

Lesson 36: What is the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 16, 2020

General Concept: The Good News is that Jesus came, died and rose from the dead so we have new life in Christ: life abundant and meaningful.

Biblical Reference/s: I Peter 1: 3-6

Age Level Concepts

- The life Jesus lived and the message He brought gives hope to many.
- This is the Good News that many believes in and follows.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners should be able to

- Discuss the life-story of Jesus and how this brings hope to many
- Enumerate the ways by which they can follow Jesus and give hope to others
- Thank God for the life and work of Jesus which brings Good News

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, Pictures of Jesus (the birth in the nativity, in the synagogue as a child, with the disciples in a boat-teaching-preaching others, his death on the cross, the open tomb, the resurrection)

Biblical Background

The First Letter from Peter was addressed to Christians, called as God's chosen people, who were scattered throughout the northern part of Asia Minor. The main purpose of the letter is to encourage the readers, who were facing persecution and suffering for their faith. The writer does this by reminding his readers of the Good News about Jesus Christ, whose death, resurrection, and promised coming gave them hope. In the light, of this they are to accept and endure their suffering, confident that it is a test of genuineness of their faith. Peter's message is one of comfort, hope and encouragement to stand firm. Christian can be glad, even in time of suffering. This is the way faith is tested and proved genuine. One day we shall see the Lord we love and trust.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Songs "Jesus is a Wonderful Name"

"Jesus is a wonderful name, Jesus is always the same,

Jesus is a wonderful name, you've got to smile when we talk about

Jesus."

"For God So Loved the World"

“For God so loved the world He gave his only son, who died on Calvary, from sin he sets me free; Someday he’s coming back, what glory that will be, wonderful His love for me.”

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord, we thank you for giving us again another Sunday to learn and play. Help us O Lord, to listen to your Word. Amen.

Getting Ready

Picture Study and Discussion

Allow children to observe the different pictures of Jesus placed in front. Give them time to look at the pictures displayed. Process their experience by asking following questions.

1. What picture attracted you most? Why?
2. How did God show his love for us? (God sent Jesus)
3. What are the things Jesus did? To the blind, to the sick? (Jesus healed them, Jesus gave them hope)
4. Why did Jesus die? (So we become friends with God again)
5. Why would we like to be friends of Jesus? (Because we love Jesus)
6. What do we tell our family and friends about Jesus? (Jesus is the Good News. God sent Jesus;died for us all and lived again to be the Lord of all)

Learning Time

Allow them to thank God for sending Jesus so that those turned away from God will go back to God. Jesus gives people hope in times of trouble. Let us listen to a story about Jesus.

“God Loves Me So Much”

Adapted from the Bible

God loved all the people of the world so much. That’s why God gave all beautiful things for people to enjoy.

But people kept on disobeying God. Some wanted to keep all the good things for themselves only. Some people destroyed the world by cutting trees; made the rivers and oceans dirty including the air that we breathe. Others quarrel and kill one another. It has become a sad and dangerous world.

No, this is not the kind of world God has planned. God wants us to be happy. God loves us so much so why Jesus was sent. Jesus was born like and grew like us.

The Bible tells us Jesus went about doing good. He healed the sick and the blind. He fed the hungry and taught people about God’s love for all, and he was kind to little children. He showed his friends how they should live- how God wanted them to live. But people did not believe in him.

One day they nailed Jesus on the cross (show picture of the crucified Jesus). It was a very sad day for the friends of Jesus. He did not do anything wrong.

After three days, something wonderful happened. Jesus lived again. His friends cannot believe it at first but later realized Jesus was with them.

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask the following questions

1. Who is the main character of the story? (Jesus)
2. Who is Jesus? (The Son of God)
3. Who sent Jesus (God)
4. What happened to the world? (becomes sad and dangerous)
5. Who did wrong to the world? (the people)
6. What did God do to save the world? (God sent Jesus)
7. What did Jesus do? (He healed the sick and the blind. He fed the hungry and taught people about God's love for all, and he was kind to little children)
8. What happened to Jesus? (nailed on the cross, but after three days he rose again)
9. What was the main message of the story? (God loves us so much)

Lessons Learned

Discuss briefly the following statement.

The Good News is no other Jesus Christ, who come to bring forgiveness. The facts of the good news is simple. That Christ died for our sins, that he was buried, and that he was raised to life after three days. We can have forgiveness and new life because of the death and resurrection of Jesus. Jesus gave hope to many person and people by bringing the good news, by healing, by teaching, by preaching, by telling the truth to others.

How about you? How can you give hope to others?

Example: Discuss the following example, or you may add some more examples.

1. By sharing the good news to my friends.
2. By giving what I have.
3. By helping others to know more about Jesus.

• Applying the Lessons Learned

1. Teach the memory verse. John 3: 16 For God so loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life.
2. Creative activity. **Making Stick Puppet.**
Give them coupon bond. Let them draw their face on the coupon bond. Let them color their faces. Let them cut and paste on cartolina, then

paste the stick at the back of the cartolina. Let them write below their drew face, "Thank you for the life-work of Jesus."

Closing Worship

- Offertory
Let the offer their offering to God.
- Closing Hymn
- Closing Prayer
Encourage every child to pray..... "Hear our prayers, O God for we ask it all in the name of Jesus who came to save us and to show us how to live. Amen.

Lesson 37: What is the significance of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the life and mission of the church?

Transfiguration Sunday

Last Sunday before Lent

February 23, 2020

General Concept: The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the very foundation of the life and mission of the Church.

Biblical Reference/s: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Age Level Concepts

- The Good News of Jesus is the reason why we come together as God's people.
- The work of Jesus Christ is also the work of the Church.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners should be able to

- Listen to a story of how God affirms Jesus as the bringer of Good News
- Affirm that the Good News of Jesus Christ is the very reason why we come together as God's people
- Agree to come together and do good works in the name of Jesus

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, prepare a simple panorama using your picture in the previous lesson, bond paper or colored papers, scissors

Biblical Background

The second letter from Peter is addressed to a wide circle of early Christians. Its main concern is to combat the work of false teachers and the immorality which results from such teaching. The answer to this problems is found in holding to the true knowledge of God and of the Lord Jesus

Christ- knowledge which had been conveyed by persons who themselves have seen Jesus and have heard him teach. The writer is especially concerned with the teaching of those who claim that Christ will not return again. He says that the apparent delay in Christ's return is due to the fact that God does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants all to turn away from their sins. In the particular text, John writes as one who knew Jesus as the life-giving Word of God, personally. Jesus was both the Son of God and real man: no apparition but a person you could see and touch. Jesus is the true bringer of the good news because he himself is the good news.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn

Ask the children to form a circle. Then, introduce and teach them the song "I love my Jesus"

I Love My Jesus (Children Praise God,109)

I *love my Jesus deep down in my heart (2X)

Talk about deep, deep, down, down, deep down in my heart.

Talk about deep, deep, down, down deep down in my heart.

*serve *praise *thanks

Opening Prayer

Help me dear Jesus, help me by thy might

Choosing, Choosing, nothing but the right

Help me dear Jesus, to go strong I pray

Stronger, stronger, stronger, let me grow each day. Amen.

Getting Ready

Singing Time: Introduce and teach the following son to your pupils.

"To be like Him"

To be like Jesus (2X)

All I ask, to be like him

All through life's journey

From depth to glory

All I ask to be like Him

Or

"Like Jesus" Children Praise God, 214

I want to be like Jesus, so good and loving too.

I want to do for Jesus, what He would have me do.

Let them continue singing the song until they become familiar with. After singing, ask the following questions.

- What does the song teach us?
- Do you want to be like Jesus? Why?

- What specific characteristic of Jesus do you want to imitate?

Learning time

Allow the children to listen to the following PANORAMA. Let them discover some of the characteristic of Jesus as reflected in the picture.

FIRST PICTURE: The birth of Jesus brings good news to Joseph, Mary, Shepherd, the wise man of the east. Compare the birth of Jesus versus the birth of a child nowadays. They are both good news.



SECOND PICTURE: When Jesus was twelve years old, he and his family went to Jerusalem for a feast. Jesus was on the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. For Jesus learned the value of learning at a very early days.



THIRD PICTURE:
When Jesus grew

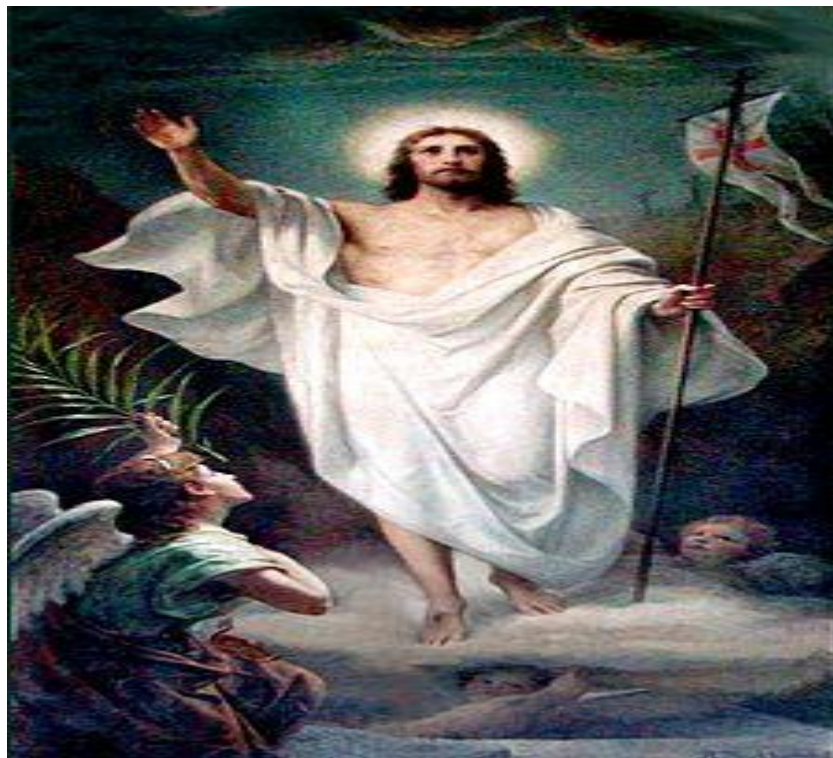
up, he began to heal the sick. He let the lame to walk, the blind to see, the demon possessed to be free, raised the dead. Jesus gave hope to the sick. To those people who need helps, Jesus help them.



FOURTH PICTURE: And you know what, he also recognized the importance of children like you. Look at the picture, he let the children come to him and blessed them. This shows his love and concern to children like you.



FIFTH PICTURE: Jesus is a very good man. He himself in the good news because of the life and works he has done. He is the bringer of good news to all people who need the Lord. We come before Him today because of this acts of care and love.



Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask the following questions.

1. What do the pictures reflect/ *try to say about Jesus?*
2. What are the deeds of Jesus that bring good news to people?
3. Do you agree that Jesus is the bringer of the good news? why?
4. Why do we came together as one people?

Lessons Learned

Do you agree that Jesus came to this world to bring good news to everyone? Share your opinions.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. 2 Peter 1: 16b "...with our own eyes we see the greatness of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Hand Tracing. In your bond paper, trace your hand and cut it out. Write the following " I promised to do good works like Jesus"

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn

"Jesus Went About Doing Good"

Jesus went about doing good ,Jesus went about doing good
He told everyone "God is love, God cares for you"
He make people well and said "God cares for you"
He held children close and he said "God cares for you".

Closing Prayer

Dear God, thank you for the Gospel. Thank you for giving us Jesus the bringer of the good news. Help us to do good to others. Amen.

Lesson 38: Why do we need to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ?

First Sunday in Lent

March 1, 2020

General Concept: We need to proclaim the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ because it is an expression of our faithful obedience as commissioned followers.

Biblical References: Matthew 4: 23-25

Age Level Concepts

- We tell others about Jesus' because we follow Him.
- We tell others about Jesus to show that we obey Him.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners should be able to

- State reasons why we should tell others about Jesus
- Write an invitation for others to follow Jesus and obey Him
- Express joy in telling others about Jesus

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket

Biblical Background

The Gospel according to Matthew tells the good news that Jesus is the promised Savior and Lord, the one through whom God fulfilled the promises made to the people in Old Testament. This good news is not only for the Jewish but for the whole world. The Gospel presents Jesus as the Great teacher, who has the authority to interpret the law of God, and who teaches the Kingdom of God.

After the arrest of John, Jesus travels north, making the lakeside town of Capernaum his base. He calls his first disciples and begins his public ministry like teaching, preaching and healing.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn

“I Will Make You Fishers of Men”

I will make you fishers of men; fishers of men, fishers of men.
I will make you fishers of men; if you follow me.
If you follow me, if you follow me,
I will make you fishers of men if you follow me.

“Sundalo ako ni Jesus”

Sundalo ako ni Jesus lumalaban sa mali
Di pahuhuli magpakailan man
Hawakan mo siya, durugin mo pa at kembotan mo pa
Hwag pahuhuli, magpakailanman.

Sundan, sundan nyo ako (3X)
Ikaw naman dito.

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord, we thank you for this wonderful Sunday with my friends and classmate in Sunday school. Help us to understand the lessons you want us to learn today. Amen.

Getting Ready

Telephone. The children and teacher sit in a circle. The teacher whispers a message to the child next to him/her, who in turn repeats it to the next child and so on around the circle. Each one whispers the message only once. When the message completed the circle, the last child repeats it aloud for comparison with the original message. Formulate message that are attuned to the lesson. Example. "Jesus said follow me"

Learning Time

Tell the short story about Jesus. Say, "We tell Jesus to others because of the wonderful and good deeds that Jesus did."

A miracle is a work of God beyond power of persons to perform. The miracles of Jesus were object lessons addressed to the eye rather than the ear and proved that Jesus is the Son of God and that God was good. More than thirty miracles of Jesus are recorded.

- A. Two blind men cured Mt. 9:27-31
- B. Ten Lepers Cleansed Lk 17:11-19
- C. Paralyzed Man Cured Jn. 5:1-9
- D. Woman's Hemorrhage cured Lk. 8:26-33
- E. Feeding of the 5000 Lk. 9:10-17

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask the following questions:

1. Who was the main character of the five biblical references being read?
2. Do you agree that we should share Jesus to others because of the good deeds and miracles happened? Yes or no, share your opinions.
3. Do you agree that by sharing Jesus to others we are showing our obedience to God? Yes or no share your opinions.

Lessons Learned

Make an invitation card for friends or close relatives you want to offer. Color the invitation card and make it attractive.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. Genesis 17: 1 "Obey me and always do what is right."

REFLECTIVE STATEMENT: As you close the activity, everyone in the class shall recite the following statement, "We tell others about Jesus' because we follow Him."

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn

" Trust and obey for there is no other way
to be happy in Jesus but to trust and obey"

Closing Prayer (to be led by the teacher)

Lesson 39: As a church, how do we establish and unite the community of faith for the life-proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ towards the transformation of both church and society?

International Women's Day

Second Sunday in Lent.

March 8, 2020

General Concept: The Church must have a common understanding of faith that will impel believers to participate in and live out their prophetic witness.

Biblical References: Acts 2:42-47

Age Level Concepts

- The Church must have the same beliefs that will make them help in the work for change.
- We must live out our faith by doing good.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners should be able to

- State in their own words their faith story as a Church
- Share experiences of how their actions were guided by their faith
- Pray to God that their faith will always guide their actions every day

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, hangers, sparkles, glitters, art colors, scissors

Biblical Background

The Acts of the Apostles is a continuation of the Gospel according to Luke. Its chief purpose is to tell how Jesus' early followers, led by the Holy Spirit, spread the Good News about Jesus. It is the story of the Christian movement as it began among the Jewish people and went on to become a faith for the whole world.

The Sermon of Peter evokes an immediate response. A spiritual unity finds practical expression in readiness to share money and possessions. It is story of living a guided life attuned to actions for the Lord.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn. "We Love Our Church, O God" Children Praise God, 2
We love our Church O God, We love to gather here, to worship

Work and learn of You. With Christian so dear.

“A United and Uniting Church” Children Praise God, 4
A united and uniting church that they may all be one
Reformed and transforming in mission and in faith
Onward UCCP, Building God’s kingdom of peace.

Come let us all remember the heritage of faithfulness
Of ardent men and women devoted to Christ’s way
Covenanting as one together, with God Spirit Sole Enabler.

Opening Prayer

Our Loving God, thank you for giving us another Sunday to enjoy listening to lessons about You and your love for us. Bless us, as we begin our lesson. Bless our ears and hearts. Bless our teacher this morning. Amen.

Getting Ready

Let the children tell things they remember about the previous lesson.

Ask: “What is the most important lesson have you learned from last Sunday’s lesson?”

Learning Time

Tell the following faith story of the early church, their actions and activities that somehow guide the actions of our church nowadays. Present the following story through DRAMA TOUR based on Acts 2:42-47.

DRAMA TOUR

Long time ago, there was a group of people who named themselves Christians. They believed in Jesus Christ, they lived out the teachings of Jesus. Now children, be ready we will role play what this group of people used to do.

STATION OR CORNER 1

They met regularly at the temple. They were in close fellowship with one another. They ate meals gladly together.

(Tell the children to act out the scene without saying any word or sound from their mouth)

Say: “This is the very heart of Christian experience.”

STATION OR CORNER 2

They praised God constantly together. They worship God day and night. Everyone is happy and glad praising God. Man was made to live in fellowship with God.

(Tell the children to act out this scene without saying any word or sound from their mouth)

Say: “This is very foundation of Christian experience.”

STATION OR CORNER 3

They shared their belongings with each other. They helped their needy friends. They shared what they have to others. They see to it that their actions are good in the sight of God.

(Tell the children to act out this scene without saying any word or sound from their mouth)

Say: "This is the life-purpose of Christian experience. Our drama tour portrayed the life and experience of the early believers. Everyday, they come together for worship and study, prayer, helping each other and caring for those in need.

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask the following questions.

1. What do you think the early Christians feel when they do what they do everyday?
2. Mention the three important activities of the early church that inspired our church today. (Fellowship, Praising God, Sharing)
3. How do you commune with your friends?
4. How do you praise God?
5. How do you share your things to others? Are you willing to share your toys to others?
6. How do you feel when you commune with others, praise God and share what you have to others? Let everyone share their experiences. Appreciate their sharing with a round of applause.

Lessons Learned

Say, "We have learned the faith-story of the early church. This is our faith-story until today. We are inspired by the good examples they set. We are happy following their faith journey. We believe God's inspiration impels them to demonstrate a life that is different from other communities- an example that is worth for us to follow. We thank the Lord for the gift of history.

Ask: Will you continue to do good things so that everyone will be happy? Will you continue to commune with one another? Will you continue to praise God? Will you continue to share what you have? (Let them answer your questions with loud "Yes")

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse: Hebrews 10:25 a "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another."

Decorative Hanger

Let the children cut out varied-sized objects from the cardboard and suspend these by thread on the hanger. Let them write their prayers for guidance. Show them that moving the suspended objects will balance the hanger. The hanging objects can be decorated with sequins or sparkle so they may glitter as it moves. They can be painted with bright colors, different one on each side. Displayed hang the hangers on a space or corner that can easily be seen.

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn “Our Dear Church” Children Praise God, 2
Our dear church was built with love and work and prayer,
So that all the neighbors might find welcome there.”

Closing Prayer

Let them read their written prayers..... Amen!

Lesson 40: Why is it important for a church to have goals?

Third Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2020

General Concept: It is important for the church to have goals to direct its mission in order to realize its vision.

Biblical Reference/s: Philippians 3:12-16

Age Level Concepts

- It is important for our Church to have goals.
- The church must have goals to guide it in its work.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners should be able to

- Give the meaning of the word “goals.”
- Discuss how goals help us do what we want to do
- Ask God to help the Church reach its goals

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, water color, photocopies of the phrase

Biblical Background

Paul's letter to the Philippians was written to the first church that Paul established in the European soil, in the Roman province of Macedonia. It was written while the apostle was in prison, and at a time when he was troubled by the opposition of other Christian workers toward him and was distressed by false teaching in the church at Philippi. Yet this letter breathes joy and confidence that can be explained only by Paul's deep faith in Jesus Christ.

The immediate reason for writing the letter was to thank the Philippian Christians for the gift which they had sent to help him in his time of need. He used this opportunity to reassure them, so that they may have courage and confidence in spite of all troubles in the church and their own as well. He pleaded them to emulate the humble attitude of Jesus, rather than to be controlled by selfish ambition and pride. He reminded them to press on towards their goals, whatever the situation is. He wrote of the joy and peace that God gives to those who live in union with Christ.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn. "Oh, What a Mighty God we Serve"

Oh, what a mighty God we serve (4X)

O let us sing and praise the Lord (4X)

...shout.....dance

"Every Single Cell" Children Praise God, 186

Every single cell in my body is happy

Every single cell in my body is well (2x)

Thank you Lord I feel so good

Every single cell in my body is well. (2x)

Opening Prayer

Dear loving God, we thank you for gathering us again this Sunday. Thank you for the opportunity to study and learn about You again. Give us wisdom and joy to listen to our teacher. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Getting Ready

STRAW RELAY

Prepare straws (10) and empty bottles(10) for this game. Divide the class into two groups. Let each group form a line. Give the straws to the one who is in front of the line. At the count of 3, the first player of each group will put a straw in each bottle. After which, the player will pick the straws again and pass it to the next player who will do the same, until all the players have done it. Be sure that no bottle falls down. The first group to finish wins.

Let's Talk About the GAME

1. Who among you here enjoyed the game? Please raise your hands.

2. What do you think is the goal of the game?
3. What do you think is or are needed to win the game?
4. Were you able to achieve the goal? How did you do it?

SAY: "Let's take a look the meaning of "goals". *GOAL means dreams, aspiration, direction, objective, aim.*

Let's see what Paul said about goals.

Learning Time

Let the children read the biblical references. Allow them to read loudly. Make the reading participatory.

Verse 12: (ALL BOYS) "I do not claim that I have already succeeded or have already become perfect. I keep striving to win the prize for which Christ Jesus has already won me to himself."

Verse 13: (ALL GIRLS) "Of course my friends, I really do not think that I have already won it; the one thing I do, however, is to forget what is behind me and do my best to reach my goal."

Verse 14: (ALL BOYS) "So I run straight toward the goal in order to win the prize, which is God's call through Christ Jesus to the life above."

Verse 15: (ALL GIRLS) All of us who are spiritually mature should have this clear to you."

Verse 16: (ALL BOYS & ALL GIRLS) "However that we may be, let us go forward according to the same rules we have followed until now."

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask the following question.

- What is Paul's goal?
- Did Paul do something to reach his goal? What did he do?
- What do you want to be in the future? What profession do you like to do? Let them share. Allow everybody to participate.
- What will you do to achieve your goals?

Lessons Learned

Like Paul, he had a goal. We also have goals or things we want to do or be in life. Our goals may be different from others but our church has common goals which people need to work together. We need to work hard to achieve our goals.

As a Church, we have goals to achieve:

- a. To make the members strong in their faith

- b. To restore and strengthen relationships of members
- c. To improve the life and work of the people in the community.

Let us continue do our part to achieve this goal of our church.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. Philippians 3:14, "so I run straight toward the goal in order to win the prize."

THUMBS PRINTING

- a.) Distribute to children the photocopies of "Lord help us to reach our goals." Provide them with water colors. Tell the children to share water colors.
- b.) Ask the children to color the words "Lord help us to reach our goals" using their thumbs. Tell them to write their names below the paper.
- c.) You may post their works at the art corner.

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn "Work in your Kingdom" Children Praise God, 126
Work in your Kingdom advances and continues
Even through hard times, all odds and tribulations
Despite our human infirmities and weakness
Use us, O Savior, 'til the task is done.

Closing Prayer (led by the teacher)

Lesson 41: What does it mean to strengthen the faith community?

Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 22, 2020

General Concept: Nurturing the faith of the members, equipping them with skills, and inspiring them to participate in the ministry strengthen the local church.

Biblical Reference/s: Matthew 5:3:12

Age Level Concepts

- Teaching and taking care of the members will make our Church strong.
- To make our Church strong means to provide the members with skills useful for the work of the Church.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners should be able to

- Share stories of how they learn about God in Church

- Name the skills that they want to learn and can be taught by the Church so that they are able to help in the work of the Church
- Ask God to help the Church teach and take care of its members so that it will always be strong and grow in its faith and work

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket

Biblical Background

The Gospel according to Matthew tells the good news that Jesus is the promised Savior, the one through whom God fulfilled the promises made to the people in the Old Testament. This good news is not only for the Jewish people, among whom Jesus was born and lived, but for the whole world.

Matthew is carefully arranged. It begins with the birth of Jesus, describes his baptism and temptation, and then takes up his ministry of preaching, teaching and healing in Galilee. After this the Gospel records Jesus' journey from Galilee to Jerusalem and the events of Jesus' last week, culminating in his crucifixion and resurrection.

Jesus made many of his points by means of parables – stories that has significance to the life of the hearers that carries message of the Kingdom.

The Sermon on the Mount is the first and the longest of the five sections in Matthew which gathers together the Lord's teaching. Jesus shows his followers how man ought to live- not simply according to a set of rules but by an inner revolution of attitude and outlook. The glorious thing is that having set a seemingly impossible standard, he went on give men the power to live up to it.

They were all meant to teach the kingdom of God.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening songs. Read your Bible, pray everyday (3X)
 And you'll grow, grow, and grow (3 X)

“Every day with Jesus”

Every day with Jesus is sweeter that the day before
Every day with Jesus, I love Him more and more
Jesus saves and keeps me and He's the One I'm waiting for,
Every day with Jesus is sweeter that the day before

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, we come to worship you with praise and thanksgiving for your faithfulness to us. Please guide us in our study of your word. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Getting Ready

PICTURE STUDY. Prepare the following pictures and write the name of the main character below each picture.

- a.) Joseph a young boy was sold as a slave but was used by God to become governor of Egypt in order to save his people from hunger.
- b.) Moses a Hebrew young boy who was used by God to take the Israelites out of Egypt.
- c.) David is a young shepherd boy who was used by God to kill

Ask the learners to share what they know about the picture. Let them tell the story if they can. Emphasize that God was responsible in teaching these people so that they can be used by God.

MY STORY

Encourage the children to share their own stories of how they learn about God in their church and encourage them to mention what they learn about God from their parents and teachers. Tell them to write these things and paste them near the word "God" & "Church."

GOD
God is love
God cares

Church
thru Sunday School
story telling

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Let the learners read the biblical reference. Tell them to write the beatitudes taught by Jesus. Here is the example below.

TRUE HAPPINESS/BEATITUDES	REWARDS
Happy are those who know they are spiritually poor	The Kingdom of God belongs to them
Happy are those who mourn	God will comfort them
Happy are those who are humble	They will receive what God has promised
Happy are those whose greatest desire is to do what God requires	God will satisfy them truly

Happy are those who are merciful to others	God will be merciful to others
Happy are those who are pure in heart	They will see God
Happy are those who work for peace	God will call them children
Happy are those who are persecuted because they do what God requires	The Kingdom of Heaven belongs to them
Happy are you when people insult you and persecute you	God said: "You are my followers"

Ask the following questions.

1. What are the life situations mentioned in the text? Let them read what they have written.
2. What are the rewards? Let them read what they have written.
3. In what situation can you find yourself?
4. How do you feel about it?

Lessons Learned

SKILLS/TALENT SHOWCASE

Divide the class into three groups. Let each group decide a skill or talent they want to share or show. Give them time to prepare. Let each group present or showcase their talent/ skill.

Process their experience by asking the following:

1. How do you feel about the skills and talents that you have?
2. In what ways can our talents/ skill make us strong?
3. In what ways can our talents/skills help our church?
4. How can we use the things we learn about God to help the church in doing its work?

Example: God taught us to be humble, be kind to one another, out of this kindness we can invite friends to come to church.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse: Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go, when he is old, he will not depart from it."

Tell the class to react on the following statement.

Jesus, God the Son teach me through my parents and teachers and my pastor to be kind to one another.

- a.) The only way to grow in one's faith is to put into practice God's word.

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn "Make Me a Servant"

Make me a servant humble and meek
Lord let me lift up those who are weak
And may the prayer of my heart always be
Make me a servant Make me a servant
Make me a servant today

Closing Prayer

Dear God we thank you for the love, wisdom and guidance. Please help us every day. We pray O Lord that You may teach and take care of us members so that we will always be strong and grow in our faith and work. Amen.

Lesson 42: Why do we need to strengthen the faith community?

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 29, 2020

General Concept: We need to strengthen the local church for it to be an efficient, effective, and empowered instrument in the attainment of the Church's Vision, Mission and Goals.

Biblical Reference/s: Colossians 1:24-2:5, Philemon 1:6

Age Level Concepts

- We need to make our Church strong.
- A strong church will make its dreams come true, do its work well, and reach its goals.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners should be able to

- Discuss why there is a need to make the Church strong
- Enumerate the marks of a church that is strong
- Ask God to help the Church make its dreams come true, do its work well, and reach its goals

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, scissors, cardboard/construction paper, paste or glue, cut out big hands

Biblical Background

Colossians 1: 24-2:5

Paul wanted to tell the churches which he wasn't able to visit that he also expresses concern and cares for them also. He wants all churches to be strong through the believers loving one another and having a full understanding of their riches in Christ. The Colossians must maintain the orderly

fellowship and and strong faith they have had in Christ from the beginning. They must examine all members carefully and not be easily swayed by other false teachings.

Philemon 1:1-6

Paul greets Philemon, his wife Apphia, and the other believers who meet in their home. He also greets Archippus, who was possibly their son and who was serving God in that region. Paul rejoices because of what he has heard (probably from Epaphras and Onesimus) of Philemon's strong faith in God and sincere love for God's people. This faith and love have been a source of strength and encouragement to the church in Colossae. Paul prays that Philemon will continue to share these blessings with others and so further build up the church. (The Bridgeway Bible Commentary)

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn "My God is so Great"

My God is so great, so strong and so mighty

There's nothing my God cannot do. 2X

The mountains are his, the rivers are his

The stars are his handiwork too.

My God is so great, so strong and so mighty

There's nothing my God cannot do.

Opening Prayer

Bless us O Lord that we may listen to the lessons for us this morning.

Bless all of us that come here joyfully. Bless our teacher. Bless our Sunday school. Amen.

Getting Ready

GAME. ARM KNOT

Divide the learners into two groups (depending on their number). Tell each group to choose one learner to serve as the "Baggage". Instruct them to connect their arms however they want it as long as it is strong enough to carry the "baggage". When they have knotted or connected their arms, tell the groups to carry their "baggage". The group who is able to carry their "baggage" for a long time, will be declared the strongest group.

Process the game by asking the following:

1. What makes you sure that the arm knot was strong?
2. For the baggage: Were you confident enough that you will not fall?

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Dear Philemon,
I am so happy to hear good things about you from Onesimus. I have heard that because of the love you show to the people, many are inspired. Your faith in the Lord makes others strong in their faith. I pray that you continue to show love and faith so that the church be strong enough to make its dreams come true and do its work well.

Sincerely,
Paul

m.

Ask the following:

1. Why did Paul happily write Philemon? (Because he heard good news about him)
2. How did Philemon helped make the church strong? (Showed his love for people and showed his faith in the Lord)
2. Why did Paul encouraged Philemon to make the church strong? (So that the church will do its work well and make its dreams come true)

Lessons Learned

EMOTICONS. Give the children emoticons of “ Happy” and “Sad”. Mention the marks of a strong church. Tell the learners to raise “Happy emoticon” if they think that that Mark is found in their church and “Sad emoticon” if not.

- People are happy
- People love each other
- People care for each other
- People pray together
- People eat together
- People help each other
- People work together
- People solves problem together
- People make plans together
-

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. Philemon 1:6a (NRSV)“I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective..”

PRAYER HAND. Give out to learners two big- hand-cut outs.Let them decorate the hands but leave the palms blank. Ask them to write on one palm, “Dear Lord,” and on the other “help us make our Church’s dreams come true.” Tell the learners to paste the hands on a card board or construction paper and cut it out.

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn “ I Am the Church”

I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together

All who follow Jesus, all around the world.

Yes, we’re the church, together.

The Church is not a building; the Church is not a steeple.

The Church is not a resting place, the Church is a people.

(Repeat Chorus)

Closing Prayer

Dear God, we thank you for making us healthy and strong. Help our church to become strong also, so that its dreams, goals and aspirations come true. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Lesson 43: How do we strengthen the faith community?

Liturgy of the Palms

Sixth Sunday in Lent

April 5, 2020

General Concept: We strengthen the local church through continuing education, fellowships, faith-formation, and mutual concern.

Biblical References: 2 Corinthians 8:1-8; Colossians 3:12-17

Age Level Concepts

- We make our Church strong by studying together, listening to each other’s stories and reading the Bible together.
- We make our Church strong by making time to gather, share food, have fun and play games together
- We make our Church strong by taking care of each other and showing concern for each other.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners should be able to

- Name the church activities they love joining in
- Express how they feel whenever they participate in church activities
- Ask God to keep their local church strong and alive

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, pictures of church activities

Biblical Background

2 Corinthians 8:1-8

Paul, writing from Macedonia, hoped that news of the generosity of these churches would encourage the Corinthian believers and motivate them to solve their problems and unite in fellowship.

During his third missionary journey, Paul had collected money for the impoverished believers in Jerusalem. The churches in Macedonia – Philippi, Thessalonica, and Berea – had given money even though they were poor, and they had given more than Paul expected. This was sacrificial giving – they were poor themselves, but they wanted to help. The point of giving is not so much the amount we give, but why and how we give. God does not want gifts given grudgingly. Instead, God wants us to give as the churches did – out of dedication to Christ, love for fellow believers, the joy of helping those in need, as well as the fact that it was simply the good and right thing to do.

The kingdom of God spreads through believers’ concern and eagerness to help others. The Corinthian believers excelled in everything – they had faith, good preaching (speech), much knowledge, much earnestness, much love. Paul wanted them to also be leaders in giving. Giving is a natural response of love. Paul did not order the Corinthians to give, but he encouraged them to prove that their love was sincere. (Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, pp. 2102).

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn. “To God be the Glory”

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice 2X

O come to the Father through Jesus the Son

And give him the glory great thing he has done.

Opening Prayer

Dear God, we are ever thankful for your loving kindness as You shower us with blessings of family and friends. We thank you for the Holy Spirit that enables us to live in your love and care. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

Getting Ready

BRAINSTORMING

Divide the class in two groups, and tell them to answer the questions below. Give them answer sheets. The group who has many answers wins.

Prepare a prize for each group.

- A. What do you like to do in the church?
- B. Who are the people in the church?
- C. What do people do in the church?

Discuss with the children their answers and the benefits and significance of going to church regularly and why we participate in its activity and ministry.

Learning Time

Tell the story.

Paul Taught the Corinthian Church”
(Based on 2 Corinthians 8:1-8)

Paul was in Macedonia. He wrote to the Corinthian church. He wanted to teach them about giving.

In his letter Paul said, “I visited churches in different places. The people have no enough food to eat. Their clothes and houses were not good. But they gave joyfully to God. They also gave to others in need. They gave more than what they can afford.”

The people in the Corinthian church were greatly amazed of Paul’s story.

They asked each other, “How can they give when they are poor?”

Paul said in his letter, “You know, these people gave themselves first to God. They believed in God. They loved God. I know you also believe in God and you also love God. You know God better than them. You can give more than what these poor people have given.”

The people in the Corinthian church understood what Paul told them. They were inspired by Paul’s message. They, too, gladly gave. The people around them were blessed by their faith and generosity.

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Discuss the story by asking the following:

1. What was Paul trying to teach the church in Corinth?
2. Who was used by Paul to encourage the Christians in Corinth?
3. What could happen to a church if it shows concern to others?

Lessons Learned

Show them the different pictures of church activities. Let them guess what the activity was. Or you may use their answer sheets above.

Say: "As a church, we listen to stories of others and learn lessons from their experience so that genuine concern towards each other is built. We make the church strong through fellowship, bearing one's another burdens, we respond to needs during disaster, sharing what we have to others, sharing goods, eating meals in the church and in our homes during birthdays, anniversaries and other occasions. We continuously study God's word to further strengthen the faith of the community.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse found in 2 Corinthians 8:5a

"They gave themselves first of all to the Lord..."

Make a Big Collage of Church Activities

Distribute the pictures to the children. Let them paste the pictures in front using the big Manila paper. This collage shows the activities in the church. This is a group activity. Write in the upper portion of the manila paper, "*Dear God, Keep UCCP Poblacion Bacarra (change the name of your local church) strong and alive.*"

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn "Help Somebody Today" Children Praise God, 190

Look around you, find someone in need

Help somebody today, help somebody today

Chorus: Help somebody today; somebody along life's way

Let sadness be ended, the friendless befriended

Oh help somebody today.

Many need kindness, let's show Jesus way

Help somebody today

Patience and courage be ours day by day

Help somebody today.

God's Holy Spirit helps us to do the right

Help somebody today

Praise be to Jesus our Lord and our light

Help somebody today.

Closing Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for making our local church strong. Keep us always strong and alive. Use us O Lord to be channels of love and your Kingdom here on earth. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Lesson 44: What do we mean by “life-work” of communities?

Resurrection of the Lord

Easter Day

April 12, 2020

General Concept: Life-work of communities refers to the aspirations, ideals, strivings and experiences of the people for their own common good.

Biblical Reference/s: Romans 12: 6-21

Age Level Concepts

- The people in our community also have their own dreams, stories to tell and problems that need to be given attention.
- The people in our community work to make their dreams come true.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners should be able to

- Draw a picture of their community including those who live there and what they do
- Tell what the problems are that they can see in their community
- Make a statement of what they hope to see in their community

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket

Biblical Background

Paul's letter to the Romans was written to prepare for Paul's visit which he previously planned to do in the church of Rome. He plans to work among the Christian there for a while and then, with their support, move on to Spain. He wrote to explain his understanding of the Christian faith and its practical implications for the lives of Christians. The book contains Paul's most complete statement of his message.

Paul reminds those who experienced God's mercy that the most fitting act of worship by which they can show their thanks is to offer themselves as living sacrifices to God. No longer are they to think and act like non-Christians. Their minds must be changed so that they see issues from a different point of view- God's point of view. As they learn to think in a more Christian way, they will know God's will better and their actions be more pleasing to God.

This does not mean that they will become proud or hold high opinions of themselves. all should be diligent in carrying out the task for which God has fitted them, whether in the leadership roles in the church or in the various ministries to the needy (6-8) (The Bridgeway Bible Commentary)

Christians must show positive attitudes not only to fellow members but also those who are outside the church. They should not look for revenues against those who have done them wrong. Rather Christians should live with them peacefully. The responsibility of Christians is to treat them as if they were friends, people who like Christians, have goals in life and dreams which they work hard to achieve.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Say, "How are you?" to each child upon arrival. Greet those who are celebrating their birthdays.

Opening Song "Magagawa Natin"

Magagawa natin ang lahat ng bagay, ang lahat ng bagay sa mundo
Isang bagay hindi magagawa, hindi magagawang nagiisa
Malulutas natin ang mga problema kung tayo'y nagkakaisa
Ang suliranin bagkus na marami, pero may bagong buhay.

"Living in Community" Children Praise God, 54
God made you God made me God made our community
We must learn to love and share and live together in God's care
We'll live together, brothers and sisters, respect one another
Accept each other and together we will live in community

Opening Prayer *(to be led by the teacher)*

Getting Ready

"HIGH -FIVE RELAY"

Divide the class into two teams and let them form a line, one in front of the other. The teacher will whisper "I care for your dream" to the first player of each team. At a signal, the first player will whisper the words as softly as possible so that others won't hear. If the whisper is loud and the others hear it, the team will be disqualified. After the player has whispered the message to the next player, they will "high-five" and the one who received the message shall relay the same message to the next player. Then the two will "high-five" again, and so on. The last player who receives the message will run in front and shouts, "I care for your dream!" The team who finished first wins.

You may use the following questions for your discussion:

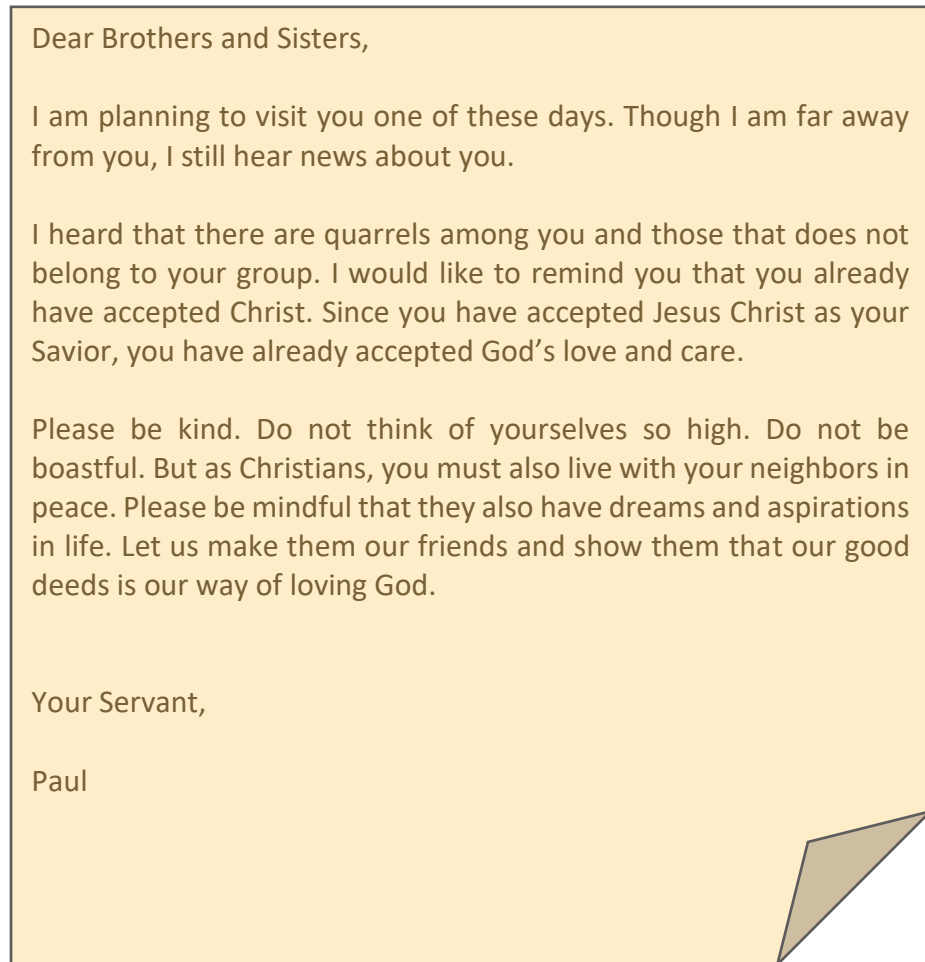
- a. What did you feel when you hear the message "I care for your dream"?

- b. What did you feel when you say, “I care for your dream” to your friend?
- c. When you said “I care for your dream,” did it mean something to you?

Allow the children to answer the questions but don't make any judgement, comments or reactions. Just let them express their feelings and reaction about the game.

Learning Time

Read the letter to the learners.



Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse found in Romans 12:10a” Love one another warmly”.

Creative Arts. “ MY COMMUNITY PORTRAIT”

Divide the Class into two or three groups. Give each group a cartolina or manila paper. Tell each groups to draw their community - which includes where the houses are located, where the churches are located, who are the people they know that are found in the community, and others important features of the community. Tell the learners to color or beautify their community portrait.

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn "Pananagutan"

Walang sinuman ang nabubuhay para sa sarili lamang
Walang sinuman ang namamatay para sa sarili lamang
Tayong lahat ay may pananagutan sa isat' isa
Tayong lahat ay tinipon ng Diyos na kapiling nya.

Closing Prayer

Dear God, thank you for all that we learn today including the lesson that our community also has dreams to come true. as part of the community, we also share their dreams and goals in life. Help us to live in harmony with our friends and neighbors. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Lesson 45: What is the local church's role in the community?

Second Sunday of Easter

April 19, 2020

General Concept: As part of the community, the church plays a shepherding and prophetic role.

Biblical Reference/s: Galatians 6:1-2; 10a

Age Level Concepts

- Our Church and our community are friends.
- As friends, they will tell each other the truth, what is right and wrong.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners should be able to

- Tell how the Church and the community can be friends
- Express that as friends, people in the Church and the community can tell each other the truth
- Ask God to help their Church become a trusted friend of their community

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket

Biblical Background

As the good news about Jesus was preached and welcomed among people who were not Jews, the question arose as to whether a person must obey the Law of Moses in order to be a true Christian. Paul had argued that this was not necessary- that in fact, the only sound basis for life in Christ was faith, by which all are put right with God.

Paul's letter to the Galatians was written in order to bring back to true faith and practice those people who were being misled by this false teaching. Then he developed the argument that it is by faith alone that people are put right with God. In the concluding chapters, Paul shows that Christian conduct flows naturally from the love that results from faith in Christ.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Song "Bow, Bow O Belinda!"

Bow, bow, O Belinda; bow, bow O Belinda
You're the one I love.

- Hips to hips
- Back to back
- Knee to knee

Opening Prayer

Dear Jesus, thank you for this day. Thank you for waking us up and giving us healthy body. We thank you for making us happy. May you help us be instrument in making others happy. Help us to understand your word today. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Getting Ready

"God's Love Says"

1. When I say, "God's love says, "touch your nose, you must touch your nose."
2. Commands may vary as follows:
God's love says.....
 - a.) Hold the hand of a person who has the short hair.
 - b.) Tap the shoulder of person who is not wearing shoes.
 - c.) Hug the person who has a scar
 - d.) Group yourselves into 4
 - e.) Sit on the floor together with your groups
 - f.) Shout "We must respect each other"
 - g.) Shout we are all friends.

Say: With God's love, the church and the community where it is located can be friends. As friends, they tell each other about what is not right and appreciate what has been done that brings common good to all.

Learning Time

Present the story.

The Girl and the Old Man in the Mountain

Based on Galatians 6:1-2: 10a

There is a little girl who went on a mountain to ask the old man a very important question. "How can I befriend children like me? And how can I show respect to other people and show that Jesus' love to them?" said the girl.

The Old man answered, 'You must help others with their troubles. When you do this, you truly obey what Jesus wants you to do. If you think that you are important than others (prettier than others, smarter than others, more lovable than others, or more famous than others); we fail to do what God wants us to do.'

He continued to say, 'You must not compare yourself with others. When you have the opportunity to help others, you must do it. You must love and respect others anywhere and anytime.'

The child was very happy with what she heard. She thank the old man and went back home to do what the old man told her to do.

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask the following guide questions.

- a. What did the child ask the old man?
- b. What do you need to do to show respect and love to others?
- c. If you are the child, are you going to do what the old man said? Why/Why Not?
- d. Would you be happy if we are all friends? Let them share their opinions.

Lessons Learned

Say: Everyone has the opportunity to be a friend of anyone. Everyone has the opportunity to help others, even in simple ways. The Church and the community can be friends. Friends help each other when in need. Friends can work together to reach what they wanted to achieve for the God of everybody.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. Galatians 6:2 , "Help each other with your troubles".

Creative Activity

Footprints of Friendship

After some moment of reflection, let the children trace their shoes or slipper or feet (both right and left) on a construction paper or cartolina. Cut these out. Let them write on the right foot "Church" and on the left foot "Community".... Let them paste on a bond paper. Let them write on the lower part "Bless the Church O Lord to be the trusted friend of the community."

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn "We're Glad Today For Our Friends" Children Praise God, 59

We're glad today, we're glad today
For our friends we are glad today

Thank you, God, we thank you.

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, we thank you for the wonderful day of learning. We thank you for teaching us to be friends to others. Bless us O Lord, bless our Church and bless our community. This we ask in Jesus name we pray. Amen.