

Children's Ministries Lesson – **Threes, PreK, & Kindergarten**

Pentecost/Birthday Celebration

Psalm 16:11 and Acts 2

May 31, 2020

Children's Ministries purpose is **to build a spiritual foundation in each child that lasts a lifetime.**

We hope this lesson provides additional opportunities for your family to strengthen your relationship with each other and with Jesus. This lesson has components of both Children's Church and Sunday School fused together.

As you prepare for this lesson and the space you will use, please gather supplies, create a worship focal point (ideas: a Bible, a cross, a candle, and an offering container), and remove other distractions from the area. Read through this lesson before beginning. *Wording in BLUE italics is information for the family leader(s). BLACK italics are actions to do.*

BIBLE STORY POINT: This week, we celebrate Pentecost – the birthday of the church. Jesus told his disciples before he ascended into heaven, that God will send the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with great joy and give us all we need to share the good news and live the good news.

SUPPLIES: worship focal point ideas: a Bible, a cross, a candle and an offering container; praise and worship song links; Bible story link; a blanket and some toys; additional activity supplies (see activity options below).

FAMILY CHANT: *During Sunday School, your children begin with a "class chant". To bring that to your home, create a family chant that you can say each time. Create your own or use this one. The chant helps connect mind with body and connects everyone together. Motions/actions are in parentheses.*

Let's create our own family "chant" as a way to begin our time together. Repeat what I say and do:

I reach up (*reach both hands up to the sky*) **I reach up (*reach both hands up to the sky*)**

I reach down (*reach both hands down to their toes*) **I reach down (*reach both hands down to their toes*)**

I share a smile to everyone (*smile at each other*) **I share a smile to everyone (*smile at each other*)**

I see you (*point to each other*) **I see you (*point to each other*)**

You see me (*point to self*) **You see me (*point to self*)**

Together we make the [insert family name] family. (*put arms around each other's shoulders - form a huddle*)

Together we make the [insert family name] family. (*put arms around each other's shoulders - form a huddle*)

OPENING PRAISE SONGS:

[Click here](#) for the full playlist of St. Luke's Children's Praise Music, including more songs about the Fruit of the Spirit!

Supplies: **Select the link for Praise and Worship music.**

1. **["God Sent Down the Holy Spirit & Happy Birthday"](#)** (Julie Osterman, Sunday School Music Teacher)



OFFERTORY:

Determine where your offering will go. You may select an organization of your choice, or save it until we return to Sunday School/Children's Church to give to our current mission. Place your offering in your container (you may use your 75th Anniversary piggy bank if you have one). This scripture we use each Sunday during our Offertory time.

Let's say this scripture together.

"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7.

Now, let's place our offering in this container.

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Let us say The Lord's Prayer together. (If your child is just learning it, an "echo" prayer can be a helpful way to learn it. If your child already knows it, you may say it together:

Let us pray.

Our Father, **Our Father**,
who art in heaven, **who art in heaven**,
hallowed be thy name. **hallowed be thy name.**

Thy kingdom come, **Thy kingdom come,**
thy will be done **thy will be done**
on earth as it is in heaven. **on earth as it is in heaven.**
Give us this day **Give us this day**
our daily bread. **our daily bread.**
And forgive us our trespasses, **And forgive us our trespasses,**
as we forgive those **as we forgive those**
who trespass against us. **who trespass against us.**
And lead us not **And lead us not**
into temptation, **into temptation,**
but deliver us from evil. **but deliver us from evil.**
For thine is the kingdom, **For thine is the kingdom,**
and the power, **and the power,**
and the glory, forever. **and the glory, forever.**
Amen. **Amen.**

LEARNING SCRIPTURE:

Let us learn this scripture together.

"God, you fill me with joy in your presence." Psalm 16:11

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

BIBLE STORY

Today is a special day in churches all around the world! Do you know what today is? Let us watch the Bible story video and find out more about today! This story is from Acts 2 found in the New Testament of the Bible.

[Click here](#) for the Bible story video link.



Discussion Questions: *(ask some or all of these questions)*

1. What is the special name given for the birthday of the church? (Pentecost)
2. What happened on Pentecost? (God sent the Holy Spirit into each believer's heart.)
3. How did the believers feel when the Holy Spirit entered their hearts? (full of joy)
4. What did those believers do after the Holy Spirit entered their hearts? (They shared Jesus' love, joy, and peace with more and more people. They started many churches.)

ACTIVITY OPTION #1: – Pin the Steeple on the Church

Supplies: paper, markers, blindfold

1. Draw a simple church but leave off the steeple in your drawing.
2. Draw several steeples (a tall triangle with a cross at the top). Cut them out.
3. Pin a church on the wall at eye-level of your child.
4. Blindfold (if your child is comfortable) or ask them to simply close their eyes. Sleep masks make great blindfolds!
5. Give your child 1 steeple with a piece of tape on the back of it. Spin them around three times.
6. Guide the child in the direction of the church and let them guess where to place the steeple. Play as many times as you wish.

ACTIVITY OPTION #2 – Hot Potato Game

Supplies: paper and/or birthday candle, CD and CD player, or stream music on smart phone (Yancy has a fun "Happy Birthday To You" song!)

1. If you have a birthday candle, use 1 for this game. If not, you can easily make one from paper.
2. Make a circle with your family. Start passing the candle around the circle, while the music is playing.
3. The person who is holding the candle when the music stops will say "Happy Birthday church" or "Pentecost".
4. Variation: If you'd like to make the game more challenging, one player can leave the circle and hid their eyes. When the music stops, the player can return to the circle and guess who is holding the candle.

LEARNING SCRIPTURE:

Let us learn this scripture together.

"God, you fill me with joy in your presence." Psalm 16:11

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING PRAYER: (Say prayer and then ask everyone to join in with the "Amen".)

Dear God,
Thank you that you are always with us, through your special gift of the Holy Spirit.
We pray for churches all around the world today as we celebrate the church's birthday.
We pray that we can share the joy of knowing you with other people.
In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG:

Supplies: [Click here](#) for closing song, "We Will Worship" (Ashley Hymel & Thanushka Lewkebandara)

Play the closing song.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES – to continue our worship all week! (see below)

LET'S HELP THE CHURCH GROW EVEN MORE!

Supplies: sidewalk chalk (or other creative materials to share that it is the church's birthday!)

Go outside and together as a family draw a "Happy Birthday Church!" picture with sidewalk chalk where all your neighbors and friends can see! You can draw balloons, or streamers, or party hats – whatever you like to help celebrate!

Thank you!