control and the Word of God. Self-control is crucial for spiritual growth. It helps us resist temptation and control our actions. Without self-control we become weak and sin will eventually destroy us. Lack of self-control is evident in the story of Cain and Abel. Cain’s jealousy caused him to kill his brother. Eve’s disobedience in the garden showed her lack of self-control as well. Having self-control allows us to live a righteous and selfless life that reflects Christ and brings glory to God. As Christians, we are able to display the fruit of self-control as we abide in the Spirit and trust in Christ. We are showing self-control by making wise choices and thinking before we act. So ask yourself, “What would Jesus do?”

BIBLE POINT: Show Self Control

Ideas to Illuminate

- 1.) Using the bubble mixture, blow bubbles and allow the children to pop them. After several minutes of bubble blowing, challenge them to not pop the bubbles even if it lands on them.
- 2.) At the beginning of class offer each child a marshmallow/candy that they can immediately eat or two marshmallows/candy if they choose to wait until the end of class.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What would happen to a city if its walls were broken down?
2. If we didn’t have self-control, what would happen to us?
3. What areas of your life lack self-control?



“Walking in the Spirit”

Readings: Romans 6:6; 8:3-8, 13-14; Galatians 5:16, 22-25; Ephesians 5:8, 1 John 2:6

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that walking in the Spirit produces fruit pleasing unto God.

Materials: Blind fold, and items for obstacle course.

Memory Verse: “This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh” (Galatians 5:16).

Lesson Summary

Throughout the Bible, we are warned about our flesh and the consequences of following the desires of our flesh. In Galatians chapter 5, the Bible tells us that if we walk in the Spirit, we will not give in to the desires of our flesh. What does walk in the Spirit mean? How can we walk in the Spirit? To walk in the Spirit means to follow the leading of God’s Spirit. It means to deny our desires and to walk in line with the commandments of God. When we are yielding to our flesh, we produce bad fruit. When we are being led by God’s Spirit, we produce the fruit pleasing unto God. We cannot do as we please and follow Jesus. We know that we are walking in the Spirit when our life begins to show the fruit of the Spirit. It is impossible to walk victoriously in the Spirit without spending unhurried time in fellowship with the Lord. We must spend time in his Word (i.e. reading the Bible), time in prayer, and time listening for his direction. To be like Jesus, we must walk in the ways of God’s Spirit and bear the fruit of the Spirit.

BIBLE POINT: Live to Please God

Ideas to Illuminate

Pick a child to blindfold. Have another child give directions to the blind-folded child in order to help him reach a designated spot in the classroom. If possible, design an obstacle course to make it a little more difficult. Explain that we must become as the blind-folded child and become completely dependent on God for our direction.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What does it mean to walk in the Spirit?
2. How can we walk in the Spirit?
3. Can we be pleasing unto God if we aren’t walking in the Spirit?



“The Gospel”

Readings: 2 Corinthians 5:21; John 1:9; John 11:25; Romans 3:23; Romans 6:23

Lesson Objective: Students should understand that the Gospel or “Good News” is the message of Jesus Christ and the salvation he alone brings.

Materials: Sheets of yellow, black, red, white, and green construction paper, stapler

Memory Verse: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16).

Lesson Summary

What happens when we have some good news? Maybe we got a really neat gift for Christmas or our birthday. Perhaps we made really good grades or received a reward for something. When we see our friends or speak with people, what do we do with that news? We have been given the greatest news that mankind has ever known – the good news that Jesus, the Son of the one true and living God, came to Earth. He then died for us on the cross so that we might be saved. Saved from what? Mankind was born into sin. This means we do things naturally against God’s laws, and that comes with a punishment. We cannot live in heaven with the Lord if we are sinners separated from God by our sins and wrongdoings. However, when Jesus died on the cross, he did it to save us from our sins. His blood has the power to cleanse us and take away our sins. He then was buried and on the third day rose again. His resurrection gives us the promise that one day we will rise again to go to live with him in heaven. If we tell Jesus that we are truly sorry for our sins and believe that he is God’s only Son, we can receive his salvation from our sins. Then we can turn from our sins and live a life that follows his teachings. Because of Jesus, we can live in heaven one day! This is great news for all of us! So the Bible tells us that we are supposed to tell everyone about the gospel, or “good news” of Jesus. This commandment was given to us by Jesus and is sometimes known as “The Great Commission.” Missionaries share this good news with people all around the world, and you and I are to share this good news as well. If we love Jesus, we should tell others!

BIBLE POINT: Jesus is the Good News

Ideas to Illuminate

1. Place the sheets of paper in order (from top to bottom): yellow, black, red, white, and green.
2. Fold the construction paper in half to make a book (you could make two books from each sheet by cutting them in half, then folding); staple to hold pages in place.
3. Yellow represents heaven where we want to go; black represents sin keeping us from heaven; red represents the blood of Jesus; white represents justification by faith in Jesus that removes sin; and green represents new life in Christ. Students can use this book to share the gospel with others.

Questions for Class Discussion:

“What is the gospel?” [Have students to practice answering this question by using their books and sharing the gospel until they can comfortably talk about each color.]



“Go”

Readings: Matthew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-18; Luke 5:3-11; Matthew 16:24

Lesson Objective: Students should understand following Christ will lead us to new places and to new people.

Materials: Poster board or construction paper, pencils, scissors, markers or crayons

Memory Verse: *“Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me”* (Matthew 16:24).

Lesson Summary

When Jesus began his ministry, he called twelve disciples, those who would follow him closely and learn his teachings. Then later on, they shared his teachings with others and began building God’s church. When Jesus called the disciples, their immediate response was to leave everything they were doing and literally to follow after him. They did not hesitate to GO when Jesus called. They left their jobs, their family, and all they knew to follow Jesus. They left the cities or towns they lived in and their homes to obey the Messiah. Today, Jesus is still calling disciples. He calls us to accept the gospel and then to follow him. This means we, like the disciples, must be willing to GO wherever he tells us to GO. Some of us may be asked to GO to new places and share the gospel with new people. Others might be asked to GO into the community or town you live in, and to share the gospel with those around you. The most important thing to remember is that when we accept Jesus into our hearts, we must also be willing to follow Jesus and to GO wherever he leads us. There is an old song that says, “I have decided to follow Jesus; I have decided to follow Jesus; I have decided to follow Jesus; No turning back, no turning back.” To GO where he leads us is part of being a good disciple. By following and obeying Christ, we show him how much we love him. As we GO with the gospel, he then uses us to share the good news of salvation with others. So let’s follow Jesus, and let’s GO with the gospel.

BIBLE POINT: Go With The Gospel

Ideas to Illuminate

1. Have students to trace their shoes/feet on the poster board or construction paper.
2. Allow students to cut out the shape of his shoes/feet.
3. Write the memory verse on the cutout (shoes/feet) to remind us to follow Christ wherever he tells us to go.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What did the disciples do when Jesus called them?
2. How is this important for us today?
3. What does it mean to follow Christ?



“The Mission – All the World”

Readings: Matthew 28:19-20; Matthew 24:14; 1 Chronicles 16:24

Lesson Objective: Students should understand that the gospel is meant to be shared with the entire world.

Materials: Map of the world, pushpins or thumbtacks, copy of world handout, crayons

Memory Verse: “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost” (Matthew 28:19).

Lesson Summary

[Note: If available, show students a map of the entire world. Ask them if they recognize what it is (depending on their ages). Then ask them to identify the place they live. Have them to look at their spot on the map, and then look at how much of the world remains.] When we look at the Great Commission, Jesus said, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel.” Have you ever thought about what it takes to share Jesus with people all over the world? What barriers or obstacles must be overcome to share the gospel with people around the world? Jesus commanded that we do just that. We have learned that we have the gospel or “Good News” about Jesus, and we are commanded to GO! Now we have to understand that going means to the whole world. The Bible says in 1 Chronicles 16:24, “Declare his glory among the heathen; his marvellous works among all nations.” We are to testify of God and tell what he has done in our lives wherever we may go in this great big world—the whole world needs to know about Jesus. When Jesus gave this command, he wanted to make sure we understood that the message was for the whole world. Remember John 3:16 states, “For God so loved the world....” He loves all the people of the world the same. He looks on all of us and wants everyone to have a chance to know about the gift he gave—his only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. So God doesn’t love one group of people or one nation more than others. He loves the entire world, and he wants them to know the good news of Jesus and his salvation.

BIBLE POINT: The Gospel is for the World

Ideas to Illuminate

1. If you have space available, hang a map of the world and then have students help to place pushpins in countries where Zion Assembly has churches.
2. Give every student a copy of the world with countries (if possible).
3. Color the countries that we have reached in Zion Assembly. Count the number of countries we have not reached. Discuss the results.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Why did God say to go into the whole world?
2. What are some challenges we face in spreading the gospel to the world?
3. How do we tell the world about Jesus?



“The Mission – Preach”

Readings: Romans 10:13-14; Matthew 28:18-20; Matthew 10:5-7; Acts 1:8; Isaiah 61: 1-3

Lesson Objective: Students should understand that we are commanded to preach and teach the gospel, as Jesus did while on Earth.

Materials: none

Memory Verse: “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound” (Isaiah 61:1).

Lesson Summary

Isaiah the prophet wrote of the work that Christ will do when he comes to Earth. In Isaiah 61, we learn that Jesus is the savior that will save people from their sins. He will heal the brokenhearted, bring freedom to those who are bound to the chains of sin, and then set them free. This is what Jesus came to Earth to do for each of us. As disciples of Christ, we are supposed to be like him. We are to continue what he started while he walked on Earth. We are to preach the gospel. What does it mean to preach? The word “preach” actually means to publicly proclaim or teach. We see that in the gospels, Mark wrote “preach,” but Matthew used the word “teach.” This lets us know that the words mean the same. When we are teaching, we are fulfilling the command Jesus gave before he went back to heaven. We are also doing what Jesus said when we “publicly proclaim” or testify about what God has done for us. When you share what Jesus has done for you, telling people that he will do the same for them, then you are fulfilling the Great Commission. God has called preachers and teachers in his church, but he has commanded all of us to tell who Jesus is and what he has done for us. When we do this and others learn about him, we are truly acting as disciples of Christ. We have the Good News of salvation that everyone needs to hear. Let’s go into the whole world and preach the gospel. This should be our purpose as Christians because it’s the job Christ called us to do.

BIBLE POINT: We Must Preach the Gospel

Ideas to Illuminate

1. Ask students to think about what God has done for them.
2. Have them practice testifying in front of the class.
3. If students are old enough, give them a memory verse from this month and ask them to explain what it means.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What does it mean to “preach?”
2. How do we “preach” the gospel?
3. Why are we supposed to share the Good News with others?



“The Mission – Every Creature”

Readings: Luke 3:6; Romans 10:13-14; John 12:32

Lesson Objective: Students should understand that the gospel is for everyone.

Materials: poster board/paper, pencil, markers

Memory Verse: “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Romans 10:13).

Lesson Summary

When Jesus came to Earth, he did not come for only one group of people. The Jews thought the Messiah would come for them, but God had a bigger plan. Jesus was for the Jews, but also for the Gentiles. He ate with sinners, rescuing people who had done terrible things. He healed lepers that were considered unclean and not allowed to be part of the community. He dined with the rich, but he also took care of the poor. Jesus rebuked the disciples when they tried to keep him from the children. He ministered to women, men, boys, and girls from all walks of life and all nationalities. For this reason, it is no surprise that he commanded us to preach the “gospel to every creature.” This means we take it to everyone—not just to people we like or are like us. We are to share Christ with the poor, the rich, the sinners, and with people of all nations. Everyone is to be told about Jesus. Luke 3:6 says, “And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” When we look at the Word of God, we realize that it is full of examples where Jesus reached out to those no one else wanted to help. Think about your school or town. Think about the kids you see everyday. Some may not dress like you, look like you, or even act like you. Some might even be mean to you and to others. God’s Word says we are to share the gospel with all creatures, or everyone. How do we share with those who are so different from us? How do we share with those who are not kind? Jesus showed love to men and was moved with compassion for the needs of others. Remember, we are to be like Christ, so we must tell everyone the Good News of Jesus!

BIBLE POINT: The Gospel is for Everyone

Ideas to Illuminate

1. Have students to brainstorm and to create a list of people they know that need to hear about Jesus.
2. Make a list on a poster board in class. Begin to pray for these people.
3. Discuss how students can share the Gospel with those on the list.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Does God want us to share Jesus with only certain people? Explain.
2. How did Jesus set the example for us?
3. Do we share Jesus with people who are different from us? Why?

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“The Mission – Bring A Friend”

Readings: Mark 2:15-17; Luke 19:1-10

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that building friendship is a great way to share salvation.

Materials: Poster board and marker

Memory Verse: *“And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to-day I must abide at thy house” (Lu. 19:5).*

Lesson Summary

[Note: read the story of Zacchaeus to the students in Luke 19:1-10.] Life is always better when you share it with a friend. Friends like to share gifts, stories, hugs, toys, secrets and many other things. But of all the wonderful things that we could share with others, the best thing that we could share is Jesus. Jesus taught us by his example how to be the best friend that we could ever be. He spent time eating and visiting with those who needed salvation – people like Zacchaeus (Lu. 19:1-10; Mk. 2:15-17). Zacchaeus was a tax collector and considered a bad sinner, but Jesus picked him out of the crowd and wanted to be his friend. He went home with Zacchaeus and spent time talking with him. On that day, Jesus said, “This day is salvation come to this house” (Lu. 19:9). Friendship is a great way to reach others with salvation. If we truly care about others, then we should take time to visit with them and share Jesus with them. We need to build strong friendships with one another in the Lord. The more we share Jesus with each other, the closer we will become to the Lord and the closer we will become to each other. As we encourage one another in the Lord, we will then have help along the way – someone to stand beside us and support us in our faith. Friendships in Christ have a strong and lasting bond. So remember, when we share Jesus, we share the most wonderful gift. Good friends like to share many things with each other. Best friends share Jesus!

BIBLE POINT: Be a Friend and Share Jesus

Ideas to Illuminate

1. At the top of a poster board write “Be a Friend.” Have the students to make a list of all the ways we can be a friend to others, and write them on the poster board. Help them to think of creative, yet practical ways to be a friend. Hang the poster in the classroom.
2. Act out a modern story of Zacchaeus like it is happening on a school playground. Zach is a new student, an outsider, and nobody likes him. You – a Christian – see him hanging out on the playground. Being a Christian, how can you reach out to Zach and be his friend?

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. In today’s story, Jesus stopped and talked with whom?
2. What did the people of Jericho think of Zacchaeus? And why?
3. What did Jesus think of Zacchaeus?



“The Mission – Talking About Jesus”

Readings: Joshua 1:9; Psalms 56:3-4; Isaiah 44:8; Ezekiel 2:7; Matthew 28:18-20; John 14:27; Romans 1:16; 2 Timothy 1:7-8

Lesson Objective: We should not be afraid to talk about Jesus to our friends and to people we meet.

Materials: None

Memory Verse: “But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter . . .” (Mark 1:45).

Lesson Summary

[Note: Begin class by reading the story in Mark 1:40-45.] In our story, a leper – a man with a terrible skin disease – came to Jesus for healing. Lepers were unclean and outcasts – nobody wanted to go near them. But Jesus touched this man and cleansed him from leprosy. He was instantly healed. What did this man do after he was healed? He went out and told everyone about all Jesus had done for him. That’s what we all should do! We need to be God’s workers on Earth and help bring people to the truth. We should not be shy. Sometimes God tells us to talk to a friend, classmate, or even a stranger about Jesus, but we become afraid. We should not fear because God will help us. The hardest part is getting the first word out, but once we do, it will be easier. Even though Jesus expects us to share our faith, many Christians today find it difficult...even scary. Maybe we don’t want people to view us as odd or different, but we are actually called to be different. Because we have the Holy Ghost as our constant companion, we should not be afraid. We should never be ashamed to talk about Jesus and about what he has done for us. We all have friends and family who don't know Jesus. We live beside them, go to school with them, and may even go to church with them. Often we just don't know how to bring up the subject. It may feel awkward or too personal. But it doesn't have to be that way. The gospel is already simple. Think about it. Christ died on the cross for our sins. He was buried but then he rose again. We need to believe in him, accept what he did for us on the cross, and turn from all that is wrong. We just need to ask for his forgiveness and receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior. It is just that simple. We do not have to be a preacher or a Sunday school teacher to talk to others about Jesus. We don’t even have to be a grown up. Kids can tell others about Jesus. We can tell anyone about Jesus, not just other kids. Wouldn’t it be great to lead someone to the Lord? Jesus was not ashamed to die on the cross for our sins, so we should not be ashamed to talk to others about him.

BIBLE POINT: Talk About Jesus

Ideas to Illuminate

Pair up the students. Let them take turns telling each other about Jesus. As their teacher, walk around the room, coach them, and help them learn about being a witness by suggesting things they can say about Jesus. You could give each pair of students a specific scenario to act out, like witnessing to a best friend or to a teammate, or talking to a total stranger. To make it fun, come up with some creative scenarios, like talking to someone about Jesus while riding a rollercoaster or while fishing.



“The Mission – Helping Others”

Readings: Luke 10:27–37; Ephesians 2:10; 1 John 3:17

Lesson Objective: Helping people in need is a great way to share the love of Jesus.

Materials: index cards or slips of paper, and a marker

Memory Verse: “And [he] went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him” (Lu. 10:34).

Lesson Summary

In Luke 10:27-37, we read the story of the Good Samaritan. Jesus taught about being a neighbor and loving one's neighbor. A Jewish man traveled from Jerusalem to Jericho, but he was robbed and beaten by thieves, and left half dead. Both a priest and a Levite (i.e. Jewish ministers) saw him as they passed by, but neither helped him. Finally, a Samaritan man passed by, had compassion on him, and helped him. He treated his wounds, and cared for him. The Jews and the Samaritans were enemies. But the Samaritan man was a better friend and helped him when his own people refused to lend a helping hand. Clearly, the Samaritan was a true neighbor and showed God's love by caring for his enemy in need. Have you ever needed help with something? Have you ever helped someone else? Everyone at one time or another needs some kind of help. There are so many different ways that we can give our help to others. Did you know that when we help others that we are sharing the love of Jesus? You may think that a kid like yourself could not possibly help someone. Being so young, sometimes you need help yourself. But each of us has something to offer. Even if we don't have a job or our own money, we can always do something to help others. Maybe we can rake leaves for an elderly neighbor. Maybe we can help a classmate who is having problems with his schoolwork. We can make a card for a sick person. We can also write a letter to a soldier who is away from home. We can make crafts or bake cookies to raise money for church missions. We can be a friend to someone who doesn't have very many friends. There are so many ways to help someone and to share the love of Jesus at the same time. Jesus always helped those in need. In fact, he commanded us to love our neighbor as ourselves. This means that if we see someone who needs help and we are able to help, that we should want to do just that. Even if we think that we are unable to help, we can always pray for others. To be a Christian means to be like Christ. He spent his entire life helping and giving to others. He was the greatest example that we could ever have. Jesus rewards us when we help others. He will surely help us if we help others in need. Plus helping others gives us a wonderful feeling. So be ready and willing to help others without expecting anything in return.

BIBLE POINT: Help Others

Ideas to Illuminate

Write various scenarios of someone in need on index cards or on slips of paper; have a student come forward, pick a card, and read it to the class. Then ask the students to explain how they could be a good neighbor and help the person in need. [Note: When we teach children about helping people in need, we also need to caution them about stranger danger.]

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. When have you needed someone to give you special help?
2. Have you ever felt like helping someone, but you did not know how to help or did not feel like you could do anything about it?
3. Are you willing to help anyone, even an enemy?
4. What could you do this week to be neighborly and to help someone?



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“Reaching Out – Inviting People to Church”

Readings: Luke 14:16-23

Lesson Objective: We introduce people to Christ by bringing them to church.

Materials: paper and pencils

Memory Verse: “And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled” (Lu. 14:23).

Lesson Summary

In Luke 14:16-23, Jesus told a story about having a great supper; but the people who were invited did not come. They all made excuses and did not show up for the supper. Of course, the man who prepared the supper was so disappointed. What would he do? He sent his servant out into the streets to invite the poor, the lame, and the blind. But there was still room for more guests. So he sent his servant out again to invite anyone and everyone he could find. He wanted his house to be filled. Like this man who made a great supper, God also wants his house to be filled with people. We can help to fill up God’s house by inviting people to church. Have you ever been invited to a party? Getting an invitation is exciting! It makes you feel happy that someone wanted to invite you to a special event. People invite other people to programs, movies, games, barbecues, dinner, activities, and birthday parties all the time. It is a very special feeling when you receive an invitation. Perhaps the best invitation that you could ever offer someone is to invite him to join you in Sunday School or church. It’s easy to give out invitations to a party. You may not find it as easy to invite someone to church, but it is much more important than any party. We can ask God to give us boldness and the courage to ask others to come to church. If you are a Christian, then you have already received the greatest invitation. You were invited to follow Jesus. Thank God that you accepted that invitation! As a result of what God has done for you through Christ, you should want to share that message of God’s love with others. We should want to invite others to church and hope that they will someday accept this great invitation to follow Jesus. Ask yourself, “Who do I know – a friend, neighbor, classmate, family member, or acquaintance?” Ask yourself, “Who is God is putting on my heart to invite to church?” Then just do it! Some people need to be asked more than once. Don’t get frustrated or discouraged if they do not accept your invitation at first. Don’t give up! Just keep on reaching out and inviting people to church – it’s a great way to introduce people to Jesus.

BIBLE POINT: Invite People To Church

Ideas to Illuminate

Have each student to brainstorm and make a personal list of all the people he/she could invite to church. Then have them to circle than names of the people they believe are most likely to come. Encourage them to begin by first inviting the circled names to a specific event at church (e.g. revival, gospel singing, children’s event, Christmas play). Encourage them to keep the list and to continue inviting the remaining names as they have opportunity.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. How did you begin attending church? Did someone invite you or bring you to church?

2. Have you ever invited anyone to church? Was it easy to invite them, or did you find it difficult? Did they accept your invitation and come to church with you?



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