

Children's Worship Lesson for May 3, 2020

Focus Scripture: Acts 2:42-47

Purpose: To learn about early Christian community

Preparation

Cut out pictures in magazines Each child will need a mat or blanket

A variety of dry mixed food - E.g. Different cereals and dried fruits

3 small pebbles or something small you can throw and a basket or bowl

Lighting the Christ Candle:

We light this candle to remind us that God is always with us.

Sing:

The Church Is One Big Family (tune: London Bridge)

The church is one big family, family, family,
the church is one big family.

The church is everywhere.

And in this special fam'ly of love,
fam'ly of love, fam'ly of love,
and in this special fam'ly of love
I know that I belong.

Spread the good news that Jesus is risen,
Jesus is risen, Jesus is risen,
spread the good news that Jesus is risen
spread it everywhere.

Prayer

***O God, help us to share what we have,
to care for others,***

and to worship you each day.

Amen.

Introducing the Theme

Spread the magazine picture all over the floor. Describe the content of each picture. If your child(ren) would do the activity have them stand beside it. God wants all of us to share God's love every day, not just on Sunday's. Many of the first Christians tried very hard to live the way Jesus showed them. Today we will hear a story about Rachel, who lived almost 2000 years ago at the time of Peter and Mary Magdalene and the other disciples.

Story: Rachel's Day

Show teaching picture #1



Rachel rushed to the door. "I'm sorry mother, I know I said I would help cook tonight. I was playing pebble toss with my friends outside and forgot." "I'm glad you're here," said Rachel's mom. Another woman nearby smiled at her. "Here let me help you wash your hot and dusty feet." Aaron said as he dipped his hands in the basin of water by the door. Rachel was glad to slip off her sandals and feel the coolness of the water sooth her feet. Soon Rachel was busy helping the woman prepare the meal. Everyone would eat together. In fact, all of the Christians, including Rachel, shared everything together- their food, money and belongings.

Show teaching picture #2



After everyone had washed their hands, they sat on the floor together and prayed with God. Then Rachel dipped her flat bread into a bowl of yogurt and honey. It was so delicious! And she was sharing this food with a wonderful family of friends. After she finished, she glanced around the one room house that so many people shared. She looked at the windows and the low small door, which helped keep the room cooler on those hot, sunny days. She looked at the rolled up mats, ready to be put down on the floor to sleep on later that night. She smiled and looked at the earthenware jars (clay jars), full of olive oil and remembered the night that she had slipped on a bit of olive oil spilt on the floor after filling the lanterns. She had crashed right into Arron as he sat mending everyone's sandals.

Show teaching picture #3



After the dishes were cleaned with sand and put away, everyone went up to the roof to talk and pray and enjoy the cool night air. As they sat together and talked about Jesus and how Jesus wanted them to live their lives, Aaron commented, "I have learned of a family that has no food. The husband is very sick and cannot work in the fields. Let's take them food and water from the well tomorrow." "Oh yes, it's what Jesus would want us to do," the group all agreed. They prayed for each other and especially for this family. Rachel looked all around her and said her own prayer thanking God for the beautiful stars, for all her Christian friends gathered with her and most of all Jesus who had shown them the way to love one another and all people. "It's time we all went to sleep for the night," Rachel's mom commented. "Rachel, please help me with the mats, we'll sleep inside tonight. Aaron will you please bring the goats and chickens, they will be safer inside." The last thing Rachel heard when she drifted off the sleep, was the sound of her friends singing "Shalom".

Sing again: The Church Is One Big Family

SONG: THE CHURCH IS ONE BIG FAMILY

(tune: London Bridges)

The church is one big family
family, family
The church is one big family,
the church is everywhere.

And in this special fam'ly of love
fam'ly of love, fam'ly of love,
and in this special fam'ly of love
I know that I belong.

Spread the good news that Jesus is risen
Jesus is risen, Jesus is risen.
Spread the good news that Jesus is risen,
spread it everywhere.
(used again next Sunday)

Replay Rachel's Day –

Use the following activities to review what a day was like for Christians in Bible times.

Game:

Place a basket in the room and give each child 3 marbles or 3 small things to throw. I will demonstrate how this game is played. Children had no money and few toys so they used their imaginations.

Activity: Hiker's Mix

Mix a variety of dry ingredients and place them in small bags. (Possibilities: dried fruit – e.g. apricots, apples, raisins, cherries; baking chips – e.g. chocolate, butterscotch; nuts – e.g. almonds, pecans, peanuts; dried cereals – e.g. Cheerios, Shreddies; pretzel sticks; etc.)

Closing Song

*May the road rise up to meet you
May the wind be always at your back
May the sun shine warm upon your face
And the rain falls soft upon your fields
Till we meet again, we meet again
May God hold you in his hands.*

Older Children's Activity Option

The Good News Community

Here is Acts 2:43-47 from the *Good News Bible*. However, several words are jumbled. See if you can unscramble them and place them on one of the lines below to fit around the word "COMMUNITY."

Many _____ and wonders were being done by the apostles and everyone was filled with
C R A M I S E L
awe.

All the _____ continued in _____ fellowship and shared their
S L E I E R V E B E L S O C
_____ with one another.
S L O G G I B E N N

They would sell their _____ and distribute the money among all, according to what
T Y R E P R O P
each one needed.

Day after day they met as a group in the _____, and they had their meals together in their
P L E M E T
homes, eating with glad and _____ hearts, praising _____, and enjoying the good will of
B L E H M U O D G
all the people.

And every _____ the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.
Y A D

