

Lesson 31: What are the concrete manifestations of our pastoral witness?

Epiphany Sunday
Second Sunday after Christmas
January 3, 2021

General Concept: The UCCP engages in programs and establishes institutions that aim to respond to the needs of people as a means /manifestation of its pastoral witness (like Clinical Pastoral Care [CPE], hospitals, schools and hotels.)

Biblical References: Luke 5:17-26

Age Level Concepts

- Our church has built schools, hospitals and hotels.
- Our church takes care of its members and others who are sick and in pain.
- We want to help take care of the sick.

Learning Objectives

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

- Familiarize the different schools, hospitals that the church has established
- Tell how the church takes care of its members who are sick and in pain
- Express their willingness to help take care the sick.

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, prepare posters of the Declaration of Principles
Big box- house, rectangular cloth-bed mat, yarn-ropes, hard paper-karton, paper dolls

Biblical Background

Luke 5:17-26

It is easy enough simply to tell a man his sins are forgiven. But by healing him Jesus visibly demonstrates his power in both physical and spiritual realms. When he says the word, something really happens.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Song

Jesus Heals Us So
(Tune: I'm so Glad Jesus sets me free)
We're so glad Jesus heals us so
We're so glad Jesus heals us so
We're so glad Jesus heals us so
Singing glory hallelujah
Jesus heals us so

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. May your presence be in our midst. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Getting Ready

Show children pictures of a clean community and a healthy boy/girl. Show them soap for washing of hands, show alcohol used for disinfection, show them face mask, show them face shield. These are the things we use to keep us safe and healthy especially against Covid19 virus.

It would be better if there is a picture posted that shows of a group of people cleaning their environment. Let them describe a clean community. Let them describe a healthy person. Ask what they can do to help maintain cleanliness in the environment. Ask what they can do to help maintain healthy body.

Learning Time

Ask the following questions.

- Why do we need to help clean the community?
- Why do we need to maintain a healthy body?

Tell the learners that Jesus wants us to be clean and healthy. Jesus healed the sick, made the blind to see, the lame to walk. Jesus wants us to grow up in body, mind and spirit like him. Challenge the children to work together to have a healthy self and community.

Discovering the Biblical Truth

“A Friend Helps A Sick Friend”
(Based on Luke 5:17-26)

Wherever Jesus went, people came to see him. They wanted Him to tell them about God. They wanted him to make sick people well.

One day, when Jesus was visiting a house, there were so many people around. And there were some men carrying a sick friend who could not walk. This man was lying on a mat all the time. (Show the mat with a sick man-paper doll) Each of the men then took a corner of the mat and together they carried their friend to the house where Jesus was. (Show the four friends-paper doll) But when the men saw the big crowd, they knew at once they could not get through the door. But the difficulty did not stop them.

“We can get you to Jesus another way.” One of the friend assured their sick friend.

“We will carry you up the roof and make a whole on top of the house. Then we can lower you down exactly near the face of Jesus.”

In those days, houses were made with an outside stairway. The roof was flat and covered with clay (Show the house made in the box) and branches of trees and grass. The clay dried very hot in the hot sun. So up to the roof the friends went.

The friends tore up part of the roof. (Slowly open the hole in the box-roof) we can easily patch up later,” they said. As they worked they hear Jesus preaching to the crowd. (Put Jesus standing in the house)

At last they were able to make a hole big enough for their friend to pass through. They tied ropes to each corner of the sick friend’s bed mat. (Tie the four corners of the bed-mat with the yarn) They gently lowered it into the room in front of Jesus. (Hold the yarn and slowly put down the bed- mat with hole) They looked through the hole to see what Jesus would do.

Jesus looked up and saw how hard the friends had worked. Jesus was pleased that they have trusted Him to make their friend well.

Jesus told the sick man, “Get up and walk. Take your mat and go home.”

The sick friend did what Jesus told as he pushed his way to the crowd. And away he went to find his kind friends.

Ask the following questions.

1. Who were the characters of the story?
2. What was the intention of the four friends for their sick friend?
3. What did they do in order to see Jesus inside the house?
4. What did Jesus tell to their sick friend?

Lessons Learned

Balloons Up in the Air

Gather the children in a circle. Hold up a balloon. Ask: “How many of you like balloons?”

Tell the children: “Now we are going to play. We will keep the 2 balloons in the air for one minute. Do you think you can do that?” Let them reply.

Instruct: I’ll throw the balloons into the air, and all of you have to do is keep them up. All of you will help each other to keep the balloons in the air. “If they are ready, throw the balloons into the air. And let them enjoy the game.

After the given time, call the children back in the circle. Explain that Jesus wants people to work together – just like when they all helped keep the balloons in the air. We can help the sick and in pain by working together.

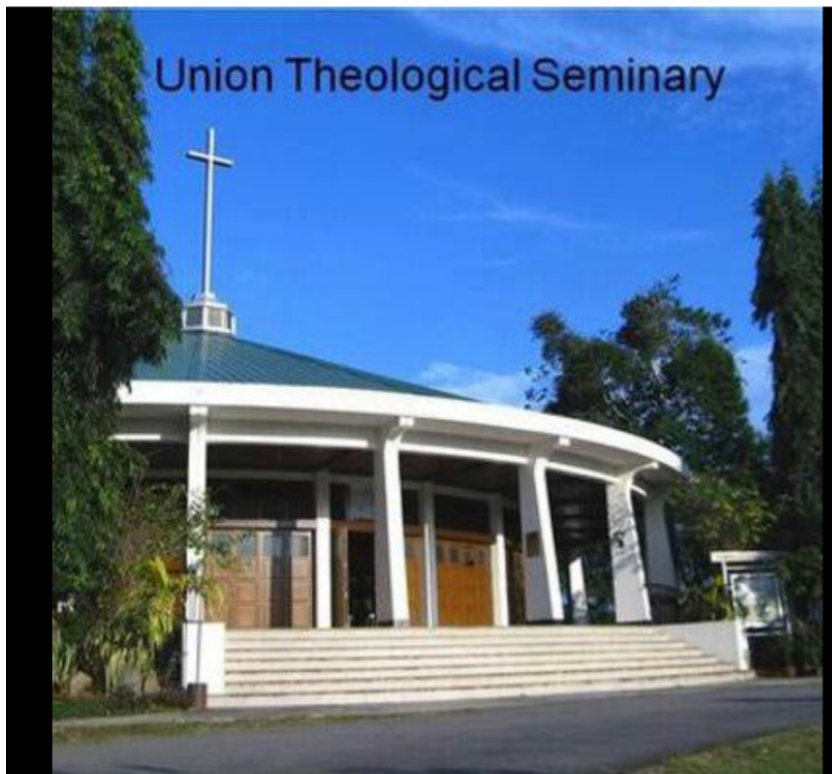
Say: Jesus gives us different kinds of gifts to help other people. Jesus needs us to help the sick and in pain. We can be partners with Jesus in healing our community. Our church, the UCCP established schools, hospitals and even hotels to be able to help those in pain and in need of help.

PICTURE APPRECIATION. Post pictures on the board or on the wall of the room that shows the different schools, hospitals and hotels related to UCCP. The facilitator may tell the locations of these institutions.





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"Your Christian Home in Manila and Cebu"



Note: These are just examples of the institutions that are related to UCCP. Others may not be mentioned here. If there is a certain institution in your area which is related to UCCP, it is best to mention it to the children.

Applying the Lessons Learned

- Teach the memory verse. Luke 5:23 Your sins are forgiven, get up and walk.
- POSTER /COLLAGE MAKING. Tell the learners to paste the pictures on a Manila paper or cartolina. Write, “Thank you Lord for our church, UCCP that takes care of the needs of people ”

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 BE FRIENDED.
 OH HELP SOMEBODY TODAY.

Many need kindness, let’s shoe 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 (to be led by the teacher)

Lesson 32: How do we understand our prophetic witness?

Baptism of the Lord
First Sunday after the Epiphany
January 10, 2021

General Concept: Prophetic witness means to speak courageously the will of God whenever and wherever the prophetic message is demanded in critical issues and human events in order to help empower the faith communities in making their united responses.

Biblical References: *I Samuel 16:18, I Samuel 17:41-54;*

Age Level Concepts

- Our church is brave to tell the truth.
- We are brave to tell the truth
- We are brave to speak what God wants.

Learning Objectives

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

- Tell that our church bravely speaks about what God wants for the people.
- Listen to a story about bravery
- Affirm to be brave and to tell the truth

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

Biblical Background

I Samuel 17

The Philistines again assembled their troops to fight against Israel (17:1-3). As often happened in ancient warfare, the invaders challenged the defenders by calling for a contest between the champions of the two sides (4-11). At this time David was back on his father's farm at Bethlehem, for he did not need to remain at Saul's court when Saul was away directing affairs on the battlefield (12-16).

When circumstances later brought David to the scene of the battle, he discovered that the Philistines had a champion, Goliath, whom no Israelite dared to fight (17-25). David was not even a soldier, but he volunteered to fight the Philistine (26-32). He reasoned that since Goliath had defied God he was certain of defeat, and since Israel was God's army it was certain of victory (33-40; cf. v. 26, 45). David killed Goliath without using a sword or a spear, proving that God did not need weapons to save his people (41-50). The Philistines fled in confusion, but the Israelites caught and killed many of them, then plundered the camp they left behind (51-54).

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Song

Kumusta Ka

Kumusta ka, halina't magsaya

Pumalakpak, pumalakpak ituro ang paa

Padyak sa kanan, padyak sa kaliwa

Umikot nang umikot ka't humanap ng iba.

Opening Prayer

Dear God we thank you for this wonderful morning of learning in our Sunday School. We ask for Your loving presence to be with us as we learn to be brave to tell what is true and right. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Getting Ready

Each one of us at one time or another told a lie to our parents, or lied to our brother or sister. Allow the children to share their experiences telling a lie and experience of telling the truth.

Ask the following question.

1. How did you feel when you tell a lie?
2. How did you feel when you tell the truth?
3. What happens to you when you get caught telling a lie? Sometimes telling a lie can save a person's life. Or save someone from harm. Let us remember that God knows everything. Let us be careful of our acts and words of lying, because God wants us to be honest, to be true and right..

Learning Time

Let the children listen to the story of David who was once brave and honest in defeating Goliath.

DAVID DEFEATS GOLIATH (Based on I Samuel 17:41-54)

Long time ago, God was looking for a new king of Israel to replace King Saul, who had displeased him. Then God sent his servant Samuel to the house of Jesse and asked him to anoint one of his sons. The youngest, David, a young boy of fifteen with the bright blue eyes and rosy cheeks was chosen as the one and anointed.

Since that day, God's spirit was always with David. King Saul was not happy because he had not made peace with God. David used to play the harp very well. So, Saul's servant thought that beautiful music played by David would cheer him up. And it did. David's music made the king feel better and slowly David was adored by the king.

However, King Saul was unaware of the fact that David was anointed by Samuel and that he would become the future king of Israel. While Saul was the king of Israel, the Philistines continued to battle with them. One of the Philistines was a giant named Goliath. Goliath was nine feet tall and it was impossible for anyone to fight him. He kept on daring Israelites telling them, "Philistines will become the servant of Israel if someone could fight Goliath." But King Saul and his army were scared.

David was very courageous and was not afraid of Goliath. With his shepherd staff in his hands, David went down to fight Goliath. David took out his slingshot and hurt the giant and picked up five stones from a stream. He openly challenged Goliath and said, "Come with a sword!" Goliath noticed that David was carrying a shepherd staff and laughed at David but David was not afraid. David ran towards Goliath, put a stone in his slingshot and hurt the giant with the stone deeply at his forehead. Surprisingly, Goliath fell to the ground and David won a great victory on Israel. Finally, David saved Israel from Goliath.

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask the following questions.

1. Who are characters of the story?
2. What happened to Goliath?
3. What happened to David?
4. What kingdom values does David portray?

Lessons Learned

Discuss briefly the following statement.

1. Like David, our church is brave in telling the truth. Our church speaks about things that affect the life of the people.
2. Our church believes that speaking about what is right and true is what God wants us to do.
3. We too are instruments in telling the truth.

Teach the Song

“TRUTH, TRUTH, GOD IS TRUTH”

(Tune: Row, row, row your boat)

Truth, truth God is truth we can trust God’s word

Every time we read God’s book, we can learn the truth.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. 1 Samuel 17: 45, “ ..but I come to you in the name of the Lord...the God whom you have defiled”

CREATIVE ACTIVITY

“BRAVERY BRACELET”

- Cut the telephone directory into strips with a length of about 6 inches and a width of two inches. Give each child three strips and instruct them to fold each strip as narrowly as possible. After folding all three, braid them tying both ends with a yarn. Let them write on the strips with pentel pen, “I am brave and honest !” Encourage each child to wear on their hands and offer to the altar later.

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn

I Can Do What Is Right

I can do yes I can do what is right

Helping others and not hurting, yes, that’s right

I can give, I can share to people everywhere

I can do, yes, I can do what is right

Closing Prayer

Help us O Lord, to be brave and honest. Guide us O Lord to have the courage to tell the truth all the time. In Jesus’ name. Amen!

Lesson 33: What are the concrete manifestations of our church’s prophetic ministry?

Prayer for Christian Unity Sunday

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

January 17,2021

General concept: The UCCP manifests its prophetic ministry through its alliance work with sectoral groups; networking with agencies; establishing programs on JPHR, community ministry and migrant ministry,

Biblical References: Acts 9:32-42

Age Level Concepts

- Our church works with other groups in the community
- Our church works with community helpers
- Our church works to help those in need

Learning Objectives

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

- Know that our church works with others
- Identify people in the community that works to help others
- Thank God that our church works with other people in the community to help others

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

Biblical Background

Acts 9: 32-42

An important feature of Acts is the activity of the Holy Spirit, who comes with power upon the believers in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost and continues to guide and strengthen the church and its leaders throughout the events reported in the book. The early Christian message is summarized in a number of sermons and the events recorded in Acts show the power of this message in the lives of the believers and in the fellowship of the church. The working movement of the apostles and the Holy Spirit shows the unity in proclaiming the Good News.

While God was preparing Paul for the Gentile mission ahead, he was also broadening the vision of Peter and other church leaders. Peter moved out from Jerusalem and visited some of the Christian groups that had sprung up in the semi-Gentile coastal plain area where Philip had preached earlier (cf. 8:40). At Lydda he healed a paralyzed man (32-35) and at nearby Joppa he raised a woman to life. In both places news of the miracles spread and many people believed (36-42). By staying with a person whose trade the Jews considered unclean, Peter demonstrated a more relaxed attitude towards former Jewish restrictions (43).

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Song

“Walking with Jesus”

Walking with Jesus, walking every day, walking all the way.

Walking with Jesus, walking with Jesus alone.

Walking in the sunshine, walking in the shadow,
Walking everyday, walking all the way
walking with Jesus, walking with Jesus alone.

Opening Prayer

Dear God, thank you for bringing us into this place of worship. Bless our ears and hearts O Lord. We pray to bless your word as we listen and learn from it together with our teacher. This we ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

Getting Ready

Play a Game: "Give Me"

The teacher will be the Leader of the game. The Leader will name an object which the children will have to find and give to the Leader as quickly as they can. The first one who can give the object to the Leader gets a point. The teacher may prepare simple tokens i.e a card or bookmark as a reward for the highest pointer.

Asks the following question.

1. How did you feel when you were able to find the object being asked for?
2. What did you feel when you were not able to give the object being asked for?
3. From your answer, we can say that it felt good to be able to produce and give, and be the first one to give the object to the teacher. In real life, how do you feel when you give something to others?

Learning Time

"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 young woman. Every time people needed help, she would offer to help them. Her neighbor 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. When she walks down the streets and she would meet children, she would call them and give them food. She talked to them and told them stories about Jesus. She even played with them. She would change the clothes of those who have torn clothes. The children loved her so well. Everyone in the community loved Dorcas. You would love Dorcas too, wouldn't you?

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Conversation about the story.

1. How did Dorcas help those who had no food? How did Dorcas help those who had no clothes? How did Dorcas help those who were sad?
2. How would you describe Dorcas as a member of the community?

Lessons Learned

Community Helpers. Show pictures of people in the community that helps other people. Let the learners choose a picture and ask them to describe the work of the person in the community.



Give the children enough time to share . Then emphasize to the children that it is indeed a very good thing to think when people care for each other. We work with each other to save the least, the last and the lost. As a church, we work also with different groups of people in the community to help others in need. This is exactly what God wants us to do- to care for each other the way He cares for each of us.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Teach the memory verse. Acts 9: 36b,” She was devoted to good works and acts of charity.”

Creative Activity “Finger Puppet”

Tell the children that they will try to make a caring community working together through finger puppet. Emphasize that the people in a caring community help each other especially in times of need. Tell them that they will try to create the people in a caring community.

Procedure:

1. Give each child a glove-type finger puppet or five single finger puppets.
2. Using a marker, draw parts of a face on the upper part of the finger puppet.
3. Glue the sides of the finger puppet. The cut-out figure must fit the finger of the pupil.
4. Glue some yarn on the top of the head of the figure. Long yarn for female finger puppet and short ones for the male finger puppets.
5. If the puppets are done, the pupils may wear them on their fingers.
6. For variation, the children may choose a community helper as a character of their finger puppet.
7. The pupils may create or make up conversation among themselves that working together is good. Working together with other communities shows a caring and loving community.

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Hymn

“Just One Song”

Tears when time are gloomy smile when we are sad
The sun will soon come shining peace will soon abound
Love is all that matters, dreams may all come true
As long as were together will sing just one song
“Lord make us one united in your hand bind us together with love”

Closing Prayer (to be led by the teacher)

Lesson 34:: What do we mean by “holistic redemption”?

National Bible Sunday
Third Sunday after the Epiphany
January 24, 2021

General Concept: Holistic redemption means deliverance not only from personal sin but covers all areas of life where any form of bondage exists.

Biblical References: *Luke 18:15-17*

Age Level Concepts

- Jesus wants us to be safe always.
- We are safe with Jesus.

Learning Objectives

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

- Share their stories of being forgiven, cared for and safe with their families
- Show how they are being cared and protected by their families
- Thank God for the love, care, and protection they experience

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

Biblical Background

Luke 18:15-17

To the disciples, the children were nuisance. But Jesus loved them. Verse 17 makes the same point as the story of the Pharisee and the tax collector. Admission to God’s kingdom is never denied to those who come in humble trust.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Song

“The Love of Jesus”

The love of Jesus sweet and marvelous #3 oh oh wonderful love
Higher higher than the sky deeper deeper than the ocean
Wider wider than the universe; Oh,oh!wonderful love

“Jesus loves the little Children”

Jesus loves the little children all the children of the world
Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in his sight
Jesus loves the little children of the world

Opening Prayer

Dear loving God, we praise your name and bless your name. Thank you for your unending love and guidance. Bless us dear Lord as we continue study your word. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen!

Getting Ready

1. Repeat the song "Jesus loves the little children." Then let the children settle down and ask: What does the song say?
2. Tell the children that Jesus loves them? Do you love Jesus too? (Guide the children with their answer)

Learning Time

Let the children sing the song, "Story Time" (Tune: Mary had a little lamb)

Story, story, story time

Story time (twice)

Story, Story, Story time

Listen carefully

Tell the story.

"Jesus Loves Children"

(Based on Luke 18:15-17)

One day many people followed Jesus. And He told them stories and lessons about God. As he was teaching, there came to Him mothers who brought their children. Some even carried with them their newly-born babies.

"Teacher, please touch my child," one mother said.

Another mother said, "Jesus please pray for my child."

And another mother came and said, "My Lord have mercy on my son, he is sick."

Many parents brought their children to Jesus. They wanted Him to say something special. They wanted Him to pray for their children.

"He's too busy! Keep away from Him!" some people said.

"Don't bring your children near the Teacher. They're very noisy. Don't you see He's teaching?" another man said.

The children and their mothers were very sad.

"Stop!" Jesus said. "Let the children come to me. Don't you know that God loves them so much. The heavens belong to them. And you must be like these children if you want to enter heavens."

When the mothers and the children heard what Jesus said, they were very glad and they ran to Jesus. They hugged him and they talked to him. They told Him how much they loved him.

And Jesus hugged them, too, and blessed them. He told them stories about God, how God loves them so much. He told the people around that they should not reject each other but accept each other if they want that God would also accept them. They could hear Jesus said “In my Father’s house, each one accepts and respect each other?”

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask the following question.

1. In what way did Jesus show His love for little children like you?
2. In your family, in what way do you feel you are safe and protected?

Lessons Learned

Conversation: Tell them to share their experiences of being forgiven when they commit mistakes; cared for and feel safe and protected by their family.

Say,” Jesus’ love for all is shown not only by helping those in need but also by forgiving those who committed mistakes and show compassion and care to those who are neglected like the children, widows and orphans.

Applying the Lessons Learned

- Teach the memory verse. Luke 18:16a “Jesus said, let the children come to me.”
Help the children memorize the verse.
Write in bold letters each word of the passage in pieces of cartolina. Help the children sight read the verse flashing each word to them as you say it. Post each word on the board after the pupil repeat what you say until you have completed the verse on the board. When all the words of the passage have been posted, let the pupils repeat saying the whole passage. If you observe that they already memorize it remove the words one by one until the children can ably recite the whole verse without the flashcards on the board.

Creative Activity: Free-Hand drawing of a Family or Crayon Etching

Procedure for Crayon Etching

- a. First color the whole bond paper with any bright color.
- b. Then color again all the surfaces with black or dark crayon.
- c. Draw their family picture using an empty ball pen or any pointed object.
- d. Then write on the lower corner “I am loved and safe with my family”

Closing Worship

Offertory

Closing Song “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.

Closing Prayer
Dear God, thank you for the Gospel of love and safety. Thank you for giving us Jesus who loves us and cares for us and make us safe in his arms. Help us to do good to others.
Amen.

Lesson 35: What do we mean by “abundant life”?

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
January 31, 2021

General Concept: Abundant life means the state of fullness where needs of people are met and God-given resources are equitably shared. It is also described as “life in all its fullness”

Biblical References: Psalms 23,

Or Psalms 23:1 (TEV)
The Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need.

Age-Level Concepts

- Abundant life means a life where basic needs are met.
- God wants us to live a life where our needs are met and resources are shared to all.
- We live a life mindful of others’ needs.

Learning Objectives:

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

- Describe a good and happy life.
- Share experiences when life was good and happy
- Pray and ask God for a good and happy life.
- Thank God for a good and happy life.

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, bond paper, coloring materials, pictures of a good and happy life (see Applying the Lessons Learned)

Biblical Background

Psalms 23

Psalms 23 describes a good and happy life with God as the shepherd.

In describing the Lord as a shepherd, David wrote out of his own experience because he had spent his early years caring for sheep (1 Samuel 16:10-11). Sheep are completely dependent on the

shepherd for provision, guidance, and protection. The New Testament calls Jesus the good shepherd (John 10:11); the great Shepherd (Hebrews 13:20); and the Chief Shepherd (1 Peter 5:4). When we allow God our good shepherd to guide us, we have contentment. Our good shepherd knows the “green pastures” and “quiet waters” that will restore us, and he will bring us to these places. We only need to follow him.

In Ancient Near Eastern culture, at a banquet, it was customary to anoint a person with fragrant oil as a lotion. Hosts are also expected to protect their guests at all costs. God offers the protection of a host even when enemies surround us. In the final scene of this psalm, we see that believers will dwell with God. God, the perfect shepherd and host, promises to guide and protect us through life to bring us into his house forever. (Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 924-925).

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Say “Hi” to your students. Guide them to their seats. Acknowledge and introduce the new comers.

Opening Prayer (by the teacher)

Sing

“Kumusta Ka?”

Kumusta ka, halina’t magsaya
Pumalakpak, pumalakpak, ituro ang paa
Padyak sa kanan, padyak sa kaliwa
Umikot nang umikot at humanap ng iba.

“Thank You, Lord, for Saving My Soul”



Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

“God Provides”

(Based on Psalms 23)

David was a young shepherd. He was a strong and courageous shepherd. When wolves come, he would protect his sheep. He was always happy caring for his sheep. He believed that God was with him providing him everything and protecting him and his sheep. He wrote a song about his happy experience. The song says:

The Lord is my shepherd; He provides everything I need,
I never go hungry and thirsty.
He makes me to rest on green pastures beside clear waters
I'm always refreshed.
He always guides me to right paths; I never get lost
When I walk in the dark, I never felt scared
I know God is with me; enemies cannot come near
For God is protecting me
God's goodness and love are always with me.
In God's house I will live forever.

After the story, ask the children:

What did God provide David?

- Food and water
- Rest and refreshment
- Guidance
- Assurance of God's presence
- Protection from harm
- Goodness and love
- Shelter (in God's house)

This is a picture of an abundant life, a life in all its fullness that David experienced.

Learning a New Song "Life is So Good" (Tune: God is So Good)

Life is so good, God makes life good
Life is so good, God makes life so good.

All that we need, God does provide
Life is so good, God makes life so good

When we are sad, God comforts us
Life is so good, God makes life so good.

When we're afraid, God cares for us
Life is so good, God makes life so good.

When we are sick, He comes and heals
Life is so good, God makes life so good.

Memorizing a Verse

Let the children memorize and recite

Psalms 23:1(TEV)

The Lord is my shepherd, I have everything I need.

Lesson Learned

THINGS THAT MAKES ME HAPPY. Distribute bond papers to the learners. Tell them to draw anything which they think makes them happy. It could be things, events or people. Ask the learners about their drawing.

After sharing , the facilitator may say, “Life can be good and happy when we have the things we need, and we are protected, loved and cared for by the people around us.”

Applying the Lessons Learned

LIFE IS GOOD AND HAPPY – Show each of the following pictures to the children and ask them: Do you think life is good and happy in this picture? What do you think makes the people in the picture good and happy?

1. **All members of the family are strong and healthy**
2. **The family has food to eat**
3. **The family has a shelter/house**
4. **The family has time to play and be together**
5. **The children are able to go to school**
6. **The people are able to come to church for worship**
7. **The people have clothes**
8. **The people have work/job**





Closing Time

Sing Again

“Life is So Good”

Offering

Closing Prayer (the children repeat the prayer after the teacher)

Dear God, thank you for providing us the things we need every day. Your provisions are sufficient. Thank you also for your love and care and protection. We feel good and happy about life. May all people receive your sufficient provision every day and experience a good and happy life. Teach us also to share so that others may also have and experience a good and happy life. Amen