

Lesson 6: What do we mean by “Holy Church of Jesus Christ”?

Rural Life Emphasis Sunday
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 12, 2020

General Concept: *The Holy Church of Jesus Christ means being set apart for special purpose by and for God.*

Biblical References: Colossians 3:12-14, Acts 9:32-42

Age Level Concepts

- Our church is holy because Jesus is holy.
- We do what is right to follow Christ’s example of holiness

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to

- Realize the church is holy because Jesus is holy
 - Identify examples of Christ’s holiness
- Tell how one can show Christ’s holiness in their own way

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

Biblical Background

Colossians 3:12-14

Becoming Christian means a definite break with the old selfish way of life. It means determination to let the new life which is in us govern all we think and say and do. It means a permanent resolve to become like Christ, to take on his character. His life- his love- his forgiveness- is our model. His words shapes our thinking. The hallmark of our Christian life is prayer and thanksgiving to God and outgoing unselfish love in all our human relationships. Our concern is no longer to get, but to give.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn

“Enter, Rejoice and Come In”

Enter, rejoice and come in

Open you heart to the lord

Today will be a joyful day

Enter, rejoice and come in

Sing Halleluia2 (2x)

Today will be a joyful day

Enter rejoice and come in. (Repeat all)

”We’re Together Again”
We’re together again, just praising the Lord
We’re together again, in one accord
Something good is going to happen
Something good is in store
We, re together again, jus praising the Lord
Wherever I am, I’ll Praise Him
Wherever I can, I’ll praise Him
For His love surrounds me like a sea
I’ll praise the name of Jesus
Lift up the name of Jesus
For the name of Jesus lifted me.

Opening Prayer

(Lead the prayer and tell your learners to follow after you)

“Dear God, thank you for the gift of life. Thank you for teaching us to obey you. We pray for your blessing and your help to enable us learn more and more about your life and teachings. This we ask in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Getting Ready

GAME. “Jesus Says”

1. When I say, “Jesus says, touch your nose, you must touch your nose.”
2. Commands may vary as follows.

Jesus says....

- a. Hold the hand of a person who has short hair
- b. Tap the shoulder of person who wear shoes
- c. Hug a person who has scar
- d. Group yourselves into two
- e. Sit on the floor in groups of 4
- f. Shout “I must be holy because Jesus is holy”

Say: Jesus Christ is holy. As believers, we are to follow Christ’ way and teachings. We do what is right to follow Christ’s example of holiness. We can do this even in our own simple ways.

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Tell the story.

“Dorcas, the Caring Woman”

(Based on Acts 9:32-42)

In a place called Joppa, there live a woman named Dorcas. She was a very kind woman. Every time people needed help, she would offer help to them. Her neighbors would hear her say, “Any time you need me, just come to me and I will do my best to help you in any way I can.”

Dorcas loved to do things for people. She washed. She cooked food and shared it to her neighbors. She also sewed clothes. She always had kind words for people in trouble. Whenever someone needed help, Dorcas was there. She never refused anyone who would come to her. Dorcas was wonderful to her friends. Everyone rejoiced in the community because of Dorcas' acts of kindness and holiness.

Discuss the story by asking the following questions.

- a) How did Dorcas help those who had no food?
- b) How did Dorcas help those who had no clothes?
- c) How did Dorcas help those who were sad?
- d) Do you think we can be like Dorcas?
- e) How can we help those who had no food to eat?
- f) How can we help those who had no clothes to wear?
- g) How can we help those who are sad?
- h) How would people feel if we help them?
- i) How would you feel if can help someone in need?

Give the children enough time to share their thoughts. Then, emphasize to the children that it is indeed a very good thing when people care for each other. This is exactly holiness that is lived-out. We are the church, we must live out the examples of holiness we learned from Jesus. This is exactly what God wants us to do- to show examples of holiness to others the way Jesus did.

Lessons Learned

Check if they understood the conversation earlier. Line up the children in a single line horizontally facing one direction or touch the right shoulder of the person beside them to form a line.

Say: "I will enumerate things children can do and cannot do. If the statement shows love and concern for others, take one big step forward. If the statement do not show love and concern for others, take one big step backward. If your answer is wrong, you will be eliminated. (Below are some of the examples, you may add some more.)

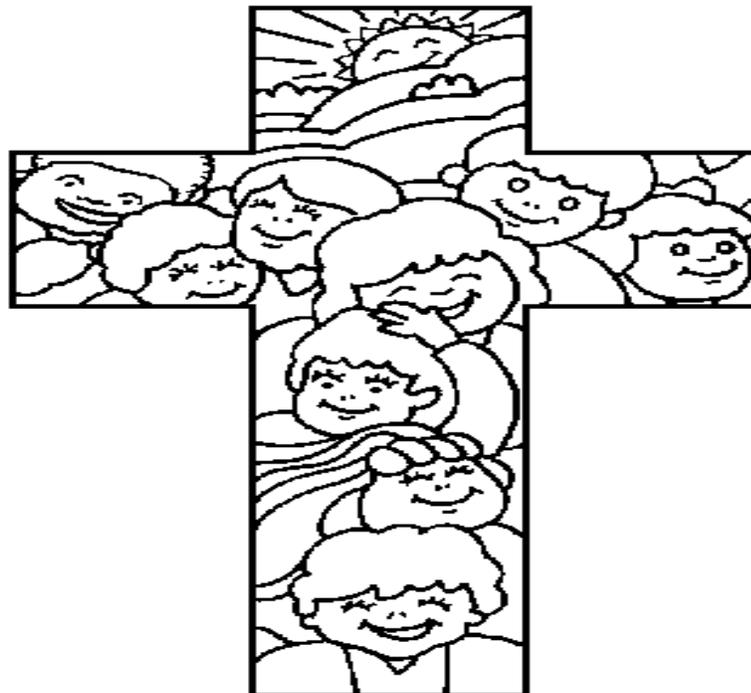
- a) I will give food to the lost cat.
- b) I will not finish the food on my plate.
- c) I will share my "baon" with my classmate.
- d) I will give my seat to an old lady in the bus.
- e) I will show my compassion to others.
- f) I will not be kind to others.
- g) I will show humility to others.
- h) I will be gentle to others.
- i) I will fight with kuya/ate.

- j) I will show my patience to others.
- k) I will give alms to beggars.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teaching the memory verse. Colossians 3:12b, “So then, you must clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.”

Print the worksheet below. Distribute to the children. Let them color it. Write below “I will always show Christ’s examples of holiness to others.”



Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn

Sing “My God is So Big” Children Praise God, p. 143

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty

There’s nothing my God cannot do

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty

There’s nothing my God cannot do.

The mountains are God’s, the rivers are God’s

The stars are God’s handiwork too.

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty

There’s nothing my God cannot do.

Closing Prayer

Say a prayer for the church and even the children themselves to be able to follow Christ's examples of holiness to others.

Lesson 7: What do we mean by "catholic Church of Jesus Christ"?

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2020

General Concept: The Catholic Church of Jesus Christ means it extends throughout the world and during all times and that the Church is universal.

Biblical References: Ephesians 2:19-22,

Age Level Concepts

- Our church welcomes everyone
- We respect all communities of faith

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

- Tell that everybody is welcome in the church
- Identify ways on how we show our respect to other communities of faith
- Affirm to welcome and respect other communities of faith

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

Biblical Background

Ephesians 2:19-22

In the ancient world, the Jews were separated from the Gentiles by racial, religious, cultural and social barriers. If Christ could these two together, there was and is, no human gulf too great for him to bridge. And he did. His death on the cross is the one means of peace with God and for all men, without distinction. And all who belong to him have a common bond which is deeper and stronger than any of their former differences- of race and color or status or sex or background. Jews and Gentiles are one in Christ.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn "Welcome to the Family"

Welcome to the family we're glad that you have come

To share your life with us as we grow in love and

May we always be to you what God would have us be

A family always there to be strong and to lean on.

May we learn to love each other more with each new day,

May words of love be on our lips in everything we say,
May the spirit melt our hearts and teach us how to pray
That we might be a true family.

Brigde:
To be strong and to lean on (3X)

Opening Prayer

Dear God, thank you for giving us this day and for the presence of everyone. May we learn to welcome and respect and treat each other as our brothers and sisters. Amen.

Getting Ready

Unlock the meaning of these words:

- a.) Welcome- to receive or accept (something) with happiness and pleasure
- b.) Respect- a feeling or understanding that someone is important
- c.) Catholic (with the small letter c in the beginning) - means universal, broad, unlimited

Learning Time

LYRIC STUDY. Present the song “In Christ There is No East or West” written by William A. Dunkerley, 1908 with the music written by Alexander R. Reinagle, 1836. (Hymnal of Faith Journey, 271) Discuss briefly the meaning and message of the song.

In Christ there is no East or West,
In Him no South or North;
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.

In Him shall true hearts everywhere
Their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord,
Close binding humankind.

Join hands, then, members of the faith,
Whatever your race may be!
Who serves my Father as His child
Is surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both East and West,
In Him meet North and South;
All Christly souls are one in Him
Throughout the whole wide earth.

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Tell the class to read aloud Ephesians 2:19-22 in unison. Explain that all who belong to him have a common bond which is deeper and stronger than any of their former differences- of race and color or status or sex or background. Jews and Gentiles are one in Christ.

Discuss the lesson. Ask what the phrases mean to them.

1. "There is no longer Jew or Greek."

Say: "In the catholic church of Jesus Christ the color of your skin, your race or tribe or family background is not important. Everybody is welcome.

2."There is no longer slave or free. There is no longer male and female."

Say: "In the catholic church of Christ one's social standing or other distinction is not important Even though you are a boy, girl, gay, lesbian, transgender, rich, poor, beautiful, ugly, fat or thin."

3. "For all of you are one in Christ Jesus."

Say: "It is Christ's prayer that all believers may be one just as he and God who sent him are one. All who believe in Jesus belongs to him. We should not look at ourselves as the only ones belonging to Jesus. Other people who believed in him who may not necessarily worshipping with us belong also to the church of Jesus Christ."

Lessons Learned

Ask: "How do we show our welcoming spirit to those who do not belong to our church? How do we show our respect to others?" Allow the children to share their opinions and experiences.

Applying the Lessons Learned

- a. Teaching the memory verse.
- b. Read orally the poem to the class with action. You will compose action for the children to follow. Then read it again and let the children say it after you with action.

"Hug O' War" (by Shel Silverstein)

I will not play at tug o' war. I'd rather play at hug o' war
Where everyone hugs, instead of tugs,
Where everyone giggles
Where everyone kisses, and everyone grins,
And everyone cuddles, and everyone wins.

Reflective statement: "I will respect and welcome others especially those who come from other faith communities.

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn

"Living In Community"

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.

Closing Prayer

“Loving God, we thank for your love that extend throughout the world. We offer to you our life. Please continue to mold us so that we will respect others and welcome others in the church. This is our earnest prayer in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Lesson 8: What do we mean by “apostolic Church of Jesus Christ”?

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2020

General Concept: The apostolic Church of Jesus Christ means that we trace back our beginning with the call, orientation of the apostles, and their teachings as handed to them by Jesus Christ.

Biblical References: *Acts 1:7-8*

Age Level Concepts

- Our church traces back its beginning from the teachings of the apostles.
- The apostles were taught and sent out by Jesus to spread Christ’s teachings.

Learning Objectives

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

- Define what is apostle, their roles and responsibilities
- Describe how the church of Jesus Christ started by the apostles
- Express their appreciation to the apostles

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

Biblical Background

Acts 1:7-8

The book of Acts continues the story begun in the Gospel of Luke, and is by the same author. It tells of the facts mainly of the apostle Peter and Paul. Because of its emphasis on God’s power, it has often been called the “the Acts of the Holy Spirit.” The book tells how the followers of Jesus spread the good news about Jesus first in Jerusalem, then all through the local provinces of Judea and Samaria, and “to the ends of the earth.” It covers roughly thirty years, from the beginnings of the Christian church on the Day of Pentecost to Paul’s imprisonment at Rome.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn "To Share the Gospel" Children Praise God, 121

To share the gospel God's gift of grace is given,
God who created all things, made people see God's plan.

And through the church God's wisdom will be known,
According to God's purpose in Jesus Christ be shown.

Opening Prayer

"Great and mighty God, we are thankful for the gift of life given to us today. We pray that you will teach us new lessons that will inspire us. Lead us O Lord. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen."

Getting Ready

Message Relay. Follow the instructions below.

- a.) Divide the class into two.
- b.) Let them group themselves and form a line horizontally.
- c.) Allow them to decide who is their leader. The leader should be in front of the line.
- d.) Prepare message for them to relay. Tell the leaders of the group to relay the message to the next player, until it reaches the back. The last player will shout out what the message is. The first group who can finish and the message gets a score. Prepare 10 messages. The group with the highest score is the winner. Give them claps as an appreciation.

Example:

- 1.) God is love
- 2.) Jesus loves you
- 3.) Be kind to others
- 4.) Go and Do right
- 5.) My heart belongs to God
- 6.) Obey your parents
- 7.) Be Honest
- 8.) Be happy with what you have
- 9.) Jesus blesses the children
- 10.) The church started with the apostles

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

- 1.) Present the text. Let them read individually.
V. 7- Jesus said to them, "The times and occasions are set by my Father's own authority, and it is not for you to know when they will be."

V. 8- But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me in all of Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

Say: The apostles started the church of Jesus Christ, they served as witnesses to the world.

Present the following statement. Elaborate and discuss briefly.

- a.) The word “apostle” means “a person who is sent- a messenger or representative.
- b.) The apostle’s main role and responsibility is to preach and to heal.
- c.) Paul- the great apostle and missionary whose letters form a large part of the New Testament. Paul was a Jew and a Roman citizen. He claimed that he was an apostle, because he believed that his experience on the Damascus road was not just a vision but a meeting with the living Jesus. He had been chosen by Jesus as his special messenger particularly to bring the message to the non-Jewish world, the Gentiles. Paul travelled many times to establish churches and it was realized.
- d.) Peter is the leader of the apostles and of the early church. Simon Peter was a fisherman and one of the closest friends of Jesus who spread the good news that time.

Lessons Learned

Say: “Apostles are sent by God to spread the message. Paul and all the apostles became the witnesses to the world. The church today is said to have embraced the teachings of the apostles handed to them by Jesus Christ. The church also respond to the same calling as that of the apostles. And so, we proclaim the same teachings about Jesus as part of our task. Who do you think are the apostles of Jesus today?”
Let them share.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. “But when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you will be filled with power, and you will be witnesses for me in all of Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)

Print the worksheet below in a black and white. Let them color it. Write below
“Thank you God for the apostles that Jesus sent to preach the Gospel.”



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 Lord, thank you for this day. Thank you for your presence. Thank you for the establishment of the church through your apostles. May we continue to grow and become strong. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Lesson 9: What do we mean by “Protestant heritage?”

Communion Sunday

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

August 02, 2020

General Concept: Protestant heritage is a set of traditions and beliefs which we inherit from the Protestant reformers.

Biblical References: John 15:1-10

Age Level Concepts

- Our church is a Protestant church.

- We are Protestants.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

- Define what protestant is
- Listen to a story why our church is Protestant
- Thank God for the protestant reformers

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

Biblical Background

John 15:1-10

In themselves believers have no life, strength or spiritual power. All that they have comes from Jesus Christ. If he is likened to a vine, they are likened to the branches, which means that they can bear spiritual fruit only as they are united in him. As they allow the Father to remove the hindrances of sin from their lives, they will bear even more fruit (John 15:1-5).

Those who bear no fruit are like the dead branches of a vine. Though attached to it, they receive no life from it. They say they are disciples of Jesus, but they have no spiritual union with him and in the end they will be destroyed. Such a person was Judas Iscariot (John 15:6).

If people are true disciples, they will prove it by the fruits that their spiritual union with Jesus produces. Among those fruits are obedience, love, joy and effective prayer (John 15:7-11). Jesus wants his disciples to serve him willingly, lovingly and with understanding. For this reason he chose the twelve apostles and trained them to know God's ways. If their service is based on a true knowledge of God and the true exercise of self-sacrificing love, they can expect it to result in lasting fruit (John 15:12-17).

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn "Read Your Bible, Pray Every Day"

Read your Bible, pray every day, pray every day, pray every day

And you'll grow, grow, grow (twice).

Read your Bible, pray every day and you'll grow, grow, grow.

"My God is So Big" Children Praise God, p. 143

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty

There's nothing my God cannot do

My God is so big, so strong and so mighty

There's nothing my God cannot do.

The mountains are God's, the rivers are God's
The stars are God's handiwork too.
My God is so big, so strong and so mighty
There's nothing my God cannot do.

Opening Prayer

"Lord, we give you praise for this wonderful Sunday. Today, we thank you for this wonderful place of learning. Be in our place and in our hearts as we study your word. Guide us O Lord. This is our prayer in Jesus' name. Amen."

Getting Ready

Display a squash vine or grape vine on your table. Ask them: What do you see on my table? Do you know this? Do you like to eat this one? Let them talk one by one. Allow them to share. Connect this illustration to the biblical text below.

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Present the following biblical verses. Let them read by groups.

All boys: V. 1- I am the real vine, and my Father is the gardener.

All girls: V.2- He breaks off every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and he prunes every branch that does not bear fruit so that it will be clean and bear more fruit.

All boys: V.3- You have been made clean already by the teaching I have given you.

All girls: V.4- Remain united to me, and I will remain united to you. A branch cannot bear fruit by itself: it can do so only if it remains in my vine. In the same way you cannot bear fruit unless you remain in me.

All boys: V.5- "I am the vine, and you are the branches. Those who remain in me and I in them, will bear much fruit for you cannot do nothing without me.

All girls: V.6- Those who do not remain in me are thrown out like a branch and dry up, such branches are gathered up and thrown into the fire, where they are burned.

All boys: V.7- If you remain in me and my words remain in you, then you will ask for anything you wish and you shall have it.

All girls: V.8 My Father's glory is shown by your bearing much fruit: and in this way you become my disciples.

All boys: V.9- I love you as the Father's loves me; remain in my love.

All: V.10- If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.

Discuss the text.

- a. Who is the true vine?
- b. Who grows and cleans the vine from non-bearing branches?
- c. What part of the vine are believers referred to?
- d. How do the different branches relate to each other?

Say: "At some point in the story of the church, we share the same branch of the vine. But something happened that led us to become "Protestants".

Lessons Learned

Tell a story about one of the Protestant reformers like that of Martin Luther or show a video clip about Protestantism (*National Geographic, A Fun, Animated History of the Reformation and the Man who Started It All: Short film Showcase*).

- 1.) Present the meaning of "Protestant". "Protestants" was a name called to members of the church who decided to get out of the Catholic church. It was the result of the growing Reformation movement a long time ago. The Reformation movement was supposed to make "reforms" or "corrections" of the mistakes in the church. It was not intended to divide the church. But, events resulted to the birth of the Protestant church.

The Protestant faith was brought in the Philippines by the Americans which is a lot different from Roman Catholic faith. The Protestant Christians nurtured people in the faith with the use of the Bible.

- 2.) Present briefly the following traditions and beliefs of Protestants. The Protestant became unique in its own way of knowing God: its distinctiveness made appear different from the Roman Catholics. The UCCP as a Protestant church inherited the basic beliefs that the Reformers strongly fought for:
 - a. Sola Scriptura: The Bible is the only source and basis of our faith. No one is infallible, except God.
 - b. Soli Gloria Dei: There is only one true God: the triune God. This God alone deserves all our obedience and respect.
 - c. Solus Christus: Only Jesus is Redeemer-Savior. Only Jesus is God's provision for our Salvation.
 - d. Sola Gratia, Sola Fide: No amount of human effort can bring us back into right relationship with God.

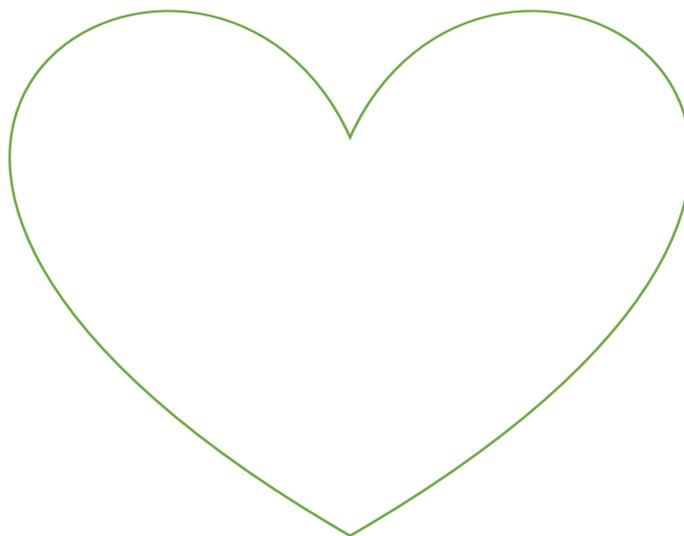
Say: "We call ourselves Protestants because we embrace the beliefs and the call for reforms in the church which was started by the Reformers."

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. “I am the vine, and you are the branches. Those who remain in me and I in them, will bear much fruit for you cannot do nothing without me.” John 15:5

Thumbs Fun

Procedures: Have the children press their thumbs on an ink pad, and then print them on white paper. Tell them to make a heart shape using their thumb mark. Tell them to write inside the heart shape “Thank you Lord for the Protestant Reformers!”



Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn “Jesus Went About Doing Good” Children Praise God, p. 30

Jesus went about doing good, Jesus went about doing good,
He told everyone God is love, God cares for you.

Jesus went about doing good, Jesus went about doing good,
He makes people well and he said, “God cares for you.”

Jesus went about doing good, Jesus went about doing good,
He held children close and he said, “God cares for you.”

Closing Prayer (to be led by the teacher)

Lesson 10: What do we mean by being a “reformed” church?

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 09, 2020

General Concept: The UCCP aligns itself with the Reformation movement of the 16th century that brought significant changes in the beliefs, system and structure of the Church then.

Biblical References: *Acts 9: 1-18*

Age Level Concepts

- Our church experienced change.
- Our church changed for the better.
- We are happy our church has changed.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to

- Describe how Jesus changed the life of Paul
- Give examples of change that happened in the church before
- Feel happy and thank God for the church has changed

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

Biblical Background

Acts 9:1-8

Saul conversion marks a turning point in the history of Christian Church. The story is told 3 times (Acts, Luke, twice by Paul). Never has any conversion meant more like an about-face and radical change of thinking. This was the moment of Saul's conversion, the most solemn in all his life. Blinded by the dazzling light, his companions led him into the city, where, absorbed in deep thought in three days, he neither ate nor drank. Ananias, a disciple living in Damascus was informed by a vision of the change that had happened to Saul, and was sent to him to open his eyes and admit him by baptism into the Christian Church. The whole purpose of Paul's life was completely changed.

Note to the Teacher

This lesson aims to enlighten the children about the concept of UCCP being a reformed and reforming church. Having been introduced to the Reformation event, we have learned that it resulted to the formation of the "new church" expressed in the Latin phrase "Ecclesia reformada et reformata est."

In other words, "reformed" churches are those churches that underwent changes in its life, both internal and external. It underwent pruning and cleansing so that it may become true to the message of the Bible. The UCCP is also a reforming church. It believes that the Holy Spirit is continuously working to purify the church, to shape and mold it according to God's divine purpose.

It is hoped that the children will develop an appreciation of the fact that we are a reformed and reforming church, and will commit themselves to the continuing effort to reform in accordance with the teaching of the Bible.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn “Hello, Hello, Hello” *Children Praise God*, 71

Hello, hello, hello, how are you today

Hello, hello, hello I am fine.

Tralalalalalalala, Tralalalalalalala.

“ From Glory to Glory God’s Changing Me”

From Glory to Glory God’s (changing me 3X)

God’s likeness and image to perfect in me

The love of God shown to the world.

For God’s (changing 2X) me,

From the worthlessness to God’s child I’ll be

God’s likeness and image to perfect

The love of God shown to the world

Opening Prayer

(To be led by the teacher and be repeated by the children)

Dear God, we thank you for this beautiful day. Thank you for our good health.

Thank you for bringing us here in the church. May you guide us as we study and worship you today. In Jesus’ name. Amen

Getting Ready

Games- Circle Sweep.

Lesson learned: How to sweep/how the team encourage individuals

Materials: A broom and an inflated balloon

Formation: Divide the class into teams of five or six

Direction: At the signal the first player for each team takes the broom, sweep the balloon around the circle and back to the starting point, then hands the broom to the next player, who repeats the action. If the balloon breaks, the team must blow up and ties another one before continuing.

Say: “Like the game of Circle sweep, God also wants us to clean ourselves and experience a change of heart like Saul’s experienced when he met Jesus in Damascus. Our church also has to clean itself from mistakes so that it can grow and spread.”

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Tell the story. You may tell the story while learners being selected will act out the characters.

“From Saul to Paul”
(Based on Acts 9:1-18)

Saul was a very religious man. He knew from his study of God's law that it was very wrong for a man to claim to be the Son of God. He believed that Jesus was just a man. So he thought he was pleasing God when he punished the early church believers who said that Jesus is the Son of God. When Stephen was stoned, the Bible says, "Saul approved of his murder."

The High Priest and the rulers of the synagogue agreed with Saul. They did not believe Jesus is the Son of God. They were glad when Saul came to them one day with request that he wanted to go to the Christians in Damascus. Damascus was a big city 200 kilometers northeast of Jerusalem. The High Priest willingly gave Saul special letters, giving him authority to arrest Christians there and bring them back to Jerusalem.

Saul took several men with him on his journey to help bring back the Christians who were to be put in prison. They traveled for several days. Most travelers rested during the hottest part of the day. But Saul eagerly hurried on. As they were nearing Damascus something suddenly happened. (Read Acts 9:3-9 with expression while the assigned learners act out the story. Have one child direct the flashlight on the face of Saul as you read about the light.)

What a different man Saul is now! Before he was proud persecuting the Christians making sure he was doing right. Then he became humble, being led like a poor blind man into the city.

The voice that Saul heard from heaven changed his life forever. From then on he was no longer Saul, but became known as Paul. He then followed Jesus and became Jesus' apostle to the Gentiles. Paul became one of the greatest among the apostles.

Ask the following for discussion:

- a.) Who is the main character of the story? (Saul)
- b.) How would you describe Saul?
- c.) What happened on their way to Damascus?
- d.) What happened to Saul?
- e.) How did Jesus change Saul?

Say: At certain points of our lives, when we come to think that we are doing everything right according to our standards, something will come our way to wake us up and then change us. If we correct mistakes in accordance to God's word, we are sure that it is for the better. Like Saul, he experienced change not according to his will but according to God's way and purpose.

Lessons Learned

You may play the video again. This time, shift the focus not on the Reformers or beliefs but on the practices that the reformers wanted to correct or reform. Let the learners write their answers on a manila paper.

Mistakes of the Church	Suggested Corrections
Use or selling of certificates for the forgiveness of sins	Forgiveness of sins is not for sale
People cannot read and understand the Bible because it is translated in Latin	Should be translated in the dialect understandable to the people, should be available to all.
People need to go through the priest in order to talk to God.	People can talk to God and have a relationship with God.
the Pope is like God.	There is only one God.

Say: "Our UCCP affirm to be a reformed church because we align ourselves to the changes made before to correct the church from its mistakes.

Applying the Lessons Learned

- a.) Teach the memory verse. Isaiah 9: 2a, "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light."
- b.) Print out the worksheet below. Let them decorate and color it. Tell them to write their names and below let them write their prayers thanking God for the changes that happened in the church before which led into what we are today.



Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn "I Can Do All Things" Children Praise God, 111

I can do all things, I can do all things,
I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me.

We can change all things, we can change all things
We can change all things through Christ that strengthens us.

Closing Prayer

Dear Lord, we give you praise and thanks for your grace, blessings and love. We thank you for your guidance to the church and for changing it for the better. Be with us O Lord as we continue serve you every day. In Jesus name we pray. Amen!

Assignment: Bring pictures (selfie, groupfie)

Lesson 11: What are our distinguishing characters being a reformed church?

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2020

General Concept: A reformed church is Christ-centered, biblically grounded, missionary in character, has its own polity and set of beliefs.

Biblical References: *Romans 1:16-17 (faith alone); Acts 4: 12 (Christ alone); Matthew 28:19, 2 Timothy 3:16-17*

Age Level Concepts

- A reformed church stand on its own beliefs and preach about Christ.
- Our church has traits of being a reformed church.
- We are happy we belong to UCCP.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

- Say that our church bears the characteristics of a reformed church.
- Write down the marks of being a reformed church
- Thank God and express joy for belonging to UCCP

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

Biblical Background

Romans 3:21-31

Since God is just, the man who infringes his law must be punished. The whole human race stands under sentence of death unless the demands of justice can be met some other way. Jesus has

provided that other way by standing in for us at the cost of his own life. God will now forgive and receive anyone who comes to him trusting in Jesus. This opens up a new life. Free pardon on the grounds of faith. It is the essence of the good news Paul was commissioned to preach, and the heart of Christian message still.

Romans 1: 16-17

Paul then gives a summary of the subject that he will expound in the following chapters. He wants his readers to have the same confidence in the gospel as he has, for the gospel is humankind's only hope. People, because of their sin, are weak and unable to save themselves, but God in his power can save them from sin and accept them as righteous in his sight. Through the gospel God can put people right with himself and still be righteous in doing so. But though this salvation is available to all, it is effective only in the lives of those who believe. Only by faith, and never by works, can sinners receive the status of righteousness that God in his grace gives (16-17).

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn "We will Do Everything Our God Has Said"

(Tune: If you're happy and you know it)

We will do everything our God has said (2X)

We will listen and obey

We will stand for what is right

We will gladly follow what our God has said.

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for your love and guidance. Thank you for bringing us again unto this place to learn about you and our church. Guide us again O Lord. This we ask in Jesus name, we pray. Amen!

Getting Ready

Instructions:

- a.) Ask them to bring out their pictures -Selfie pictures, groupie pictures they brought.
- b.) Post their pictures on the board.
- c.) Sit quietly and observe the pictures.
- d.) Let them share what they saw.

Say: Every one of you is a unique. And everyone has a distinguishing difference from the other. We all have traits that help others recognize us apart from others."

Learning Time

Tell the story below.

"The Ugly Duckling"
(By Hans Christian Anderson)

Once there was a duckling who could not understand why nobody liked him. His family called him ugly and would not play with him. Even the girl who would come to feed the birds and the animals was unkind to him.

At last, the ugly duckling decided to run away.

He met some wild ducks who invited him to stay with them, but before he said yes, he heard a gunshot go off, and the wild ducks fell down one by one from the sky.

The little duck swam further across the pond until he saw a small hut where an old woman, a hen and a cat lived.

The duckling decided he would be much happier if he went back to the pond. The pond would be his home. One day, it grew very cold. The duckling could not move in the frozen pond. A man came along and rescued him. He took him to his home. At first, the man's children were kind to him, but when the duckling began to feel better and was able to walk around the room, they frightened him. The duckling flew out through an open window.

He went sadly back to his pond and found a warm place among the grasses where he spent the rest of the winter.

One day the spring had come, he swam out into the pond. He saw a group of beautiful birds and in humble voice sad, "Oh, beautiful birds, I want to be with your group. I'm so ugly and nobody wants me."

As he spoke, he bowed his head, and saw his own reflection in the clear water. What a surprise! He was no longer an ugly duckling but a beautiful white swan. He joined the other swans and as they went down the river, the children called out, "Look, there is a new swan, isn't he beautiful? And the new swan bowed his head with pleasure.

Use the following questions for discussion.

- a.) If you were one of the brothers and sisters of ugly duckling, how would you treat him?
- b.) What effects did the teasing by the other ducklings have on the ugly duckling?
- c.) What are the traits that the duckling has which makes him different from others?

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Present the following biblical reference and discuss briefly. Emphasize that these are some of the beliefs a reformed church embrace and stand for.

- a.) Acts 4: 12 (Christ alone) Salvation is to be found through him alone; in all the world there is no one else whom God has given who can save us.

- b.) Romans 1:16-17 (faith alone) for the gospel reveals how God puts people right with himself, it is through faith from begging to end. As the scriptures says, “The person who is put right with God through faith shall live.”
- c.) Matthew 28:19 (the Great Commission) Jesus commanded the disciples to go out into the world and proclaim what he has taught them. Jesus sent them on a mission.
- d.) 2 Timothy 3:16-17 We give importance to the Bible as guide of all believers in their life and exercise of faith.

Lessons Learned

Distinguishing traits of a reformed church. The teacher should prepare this before the day of the class. Write on meta-cards the traits that would describe the reformed church. During the session, ask the learners to choose from among the traits written on meta-cards that best describe UCCP.

Bible is important	CHRIST is the center	Preach the Gospel
Pastor is always right	The Church welcomes all	Statement of Faith
Children cannot take part in worship.	Only men are allowed to speak in church.	Feed the hungry, heal the sick, take care of the poor
Take care of the God's creation		

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. Romans 3:24, “But by the free gift of God’s grace all are put right with him through Jesus who sets them free.”

Print out the work sheet below. Let them decorate it. Write their names in the upper part of the paper. And below write “Thank God and I am happy for I belong to UCCP”



Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn

“That’s why we are UCCP”

Chorus: That’s why we are UCCP

For we are taught what the Lord had said
To live a life in community with God and all
Assured of life even after death
No more sorrows and no more defeat
There’s only love, Justice and peace, all creation new.
There’s only love, Justice and peace..UCCP!

Closing Prayer

Let the children stand and hold hands in a circle. Recite together the memory verse. Close the session with a prayer led by the teacher.

Lesson 12: What do we mean by “reforming church”?

Mission Sunday

First Sunday in Kingdomtide

August 23, 2020

General Concept: *The UCCP as a reforming church continues to uphold changes in accordance to God's word and the call of times.*

Biblical References: Luke 19:1-10

Age Level Concepts

- Our church is always changing for the better
- We appreciate changes in our church
- We help in making changes in our church

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to

- Explain why the church keeps changing
- List down changes they want to see in the church
- Plan ways how to help in making changes in the church

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

Biblical Background

Luke 19:1-10

Zacchaeus was the chief tax collector of Jericho and was wealthy. He wanted to see Jesus, and Jesus wanted to talk to him. So Jesus went to his house, much to the disapproval of the local citizens (Luke 19:1-7).

The outcome of Jesus' visit was that Zacchaeus repented and believed in Jesus. To show that his repentance was genuine, Zacchaeus repaid (with generous interest) those he had cheated and gave freely even to those he had not cheated (Luke 19:8). Being a tax collector, he was despised by his fellow Jews as one not worthy to be called a 'son of Abraham'. But that was no reason for him to be cut off from salvation. On the contrary, sinners such as this were the people that Jesus came to save. And once Zacchaeus was saved, he was a true 'son of Abraham', a genuine believer (Luke 19:9-10). (*The Bridgeway Bible Commentary*)

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn "Zacchaeus" Children Praise God, 228

Zacchaeus was a sinful man who cheated every one

But when Jesus came into his life he became a better man

Si Zaccheo nakasala naglimbong sa uban

Sa dihang nakita Si Hesus nabuotaan dayon s'ya

Sunday is today what a happy day
Boys and girls claps your hands
Singing all the way

I'm excited I'm excited I'm excited in the Lord

Opening Prayer

“Dear God we thank you for bringing us to church for Sunday school. Teach us to love and appreciate our church and learn more about our community. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen

Getting Ready

Unlock the word “Reform or reforming.” It can be correction, change for better, improve, correct, rebuild, repair, restore. You can write the words in the blackboard or you may use flash cards to explain.

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Tell this story.

“Zacchaeus Met Jesus”
(Based on Luke 19:1-10)

Long time ago, there was very little man. His name was Zacchaeus. He was a tax collector then. He cheated the people and took their money. They gave it to the Romans who ruled their land during that time.

One day Zacchaeus heard that Jesus was coming to their place. He ran to see him. But there was a big crowd around Jesus. Zacchaeus was too short. He could not see Jesus.

“What will I Do? I need to see Jesus,” he said to himself.

Then Zacchaeus thought of a good idea. “The Sycamore tree! Yes! I’ll climb the Sycamore tree so that I can see Jesus!” And Zacchaeus did. From the top of the tree, he saw Jesus walking towards the direction of the sycamore tree. And Jesus could see him too.

“Come down, Zacchaeus,” Jesus said. I will go to your house today.”

“What did I hear? He knows my name and he’s coming to my house?” He said to himself.

Zacchaeus was very happy, that he immediately came down from the sycamore tree. But some people did not like what Jesus did. They did not want Jesus to go to the tax collector’s house and talk and befriend him. But Jesus did not mind what

people would say. Jesus went to Zacchaeus' house and ate with him. They became friends.

Use the following guide questions for discussions.

- a.) Who are the characters of the story?
- b.) Who was coming one day?
- c.) Who did Jesus call to come down from the sycamore tree?
- d.) What did some people feel when Jesus decided to go to Zacchaeus' house? Why?
- e.) What happened to Zacchaeus?

Say: "Zacchaeus was not a good person but when he met Jesus he was changed into a better person."

Lessons Learned

Present the following statement below. Let them react.

- a.) There was a time the Church was corrupted and no longer functions as a church of Jesus Christ. The Church had done mistakes. But there were people who want to seek reforms and changes (these are the early reformers) to make the church good and better.
- b.) Zacchaeus did not only declare his mistakes but also declared to do something concrete to correct his mistakes. Like Zacchaeus, the Church did not only made corrections to its mistakes but continued to make further reforms.
- c.) Our church today see the importance of making changes that is guided by God's word.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. "The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."
Luke 19:10

Print out the following worksheet below. Let them fill up the two columns.

MY WAY OF HELPING THE CHURCH TO CHANGE FOR BETTER
WEEKLY LISTINGS

Days	The Change I Want to See in the Church	What I Can/Will Do to Help
Monday		
Tuesday		
Wednesday		

Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		
Sunday		

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn

“If You're Happy and You Know It”

If you're happy and you know it
Clap your hands

If you're happy and you know it
Clap your hands

If you're happy and you know it
And you really want to show it
If you're happy and you know it
Clap your hands

Repeat with:

Stomp your feet
Blink your eyes
Shrug your shoulders
Wiggle your fingers
Shake your head

Closing Prayer

“Compassionate God, we thank you for the challenge that we can still make changes for the better. May the Holy Spirit continually be with us and help us to use our gifts to help the church as it continue to reform itself. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.”

Lesson 13: Why do we need to continuously reform?

Second Sunday in Kingdomtide
August 30, 2020

General Concept: The UCCP continues to reform itself in order to be relevant and responsive to the challenges of these changing times.

Biblical References: Jeremiah 26:12-13

Age Level Concepts

- Our church is always changing so it can help others better.
- Our church changes for the better for its members.
- I am glad my church keeps changing to help members and others better.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to:

- Tell the reason why the church should continue to change
- See examples of how the church answer to the needs of people
- Be happy and thankful that the continue to change to be able to help its members and others as well

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

Biblical Background

Jeremiah 26:12-13

The prophet Jeremiah lived about one hundred years after Isaiah. During his long ministry, he warned God’s people of the catastrophe-disaster that was to fall upon the nation because of their idolatry and sin. He lived to see this prediction come true with the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar; the destruction of the city and the temple, and the exile to Babylonia of Judah’ king and many of the people.

Jeremiah is a sensitive man who deeply loved his people, and who hated to have to pronounce judgement upon them. In many passages he spoke with deep emotion about the things he suffered because God called him to be a prophet. The word of the Lord was like fire in his heart- he could not keep it back.

Jeremiah urges the people to change their ways and obey what the Lord wants them to do.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn “Jesus Loves Me”

Jesus loves me the way I am. I love you the way you are

Jesus loves us the way we are.

Hallelu-hallelujah, Halle-hallelujah (thrice), Jesus loves us the way we are.

“A Thankful Heart” (<http://www.lnwhymns.com/Hymn.aspx?ID=305>)

Opening Prayer

Dear God, thank you for this day that we are again together to sing, pray, and listen to stories about the changes of our church. Thank you for leading us to continue change our church for better. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

Getting Ready

Teach the poem.

“God Is for Us”

God is for me. God is for you.

God is for us for God loves us.

Teach the accompanying movements:

God (Point fingers upward) is for me (Point fingers to self).

God (Point fingers upward) is for you (Point fingers to others).

God (Point fingers upward) is for us (Hands stretched out).

For God (Pointing fingers upward) loves us (Crossed hands on chest).

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

a.) Present the following biblical passages found in Jeremiah 26:12-13.

V. 12 – Then I said, “The Lord sent me to proclaim everything that you have heard me say against this temple and against this city.

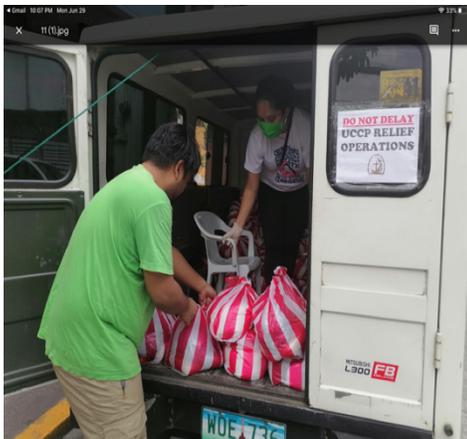
v.13 – You must change the way you are living and the things you are doing and must obey the Lord your God. If you do, he will change his mind about the destruction that he said he would bring on you.

Ask the following questions.

- a.) Who is the prophet?
- b.) What does the Lord wants him to proclaim?
- c.) What will happened if they change their ways?
- d.) What response did they show to God?

Lessons Learned

Download pictures on the church’s response during the Covid19 pandemic.





Ask the following questions:

1. What can you see in the pictures?
2. What should the church do aside from praying and worshipping God during the times of great need?
3. Who should receive the care of the church?
4. Why do you think the church should help those in need ?

Distribute a sad and happy emojis to the children. Tell them that if they like the statement, raise their happy emoji, but if they don't like the statement, raise their sad emoji.

1. The church needs to continue changing for the better.
2. The church should stay like the old times.
3. The church needs to take care only its members.
4. The church should not help those in need.
5. The church should not give food to those who are hungry.
6. The church helps those in need because Jesus did the same.
7. The church should keep the children away from the church to make the worship solemn.
8. The church should forbid children from taking the communion.
9. The church welcomes everybody.
10. Children likes to help in the church.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. "You must change the way you are living and the things you are doing and must obey the Lord your God." Jeremiah 26:13

Print out the image below. Mount it on a cardboard or cartolina. Cut it into pieces. Tell the learners to solve the Puzzle by putting the pieces back. After solving it, tell them to add decoration to make more beautiful. Tell them to write on the lower part, "I am happy that my church continues to change."



Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn “THE POWER OF YOUR LOVE”

Lord we come to you, let my heart be changed renewed
Flowing from the grace that I’ve found in you.
And Lord I come to know, the weaknesses I see in me;
Will be stripped away by the power of your love.
In living every day, by the power of your love.

Chorus: Hold me close, let your love surround me; bring me near
Draw me to your side; and as I wait, I’ll rise up like an eagle,
And I will soar with you, my spirit leads me on
By the power of you love.

Lord unveil my eyes let me see you face to face
The knowledge of your love as you live in me
Lord renew my mind as your will unfolds in my life
In living everyday in the power of your love.

Closing Prayer

“Dear God, we thank you for teaching us the importance of continuing change in our life as a church. Help us to change our lives into better as our way of honoring you. This is our prayer in the name of Jesus, your son. Amen.”

Lesson 14: Why is UCCP a united church?

CEN Sunday
Third Sunday in Kingdomtide
September 06, 2020

General Concept: We are united because we have a common mission to proclaim Christ and it gives credibility to our witness and service.

Biblical References: Psalms 133:1; John 17:21

Age Level Concepts

- We are united because different churches joined together
- We are proud we belong to a united church

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to

- Tell what united means
- Identify the churches that joined together
- Thank God and be proud for they belong to a united church

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

Biblical Background

John 17:21

Jesus has accomplished all he set out to do during his lifetime. He has passed God’s message on. He has made God known. Now there remains only death and beyond it the glory he renounced to become man. But his followers were to be left bereft in a hostile world. So he prays that God will protect them: that their lives may be shaped by the truth of God’s word; that they may display unity among themselves that the world will be shaken out of its disbelief, and that they may, in the end, go to be with him and see his glory themselves.

Note to the Teacher

This lesson deals with the most important character of UCCP, which is a united and uniting church. It is united because it was borne out of the organic union of several strands of evangelical churches. It is uniting because it continues to work for unity among all its constituents, with other denominations, and with other faiths.

It is the purpose of the following lessons to help the children appreciate our being a united and uniting church despite our several strands of tradition from which we came, and to encourage the members to seek to enrich and protect the unity of the church.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn "That's Why We Are UCCP"

We believe in one God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer of everyone's life,
In Jesus Christ He became man,
And rules as Lord of Lords, In Spirit He guides us all along

CHORUS:

That's why we are UCCP!

for we are taught what the Lord had said

To live a life in community with God and all

Assured of life even after death,

No more sorrow and no more defeat

There's only love, justice and peace,

All creation new /UCCP.

Opening Prayer

Gracious Lord, we praise you this morning. Thank you for bringing us to this place to continue studying your words. Help us to understand meaning of unity. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Getting Ready

Unlock the meaning of

a.) Unity- friendship, good will, merger, joining

b.) United- combined, consolidated, collective

Learning Time

Let the children get the art papers under their chairs. Who got the red papers? The blue one? The green? Yellow? Violet? Orange? Our story today is about colors, how colors quarrel before they realize that they are one in harmony and beauty.

Story Telling or Play Reading.

"The Story of the Rainbow"

NARRATOR: Once upon a time, all the colors in the world started to quarrel; each claimed that she was the best, the most important, the most useful, the favorite,

Green said: “Clearly I am the most important. I am the sign of life and of hope. I was chosen for grass, trees and leaves. Without me all the animals will die. Look out over the countryside and you will see I am the majority.

Blue interrupted: “You only think about the earth, but consider the sky and the sea. It is water that is the basis of life and this is drawn up by the clouds from the blue sea. The sky gives space and peace and serenity. Without my peace you would be nothing but busybodies.

Yellow chuckled: “You are all so serious. I bring laughter, gaiety and warmth into the world. The sun is yellow, the moon is yellow, and the stars are yellow. Every time you look at a sunflower the world starts to smile. Without me there would be no fun.

Orange started next to blow her own trumpet: “I am the color of health and strength. I may be scare but I am precious for I serve the inner needs of a human live I carry all the most important vitamins. Think of squash, carrot, and oranges mangoes, and papayas. I don’t hang around all the time, but when I fill the sky at sunrise or sunset, my beauty is not so striking that no one gives another thought to any of you.

Red could stand it no longer. He shouted out: “I’m the ruler of you all, blood, and blood’s life. I am the color of danger and of bravery. I am willing to fight for a cause. I bring fire in the blood. Without me the earth would be empty as the mon. I am the color of passion and of love; the red rose, poinsettia and poppy.

Purple rose up to his full height: He was very tall and he is spoke with great pomp: “I am the color of loyalty and power. Kings, chiefs, and bishops have always chosen me for I am a sign of authority and wisdom. People do not question me-they listen and obey.

Indigo spoke much more quietly than all the others, but just as determinedly: “Think of me. I am the color silence. You hardly notice me. But without me, you all became superficial. I represent thought and reflection, twilight and deep waters. You need me foe balance and contrast, for prayer and inner peace.

NARRATOR: “And so the colors went on boasting, each convinced that they were the best. Their quarreling became louder and louder. Suddenly there was a startling flash of brilliant white lightning; thunder rolled and boomed. Rain started to pour down relentlessly. The colors all crouched down in fear, drawing close to one another for comfort.

The rain spoke: “You foolish colors, fighting among yourselves, each trying to dominate the rest. Do you not know that God made you all? Each for a special purpose, unique and different. God loves you all. God wants you all. Join hands with another and come with me. God will stretch you across the sky in a great bow of color, as a reminder that he loves you all, that you can live together in peace. Remember you are not the same but by unity and oneness you give color and life to the world. You are a sign of hope for tomorrow.

Narrator: “And so whenever God has used a good rain to wash the world, God puts the rainbow in the sky, and when we see it, let us remember to appreciate one another. That in diversity you create unity.

Discuss the story.

- a.) What happened to the colors in the story?
- b.) What did you feel while listening to or reading the story?
- c.) What lessons, if any, have you learned from the story?

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Present the biblical passages. John 17:21, “I pray that they may all be one. Father! May they be in us, just you are in me and I am in you. May they be one, so that the world will believe that you sent me.”

Our church’s story

There were many American missionaries who came to the Philippines to spread Protestant faith. But they came from different protestant groups or what we call “denominations”. They are prepared to tell about God’s love to all the Filipinos all over the Philippines. They are the following:

- a.) The Congregationalist
- b.) The Presbyterian
- c.) Church of Christ Disciples
- d.) The Philippine Methodist Church
- e.) United Brethren

And because they believe in the same God and committed themselves to preach the Good News to the Filipinos. They agreed to unite and divide the whole Philippines into territories. They divide themselves in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

Lessons Learned

Present the following.

- a.) Jesus prays that God will protect them; that their lives may be shaped by the truth of God’s word; that they may display unity among themselves that the world will be shaken out of its disbelief, and that they may, in the end, go to be with him and see his glory themselves.

- b.) Name who are the member churches who come together and decided to become United Church of Christ in the Philippines. What particular denomination do you belong?
- c.) The most important character of UCCP is a united and uniting church, are you proud of it?

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teaching the memory verse. Psalm 133:1 How wonderful it is, hoe pleasant, for God’s people to live together in harmony.

Bring out coupon bond and crayons. Let them make a rainbow in the coupon bond. Write their names and write below “I am proud! I belong to UCCP!

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn “A UNITED AND UNITING CHURCH”

Refrain:

A united and uniting church ,that we may all be one
Reformed and transforming, in mission and in faith,
Onward UCCP, building God’s Kingdom of peace.

(Rep.ref.)

I

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

(Rep.ref.)

II

Come let’s reclaim together, the vision of the pioneers
To serve beyond all burdens,reach out to one and all,
In obedience to God’s divine will,we seek for the reign of God

(Rep.ref.)

III

Come, dreamers, visionaries, examples of true witnesses
Leaving the trace of footprints, for people to tread on
With a burning faith and commitment, proclaiming God’s message of love

(Rep.ref.)

Closing Prayer (to be led by the teacher)

Lesson 15: What are the manifestations of our being a united church?

<p>Children’s Sunday Fourth Sunday in Kingdomtide September 13, 2020</p>

General Concept: The UCCP being a united church is manifested in its collective confession, in its common practices despite diverse heritage; in its common vision, mission and goals; polity and programs.

Biblical References: Philippians 2:1-7;

Age Level Concepts

- Our church is united.
- Our church has its own Statement of Faith and programs to do its task.
- We pray that our church will stay strong and united.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to

- Say that our church is united
- Cite examples that shows the church is united
- Make a prayer for the church unity and to stay strong always

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

Biblical Background

Philippians 2:1-7

Paul gives four reasons why Christians should have greater unity between them: the encouragement given them by Christ; the power of Christ's love working in them; the common sharing they have in the same Spirit; and the sympathetic kindness that God's children should show to each other. Although the Philippians bring Paul much joy, that joy will not be complete till there is genuine unity among them (2:1-2). They are not to be concerned solely with their own spiritual progress, for this can lead to self-satisfaction and pride. They must learn to look for and admire the good points in others (3-4)

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Hymn "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"

Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness

And all this things shall be added unto you, Allelu, Alleluia (Chorus)

Chorus: Alleluia, Alleluia Alleluia, Allelu, Alleluia

Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word

That proceeds from the mouth of God, Allelu, Alleluia, (Chorus)

Opening Prayer

Dear God we thank you for this beautiful morning of learning in our Sunday school. We ask for Your presence to be with us as we learn more about our dear UCCP church. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Getting Ready

Teach this song. Make an action of the song.

“I'm Part of You” (Tune: “His Banner Over Me”)

I'm part of you and you're part of me

Together in God's family (thrice).

We're living together in God's household.

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Present the biblical passages. Read first then the children will repeat.

V. 1- Your life in Christ makes you strong, and his love comforts you. You have fellowship with the Spirit. And you have kindness and compassion to one another.

V. 2- I urge you then to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind.

V.3- Don't do anything from selfish ambition or from a cheap desire to boast, but be humble to one another always considering others better than yourselves.

V.4- And look out for one another's interests, not just for your own.

V.5- The attitude you should have is the one that Christ Jesus had:

V.6- He always had the nature of God but he did not think that by force he should try to remain equal with God.

V.7- Instead of this, of his own free will he gave up all he had. And took the nature of servant. He became like a human being and appeared in human likeness.

Ask the following.

- a.) What is the core message of the biblical passage?
- b.) What shall we do to others?
- c.) What shall we do to maintain unity and harmony with others?
- d.) Based on the passage, what maintains the unity of the church?

Say, “The church is united because of humility, having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind.” Do you see it happening in our church today?

Lessons Learned

Present the following statements. *“The UCCP Statement of Faith”*

As the new life together has become more firmly established over the years after 1948 and faithfully lived together in the manifestations of common witness and service.

The Statement of Faith is to serve as basic material for the orientation, direction and guidance of the church’s members and for the nurture of the whole community of faith.

The Statement of Faith is to be a primary document by which the church may protect itself from heresies that have begun to infect various aspects of its life. *(Like a Mustard Seed by Feliciano Carino)*

The following tables are the programs and church ministries.

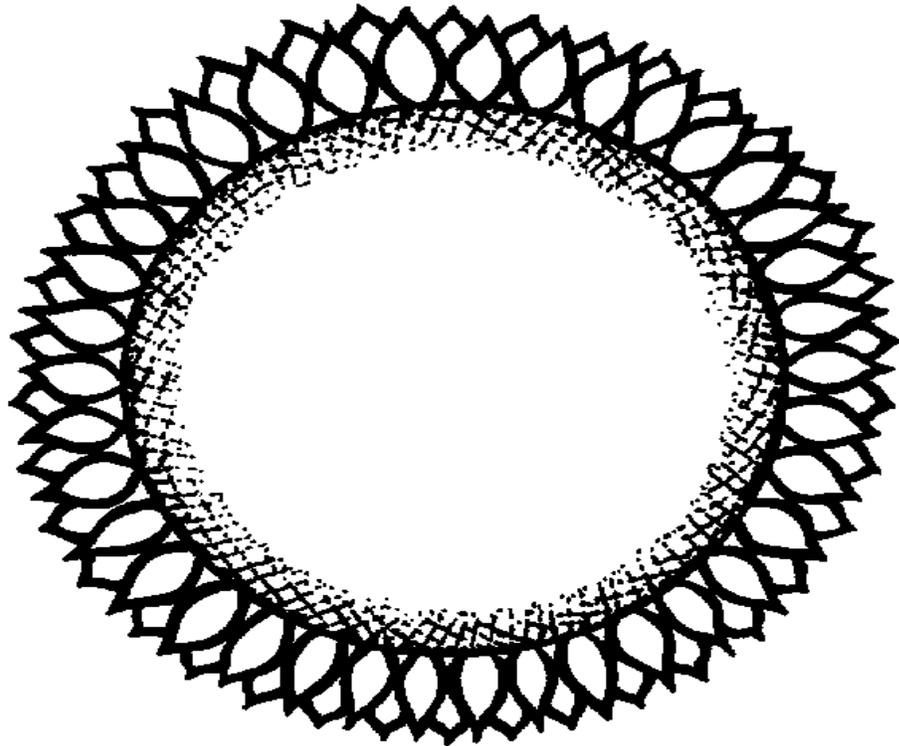
Church Ministries	Meaning
Worshipping	Worship is our response to the awareness of the presence of God.
Fellowship	Fellowship makes the relationship closer and stronger.
Making Disciples	A disciple is a learner and a follower of Jesus Christ. To make disciple is to train people to become followers of Christ.
Preaching	Preaching is to tell the message of God.
Teaching	Teaching is passing on the faith. Teaching people to become responsible, active and strong in their faith and caring to one another.
Healing	Healing is part of our mission to restore good health condition.
Service	We show our faith through serving the people.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teaching the memory verse.

Philippians 2: 2, “ I urge you then to make me completely happy by having the same thoughts, sharing the same love, and being one in soul and mind.”

Print out the worksheet below and tell them to write their prayers inside.



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 (through a song)

“God Answers Prayer”

God answers prayer in the morning
God answers prayer at noon,
God answers prayer in the evening
So keep your heart in tune.