

Lesson 36: Why is vigorous Christian stewardship essential to the church life and work?

Presentation of the Lord

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 7, 2021

General Concept: A vigorous Christian stewardship is essential to our church's life and work because it manifests our affirmation and response to God as the Creator in whose will and power all things have come into being.

Biblical Texts: Psalm 89: 1-4; 2 Corinthians 8:1-8; Mark 12:41-44; Luke 2:22-40

Age Level Concepts

- God is the Creator and Provider.
- Whatever we have belongs to God.
- We thank God for everything entrusted to us.
- We give faithfully by giving our tithes, time, talents and possessions.

Learning Objectives

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

- Give their own explanation why they give back to God
- List down what they can give back to show their gratitude to God
- Thank God for everything they have and received
- Commit whatever they can to please God

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

Biblical Background

Psalm 89:1-4

The psalm is reflective of the person's overwhelming joy for the help he received from God. He has been a recipient a recipient of God's faithfulness to the covenant made between God and the chosen people - "to establish your throne forever and to build you throne for all generations." David cannot contain his joy. Such words affirm God's continuing blessing not just to David but to all his descendants. For the psalmist, the most appropriate response to God's faithfulness is to proclaim God's name and make witness to God's love.

2 Corinthians 8:1-8

This letter of Paul urges the Christians in Corinth since it has excelled in many things-in faith, in knowledge, in utterances. This time they are challenged by Paul to excel also in gracious work especially in giving relief to saints. Though it is not compulsory, but Christians were challenged to express their love and earnestness through gracious work.

Mark 12: 41-44

There were several boxes in the temple where money could be placed. Some were for collecting the temple tax from Jewish males; the others were for freewill offerings. These particular collection boxes were probably in the court of the women.

In the Lord's eyes, the poor widow gave more than all the others put together, though her gift was by far the smallest. The value of a gift is not determined by its amount, but by the spirit in which it is given. A gift given grudgingly or for recognition loses its value. When you give, remember – gifts of any size are pleasing to God when they are given out of gratitude and a spirit of generosity. (Zondervan Life Application Study Bible, p. 1764).

Luke 2:22-40

Since Jesus was born and grew up in a Jewish family, his parents nurtured him under the Jewish customs. One of these customs was to present the child to the temple to be blessed. What makes this story special is the fact that Simeon received a revelation from the Holy Spirit about seeing the Messiah before he died. Even a prophetess spoke about the child whom people are looking for redemption.

The account tells us that Jesus was offered to God and acknowledged as someone who will have something to do with the redemption of Israel.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Song/s "This is the Day"

This is the day that the Lord has made,
That the Lord has made,
We will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it,
For this is the day that the Lord has made
We will rejoice and be glad in it
This is the day, this is the day
That the Lord has made.

“Give Thanks”

Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because God’s given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now, let the weak say, “I am strong”,
Let the poor say, “I am rich,
because of what the Lord has done for us”
Give thanks.

Opening Prayer

As we embrace the new day, we see daily signs of hope. For you are a gracious God. With gratitude and praise we acknowledge Your presence today as we study Your Word for us today. Be with us Lord, be with us.
Amen

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Divide the class into three or four groups. Assign each group a biblical text.

Group 1: Psalm 89:1-4

Group 2: 2 Corinthians 8:1-8

Group 3: Mark 12:41-44

Group 4: Luke 2:22-24

Instruct each group to do the following:

- Pick out words or phrases that you find related to the concept of giving
- What does the story tell the readers about?
- Why do people in the story offer or give back to God?

Let the groups share what they have discussed. The facilitator may synthesize the sharing leading the discussion to fully understand the text.

Lessons Learned

GIFTS FROM GOD. Distribute circle-shaped cut-outs to all learners. Tell them to write on the cut-out the “gifts” they received from God. After which,

tell the learners to paste their circles at the center of the Manila paper posted on the board.

The facilitator may read the posts and qualify the responses of the learners. Ask the following:

- How do you feel about the things you considered “gifts” from God?

Applying the Lessons Learned

WHAT I CAN GIVE BACK. Distribute heart-shaped cut outs to all learners. Tell them to write on the cut-outs what they can “give back or offer” to God. Instruct them to paste their cut-outs at the sides of the Manila paper.

Process their experience by asking, “Why do we give back to God?”

Closing Worship

Offering

Closing Song “Praise God From Whom all Blessings Flow”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly hosts,
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

Closing Prayer

We acknowledge the gifts we received from You Lord. We also acknowledge that these gifts are entrusted to us. We believe that our most appropriate response to Your graciousness and faithfulness is to give honor and glory to Your name. We give back our life, talents, time and willingness to help in Your work. Accept our offering. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

Lesson 37. What is tithing?

Transfiguration Sunday

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 14, 2021

General Concept: *Tithing is an expression of faith and an acknowledgement of God’s faithfulness and generosity.*

Biblical References: Malachi 3:10; Matthew 22:21; 2 Corinthians 9:7

Age Level Concepts

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST IN THE PHILIPPINES

Sunday School Material 2021-2022

Older Elementary

- Tithing is an expression of our faith
- Tithe is the 10% part of whatever we receive
- Our church teaches us to give our tithes
- We cheerfully give the 10% of our allowance to the church

Learning Objectives

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

- Tell their understanding of tithes
- Compute what consists of the 10% from their allowance
- Share how they feel about giving their offering
- Commit to cheerfully give their 10%

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV])
song chart, offering plate or basket, construction papers, markers, tape, glue. Art materials

Biblical Background

Malachi 3:10

Among the Israelites, it has been their belief that calamities and natural disasters like drought, locust plagues and plant diseases are sent by God as punishment. They believed that God punishes them because they have kept to themselves what rightly belongs to God. Because of their selfish motives they have failed to give back their tithes and offerings to God. The people are somehow challenged to change their ways and be honest with God so that blessings would come to them. The more they become generous and faithful in their giving, the more they will be blessed with good crops and harvest. God will make them more contented and their land will become a better place to live in.

Matthew 22:21

The biblical account talks about Jesus' encounter with the Herodians. They were a group of Jews who, unlike most Jews, were in favor to the rule of heroes and therefore to the rule of Rome. Though they were not in good terms with the Pharisees, but this time, they connive with each other just to trap Jesus. One good trap was to hear from Jesus himself words that defy Rome and its rule. They asked him if it is lawful to pay taxes to Rome.

Surprisingly, Jesus' reply caught both groups off guard. If Jesus replied, "Yes", the Pharisees would accuse him before the Jewish people as a traitor. If he answered, "No", the Herodians would accuse him before the Roman authorities of treason. Jesus clearly emphasized that duty to God and duty to civil authorities (like that of Rome) are not in opposition. People owe to each a debt for the services and benefits they receive. They should give to civil authorities that which is due to them, and give to God all that they owe him (Matthew 22:18-22; Luke 20:23-26)

2 Corinthians 9:7

God takes notice of the way Christians give, and if they give generously God rewards them generously. People should decide thoughtfully the amount they should give, then give it joyfully (6-7). They need not fear poverty if they give much, because God is able to increase supply to ensure that generous givers still have more than they need (8-10; cf. **Proverbs 11:24**). The threefold result of true giving is that the poor are helped, the givers are blessed, and God is glorified in thanksgiving (11-12). The giving of the Corinthians will prove the genuineness of their faith. It will also join givers and receivers together in fellowship in Christ, who is the greatest gift of all, the gift given by God himself (13-15).

The Corinthians responded to Paul's appeal. Later, when he was in Corinth, he wrote to the Romans saying, 'At present I am going to Jerusalem with aid for the saints, for Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem. They were pleased to do it . . .' (**Romans 15:25-27**).

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Song/s "Sa Kabuntagon Kami Mag-awit"

(To You We Offer) Children Praise God, 147

Sa kabuntagon, kami mag-awit, Sa balaan mo nga Ngalan,
Magpasalamat sa kinabuhi, gilugwayan Mo gihapon.

To you we offer, songs of thanksgiving,
In this brand new day you've given;
Your name is holy and full of greatness,
For this gift we thank you, dear God.

"Let's Worship and Praise God" Children Praise God, 148

Let's worship and praise God with joyful songs
 For the blessings that God has bestowed
 Let's praise God and worship the Lord with songs
 For the blessings that God bestowed.
 God's grace unfathomed and free,
 Flowing on through the night, through the day,
 Let's praise God with singing, let's praise God in service
 Together let's praise the Lord

Opening Prayer

You have been very gracious and faithful to us Lord. For this, we thank you and praise You. As we continue our study today through our Sunday School, may Your Spirit teaches us to find ways how to thank You in our own ways. In Jesus' name. Amen

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Let three learners read the biblical texts. Post on the board "words" or "phrases" taken out from the readings and written on meta cards. Tell the learners to find a partner. Each pair then are to choose from among the words or phrases posted on the board and explain it to the class. The facilitator then will sum up their answers and further explain the texts guided by the biblical background provided.

Examples:

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse	Put me to the test
Give to the emperor the things that are the emperor's	...not reluctantly or under compulsion
Must give as you have made up your mind	cheerful giver
Give to God the things that are God's	

Lessons Learned

Ask the learners what they have understood about the following:

- “tithing” or “giving of tithes”
- The difference between tithes and pledge

Let the learners share how their parents or elders taught them about the concept of “tithing”. Afterthought sharing, the facilitator may share also the Christian understanding of “tithes” or “tithing”.

After all have shared their thoughts, the facilitator may share these thoughts:

What is a tithe or tithing?

”To simply put it, a tithe refers to the 10% of your income given to the church. The word “tithe” literally means “tenth” in Hebrew) The Bible even mentions about tithing such as “A tenth of the produce of the land, whether grain or fruit, is the Lord’s, and is holy.” And Proverbs 3:9 (NIV) says, “Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops. Christians and Jews practice tithing as an expression of their faith. Though it is also important to give your time and talents to help in the life and work of the church, tithing refers to giving money. In essence, the Bible teaches believers to give a portion, specifically a tenth of what you receive or make back to God. Based on the Bible, (1) tithing is part of faith for those who follow God, and (2) a tithe is the money you set aside first.

What’s the Difference Between Tithes and Offerings?

A tithe is a specific amount (10% of your income) that you give first, and an offering is anything extra that you give beyond that.

After you’ve tithed and paid all your bills and necessary expenses for the month, you can then use any extra money in your budget to give even more! This can include giving a cash offering to your church above and beyond your normal tithe, giving money to a charity you support, giving to a friend in need, or giving your time and skills by volunteering.

Applying the Lessons Learned

CREATIVE ACTIVITY. Distribute cardboard or illustration paper to the learners. Provide a pattern for them to follow in order to make an envelope for their tithe. Encourage the children to use the envelopes during the offering time.



Closing Worship

Offering (tell the learners to use their tithe/offering envelope they've made)

Closing Song "We Thank You, Dear Lord" Children Praise God, 152

We thank you, dear Lord, for blessings received,
And all the goodness you've shown to us,
For rain and for food, for loving kindness.
Our thanks we joyfully give You,
O great mighty God.

Closing Prayer

We sometimes think that what we give as offering is enough to thank you for the blessings we received from You. Thank you for teaching us about giving back the tenth part of what we received. Accept our offerings including our lives, talents and time. This is our response to Your goodness and faithfulness.
Amen

Lesson 38: What do we mean by “giving our time” to the Lord?

First Sunday in Lent

February 21, 2021

General Concept: *Giving our time to the Lord is an expression of giving our life to God.*

Biblical References: Psalms 90:10-12; Ecclesiastes 12:1-5; Matthew 6:33

Age Level Concepts

- We go to church every Sunday
- We give and dedicate our time to join in the church activities
- We give time to study and learn about God with fellow believers
- We give time to get involved in the different ministries of the church.

Learning Objectives

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

- Explain why they go to church every Sunday
- Enumerate church activities in which they can give their time to
- Commit to God their time for study and learning, and to involve in the ministries of the church.

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, construction papers, markers, tape, glue. Art materials, round-shaped cut-outs

Biblical Background

Psalms 90: 10-12

The psalmist acknowledges that God alone lasts forever and human life, by contrast is short, limited and uncertain. No matter how a person strives to obtain a long life, even to hundred of years, it is nothing compared to the timelessness of God. Moreover, the psalmist believed that human sinfulness has brought judgment upon the lives of people through life's troubles and death.

“The ungodly live to please themselves. They do not fear God and do not consider that they are spending their lives building up God's judgment against them. Those who love God should therefore seek God's wisdom, so that they might use their short lives in the best way possible

(11-12). Since the psalmist wants to live his life wisely, he asks for God's help. Then sorrow will be replaced by joy, and his life will become one of fruitful service for God (13-17).” (Bridgeway Bible Commentary)

Ecclesiastes 12:1-5

God's will is that people enjoy life. In fact, they have a responsibility to do so. The writer urges young people especially to take note of this and not to misuse their mental or physical powers through developing wrong attitudes to life. However, their enjoyment of life must be according to a proper understanding of God and his character. They, like all others, are answerable to him for their behaviour (9-10).

Young people should remember that God is the Creator, the giver of life and all that goes with it. They should accept life from his hand and enjoy it as he intended. The opportunity will have passed by the time old age comes (12:1).

The writer pictures old age as a run-down house in a cold dark winter. The old person, now at the end of his life, is shaky, bent, half blind, half deaf, unable to sleep well, fearful of heights and afraid to walk along the street. He has lost all desire for life's pleasures (2-5). Finally, death overtakes him. He is (to use another picture) like a broken bowl or a smashed water jar. God who first gave him life now takes it back. Life has run its course and has led, in the end, to nothing (6-8). (Bridgeway Bible Commentary)

Matthew 6:33

There are people who got into bondage to material things not because they are greedy, but because they worry too much about having enough money to look after themselves. They should realize that if God gives life, God can also give what is necessary to maintain life (Matthew 6:25-27). If God cares for lesser things such as birds, flowers and grass, God can certainly care for the people. Believers should not be anxious concerning their material needs. Those who do not know God might be anxious, but believers should trust in God, dedicate their time and life; and put the interests of the kingdom first. They are under God's rule and they should trust that as day to day difficulties arise, God will provide the answer (Matthew 6:28-34).

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Song/s "I'm Here" Children Praise God, 228

I'm here because you're here

Because I'm here because you're here.

I'm here because you're here

Because I'm here, because you're here.

"Make Me a Servant" Children Praise God, 199

Make me a servant, humble and meek

Lord, let me lift up those who are weak;

And may the pray'r of my heart always be

Make me a servant, make me a servant

Make me a servant today.

Opening Prayer

We come to seek You Lord through whatever life has in store for us. We trust that in every moment of our lives, You are with us. As we study today, You are with us in every learning. May we continue to grow in wisdom and stature just as Jesus did. Amen

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

GAME. Assign three learners to read the biblical texts. Remind all learners to listen carefully to the reading. Prepare 2 balls (yellow and red) or any items you can find inside the classroom. Instruct the learners:

1. To form a circle.
2. While singing "I'm Here", the yellow ball will be passed around clockwise while the red ball will be passed around counter-clockwise.

3. At the end of the song, the one who holds the yellow ball will ask a question related to the text being read. And the one who is holding the red ball will answer.

4. The facilitator may decide when to stop the game.

Lessons Learned

Divide the class into two. Assign a task to each group. Give them time to discuss and accomplish their task.

Group 1- “Why do you go to Church every Sunday?”

Group 2 - “What are the different church activities in which you can give your time or get involved in

Let each group choose a representative to share their responses.

Applying the Lessons Learned

CLOCK OF COMMITMENT. Distribute to the learners a round-shaped cut out. Tell them to write on the cut-out their commitment to God by completing the sentence, “Lord, I commit my time to _____”.

On a cartolina, instruct the learners to paste their cut-outs forming a circle. Then make a long hand and short hand like that of a clock. Let this be their clock of commitment. Post the clock on the wall of the room where learners can see it.

Closing Worship

Offering

Closing Song “We Commit Ourselves To You” Children Praise God, 198

We commit ourselves to You the Source of life,

You are Creator God of all who have life and breath

O God accept us now as we consecrate our lives

Thus we will be empowered for your service.

Closing Prayer

Accept our offering, O Loving God. Accept our commitment of time and life. May in our small ways be able to help in the building of your body- the church. May your Spirit always remind us to offer our time to serve through the works you have prepared for us. In Jesus' name. Amen

Lesson 39: What do we mean by “giving our talents/gifts” to the Lord?

Membership Sunday

Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

General Concept: *Giving our talents/gifts means offering our abilities and skills for the life and work of the church.*

Biblical References: Romans 12:6-8; Exodus 35:10

Age Level Concepts

- Talents means our skills and abilities given by God
- We offer our talents to glorify God
- We use our talents to help in the life and work of the church

Learning Objectives

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

- Identify their skills and abilities that can help in the life and work of the church
- Explain why talents should be offered to God
- Thank God for the skills and abilities they have

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV])
song chart, offering plate or basket, construction papers, markers, tape, glue. Art materials

Biblical Background

Romans 12:6-8

For eleven chapters, Paul has been explaining what in God's mercy has done, and will yet do, for repentant sinners. Now he reminds those who have experienced this mercy that the most fitting act of worship by which they can show their thanks is to offer themselves as living sacrifices to God. No longer are they to think and act like non-Christians. Their minds must be changed so that they see issues from a different point of view, God's point of view. As they learn to think in a more Christian way, they will know God's will better and their actions will be more pleasing to him (12:1-2).

This does not mean that they will become proud or hold high opinions of themselves. Rather they will learn to be more honest in acknowledging whatever abilities and limitations they have. They will recognize that as members of Christ's body, the church, all have been given different abilities (3-5). All should be diligent in carrying out the task for which God has fitted them, whether in the leadership roles in the church or in the various ministries to the needy (6-8). (The Bridgeway Bible Commentary)

Exodus 35:10

This section largely repeats the instruction given on the mountain in Chapters 25-31. It emphasizes that the people had to do God's work according to his covenant requirements. Therefore, they were to keep the Sabbath (35:1-3; cf. 31:16). If they wanted God to accept their offerings for the building of the tabernacle, they had to present those offerings in a spirit of joy and willingness (35:4-29). Though all could give offerings, only those with the God-given ability and the right motivation were to do the work (35:30-36:1). The people responded so generously in bringing materials for the work, that Moses asked them to stop giving (36:2-7).

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Song/s “Bahagi Ka, Bahagi Ako” Children Praise God, 66

Bawat isa ay biniyayaan ng iba't-ibang kakayahan

Para sa kapaligiran, na kailangang alagaan.

Bahagi ka at bahagi ako ng pag-unlad at pagbabago nito,

Magsasama't magkaisa, magtulungan para sa bayan.

Opening Prayer

We are glad to have come together for worship and study. We come from different families but we belong to the family of God. We come with different talents and skills which can be useful for Your purpose. Thank you Lord for everything we receive. Thank you for this day. Amen

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Ask learners to read the biblical texts. Write the questions on the board. Let the learners write their responses on a meta card or pieces of paper. Those who are ready to share their answer may paste/post their meta card on the board beside the corresponding question and then explain it to the class.

Questions:

1. What were the gifts given to the different parts of the Body- the church?
2. What are the functions of these gifts

Lessons Learned

FINDING MY GIFT. On a colored construction paper write an ability/talent/skill a person may have. Instruct the learners to find the color that matches their ability/talent/skill. Let them stay on the colored paper.

Ask: "Why should we offer our talents/abilities/skills to God?"

Then, tell the learners to prepare a presentation based on the talent/ability/skill that correspond to the color they chose. Give each group 10 minutes to prepare their presentation.

Applying the Lessons Learned

SHOWCASE. The facilitator may decide on who should present first or groups may draw by lot. After each presentation, let the whole class say, “Thank you God for the gifts you have given us!”

Closing Worship

Offering

Closing Song “Lord, I Offer My Life to You”

All that I am, all that I have,
I lay them down before you, oh Lord,
All my regrets, all my acclaims,
The joy and the pain, I'm making them yours.

(Chorus)

Lord, I offer my life to you,

Everything I've been through,

Use it for your glory.

Lord I offer my days to you,

Lifting my praise to you,

As a pleasing sacrifice,

Lord I offer you my life.

(Verse 2)

Things in the past, things yet unseen

Wishes and dreams that are yet to come true

All of my heart, all of my praise

My heart and my hands are lifted to you

(Chorus)

Lord, I offer my life to you

Everything I've been through

Use it for your glory

Lord I offer my days to you

Lifting my praise to you

As a pleasing sacrifice
Lord I offer you my life

(Bridge)
What can we give
That you have not given?
And what do we have
That is not already yours?
All we possess
Are these lives we're living
That's what we give to you, Lord.
(Chorus)
Lord, I offer my life to you
Everything I've been through

Closing Prayer

We thank you Lord for the gifts You have given us. Aside from the material things we use and enjoy that help make our lives better, you have given us abilities and skills that can also be used to help other people's lives better. May our gifts be effective tools to help build your kingdom. Amen

Lesson 40: What do we mean by “giving our possession” to the Lord?

International Women's Sunday

Third Sunday in Lent

March 7, 2021

General Concept: Giving of possession to the Lord means sharing our resources for the life and work of the church as expression of our faithful stewardship.

Biblical References: Acts 2:45; Matthew 13:12

Age Level Concepts

- Giving of our possessions to the Lord is an expression of our stewardship.

- We share our possessions to the Church to respond to the needs of the church and the community.

Learning Objectives

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

- Cite situations wherein the church can respond to through sharing of possessions
- Explain why there is a need to share
- Suggest how can the church respond effectively to the needs of the church and community

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]) song chart, offering plate or basket, construction papers, markers, tape, glue. Art materials

Biblical Background

Acts 2:45

The early Christians increased in number as the apostles continued to preached about Jesus Christ. People from all walks of life gathered together and were attracted to this new life found within the circle of believers. They do not only had fellowship in homes but also had to listen to the teachings of the apostles and gather for public worship. But as their number increased, the challenge to tend to their needs increased also. In response to the challenge, the early Christians brought their money and possessions together to form a central pool, from which all could receive help as they had need.

1 Corinthians 13:2-3

Paul's letter to the Corinthian Christians reiterates the significance of the different gifts given to every part of the body- the church. These gifts were intended to help in building up the body of Christ so that it can be effectively and efficiently carry out its mission to the world. The believers were impressed as to who exercised the most spectacular gifts.

Paul reminded the believers in his letter that no matter what gifts they have- tongues, prophecy, wisdom, knowledge, faith, generosity - if they lack love, they are not just meaningless, but are nothing (13:1-2) People may be very generous with their possessions, money and material things which may led them to poverty or they may be so loyal and faithful to their duties to the point of sacrificing their lives, but if they lack love, they gained nothing.

Sharing of possessions should be understood under the context of love. It should be an act of love. Thus, sharing of possessions is a believer's expression of faithfulness and gratitude to God.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Greeting Time

Announcements and/or Birthday Greetings

Opening Song/s "Day By Day" Children Praise God, 112

Day by day, I'll walk a little close to my God,
Day by day, day by day.

Day by day, I'll walk a little closer to my God,
Day by day, day by day.

Where God leads me, I will follow
Where God sends me, I will go.

"I Will Share" Children Praise God, 109

I will share with others, I will share with others,
Pleasing God in all I do, that will make me happy, too.

I'll be kind to others, I'll be kind to others,
Pleasing God in all I do, that will make me happy, too.

Opening Prayer

God of all created things, we believe that You own everything that we receive and take possession of. Thank you for letting us enjoy the things that make our life happy and full. Thank you for the new day added to our lives so that we can continue to experience life as you wanted it to be for all of us.
Amen

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

FIND THE VERSE. Post on the board the phrases taken from the biblical texts a written on strips of cartolina or bond papers. Divide the class into two groups. Assign each group a biblical text. Tell the groups to find the phrases or verses that belong to the text assigned to them. Give them 2 minutes to accomplish the task.

Examples:

They would sell

Possessions and goods

To all

Distribute the proceeds

As any had need

Give away

All my possessions

Prophetic powers

All knowledge

All faith

I am nothing

Do not have love

After the groups have completed collecting the phrases, tell them to explain their text. The facilitator may give further explanation using the biblical background.

Lessons Learned

Ask the learners the following:

- What situations in life can you identify that would need us to share our possessions/ the things we have to others?
- What does “selling your possessions” mean to you as young people?
- Why should we share?

Applying the Lessons Learned

With the same grouping, tell the learners to suggest ways the church can effectively respond to the needs of people by using its possessions.

Situations of people that needs help	How to respond by using the things we own/have

Closing Worship

Offering

Closing Song “God, We Do Thank You” Hymnal of Faith Journey, 334

God, we do thank you for our lives,
for each good year which comes and goes,
For all the blessings we receive,
that give us joy as each day we live.

God, we do thank you for our lives,
For each good year which comes and goes,

For love and mercy make us sure,
To live each day with your love to share.

Closing Prayer (the facilitator may lead the closing prayer)