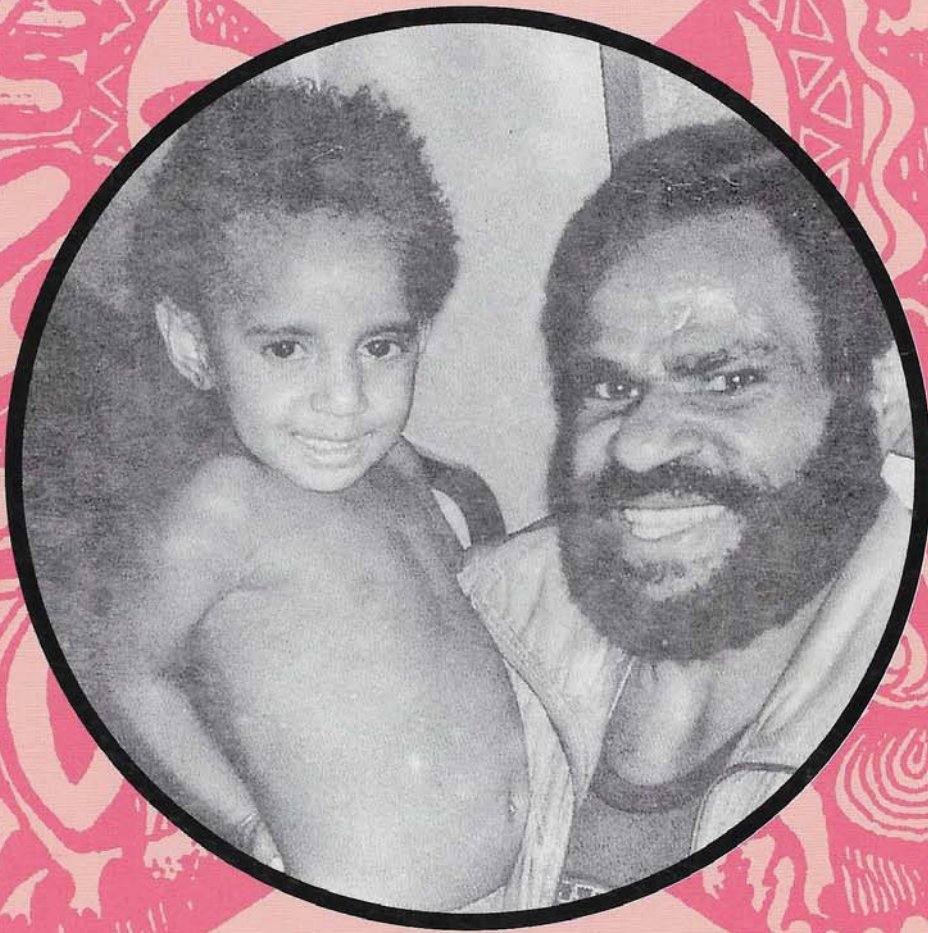


*OUR CATHOLIC FAITH*

# GOD IS



# MY FATHER

*RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
ELEMENTARY \* PREPARATORY*



**OUR CATHOLIC FAITH**

**GOD**

**IS MY**

**FATHER**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**ELEMENTARY \* PREPARATORY**



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Second Edition 1998

Published by: Commission for Christian Education  
GOROKA, P.O. Box 127, Papua New Guinea

Printed by: Satprachar Press, Indore-452001, INDIA

This publication was made possible through generous donations from  
JUNGSCHAR, Austria;  
MISSIO, Aachen-Germany and Austria,  
SVD-Holland and  
many private donors

Our special thanks go to those who have given advice and support during the course of the production. God's blessing be with all.

Sr. Ehrentrude Pretzi S.Sp.S., Coordinator



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## ABOUT THIS BOOK

### OBJECTIVES:

Since it is the objectives that give meaning and direction to the lesson, the teacher must consider them carefully before going on with the preparation.

### BACKGROUND:

The Background is mainly for the teacher's personal enrichment. However, sometimes it contains information or awakens dispositions necessary for the lesson. For the sake of new insights and fresh motivation, cultivate the practice of reading it carefully.

### REFLECTION:

The Reflection suggested is meant to deepen the teacher's relationship with God, to renew his/her dedication to the teaching ministry and to help him/her to grow professionally.

### PREPARE:

Here, the teacher's attention is drawn to what is essential to the presentation of the lesson. It must not be overlooked, especially, as the teacher might have to look for substitutes.

## LESSON OUTLINE:

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

By starting with what the children know from experience, the teacher prepares them for new religious knowledge and experience. Usually, LOOKING AT LIFE is only a short, preparatory step in the lesson.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

In this part of the lesson the teacher proclaims God's Word clearly from the Bible or from the Tradition of the Church.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Using various teaching techniques, the teacher unfolds the mystery of Faith or God's law of love contained in THE LIVING WORD and prepares the children to apply it in their lives. This part of the lesson should never be hurried over.

### FOR MY LIFE:

After having heard the Word of God, the children are encouraged to express their faith and commitment to Christ in their lives. The lesson is not finished until this has been done.

### CONCLUSION:

In order to make it easier for the children to experience the presence of God in the mysteries of faith and to express their appreciation of religion through participation in the lesson, the teacher is careful to present every lesson in a pleasant and prayerful atmosphere.

Songs and pictures are at the end of the book.



# UNIT 1: GOD GAVE ME A FAMILY

## FOR THE TEACHER

## UNIT 1.1

### I HAVE A NAME

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. experience that their names are special
- b. appreciate their names

**BACKGROUND:**

Names are important to everyone. We honour family names and baptismal names. In Baptism, we are given our name in the Church, usually a saint's name.

The people of the Bible liked to use names that told of a person's part in the work of Salvation. The name "Jesus" means Saviour. Jesus was given this name because He was to save His people from their sins.

**REFLECTION:**

God knows my name.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God our Father knows our names. (Ref Is 49:14-16)

**Poster:** "WELCOME" (Decorate)

**Name cards:** for teacher and children

**Tree-branch:** standing firmly in a container

**Song:** *I have a name*

### Story: A BABY IS BORN

Charles lived with his wife Anna in a very nice house that he built for his family. One night Anna had a little baby boy. Charles was so happy to see him enjoying his mother's milk.

Soon Charles and Anna began thinking about a name for their new baby. They thought about many names and then Charles remembered his uncle, Peter. "Let's call him Peter," he said. "Uncle Peter is such a good, kind man. Our baby will grow up like Uncle Peter." And so that's why the new baby was called Peter.

The musical score is written on two staves. The top staff is labeled 'treble' and contains a melody with various note values and rests. The bottom staff contains the lyrics in English and a second melody. The lyrics are: 'I have a name and you have a name. My name is me and your name is. Mi gat nem na yu gat nem. Nem blong mi em mi tas. you. sol. My name is me and your name is you. Nem blong yu em yu ta - - - sol.'

## OUTLINE LESSON 1

### LOOKING AT LIFE

Teacher and children welcome each other.

**The Welcome Poster:** Children admire the welcome poster; they are happy with it.

**Introductions:** Each child tells his / her name. Teacher and children say: "....., your name is special. We like your name."

**Story:** "A Baby is Born"

Children see how important the baby's name is; they realize that there is a story about their own names, too.

**Name cards:**

Children become familiar with their names and see that each one's name is special.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD

**Scripture:** God knows my name. Ref Is 43:1b.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

Children are happy that God knows their names. Their names are special to Him because He loves them very much and is always thinking of them.

**Prayer:** Children thank God for their special name.

**FOR MY LIFE:** Before going home, I will find my name on the 'naming tree'.

Put up the Welcome poster.

Game: How many names do I know?

Children take turns in calling names of children in class.

Share stories about naming a baby.

Colour the name cards and put them on the 'naming tree.'

Children sing:

I have a name, you have a name.

My name is me; your name is you.

Teacher leads the prayer.

# WELCOME



## ***I RESPECT EVERYONE'S NAME***

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that it is important to call each child his/her right name.
- b. respect each other's names

**BACKGROUND:**

In most cultures, people have special respect for names. They are not simply labels or tags such as people attach to cargo. The name is so identified with the person that it can stand for the person. To respect a person's name means to respect the person.

Right from the beginning of their history, God's people were taught to respect God's name. "Do not use my name for evil purposes," Deut 5:11a.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I always use God's name reverently?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** My name is special to God (Ref Is 49:16)

**Song:** "I have a name", (Lesson 1)

Naming tree (Lesson 1)

**Story: THE BOY WHO LIKES HIS NAME**

One day, when the boys were playing soccer, Jimmy fell over. He was lying on the ground crying because his leg was paining. Another boy named David started to make fun of Jimmy. He called out, "Get up Skimmy." This made Jimmy cry all the more. He left the sports field and cried all the way home.

When Jimmy told his mother what had happened and how David had called him Skimmy, she put her arms around him and told him a nice story about his name.

Next day, when David saw Jimmy, he said he was sorry for calling him "that" name. He said, "Jimmy, I will never make fun of your name again." Now Jimmy was happy again!

## OUTLINE LESSON 2

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

**Naming Tree:** Children recognize their names on the naming tree. They feel that their name is special.

**Story:** The Boy Who Likes His Name

Why did Jimmy cry?  
Why was David sorry?

Children realize that it is important to respect everyone's name.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD

My name is special to God. **Ref Is 49:16**

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

**Consider:** Names are very important. God respects your name. It is good to know each other's names and to call everyone by his/her right name.

**Prayer:** God our Father, we are happy that you know our names. We will always respect our names.

**FOR MY LIFE:** Children call the names of their classmates.

Children find their names on the 'naming tree' used in Lesson 1.

Dramatize the story.

Sing: "I have a name..."

Children pray





## MY FAMILY

- OBJECTIVES:** Children will -
- be able to describe their families
  - feel happy that they belong to a family

**BACKGROUND:**

It was God's idea that the world should be made up of families. He also decided that families should consist of parents and children.

"So God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female, blessed them and said, "Have many children ..." Gen 1:27-28a

In describing the first family God made, the Bible speaks of parents and children. Adam and Eve were parents, Cain and Abel were their children. This idea or definition of family brings about the kind of community which is a reflection of God's own special community, the Holy Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Love binds and motivates this holy community. In the same way, our families try to be united in love and to act out of love for each other.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I have a strong sense of family? Am I motivated to strengthen family life in my community?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God gave us families. (Ref BACKGROUND)

**Picture:** A Family

**Song:** God the Father (2x) is loving me,  
Father, mother, (2x) He gives to me.  
Brother, sister, (2x).....

**Story: MICHAEL'S FAMILY**

Michael is in Prep. He has two sisters and two brothers. Michael is still quite a small boy and so he likes being with his parents and brothers and sisters.

Michael's parents love their children and look after them very well. The children help their parents to clean the garden and to sweep around the house. When all the work is finished, they sit together to rest and tell stories

treble

God the Father, God the Father is lov - ing me. is loving  
God yu Pa - pa, God yu Pa-pa yu laik - im mi. Yu laik - im

me. mi. God the Father, God the Father is loving me.  
God yu Pa - pa, God yu Pa - pa yu laik - im mi.

## OUTLINE LESSON 3

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share their experience of family life. Name the members of their family.

What does your mother do for her family?

What does your father do for his family?

How do the children in your family help each other?

### **Picture:** Family life

What does this picture show you?

Children understand that living together and helping each other makes a family happy.

### **Story:** Michael's Family

Why is Michael a happy boy? (He is loved and well looked after in his family.)

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD

God gave us families. (Ref Gen 1:27-28a)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who gave you your family?

**Consider:** God gave you your family. He knows and loves your family. He wants you to be happy in your family and to love everyone in your family.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for my family.

**Song:** *God the Father*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will help my family.

Children draw "My Family".

Children share: How I help my family.

Draw Michael's happy face.

Memorize: God gave me my family.

Children pray.

Children sing



## MY MOTHER LOVES ME

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- come to realize that their mothers love them
  - want to show love for their mothers

**BACKGROUND:**

Before sending His Son into the world, God chose a mother for Him, Mary of Nazareth. Jesus was to grow up in a family and experience a mother's love. Mary nursed Jesus and cared for Him perfectly; she did everything that mothers do for their children. He was grateful to His mother and loved her in return.

Jesus wanted to share His beautiful mother with all those who were to become His brothers and sisters. In the last moments of His life, Jesus gave Mary to us to be our own dear Mother and the Mother of the whole Church. "She is your mother," Jn 19:27.

**REFLECTION:** Reflect on Mary's words: "Do whatever He tells you". Jn 2:5

**PREPARE:**

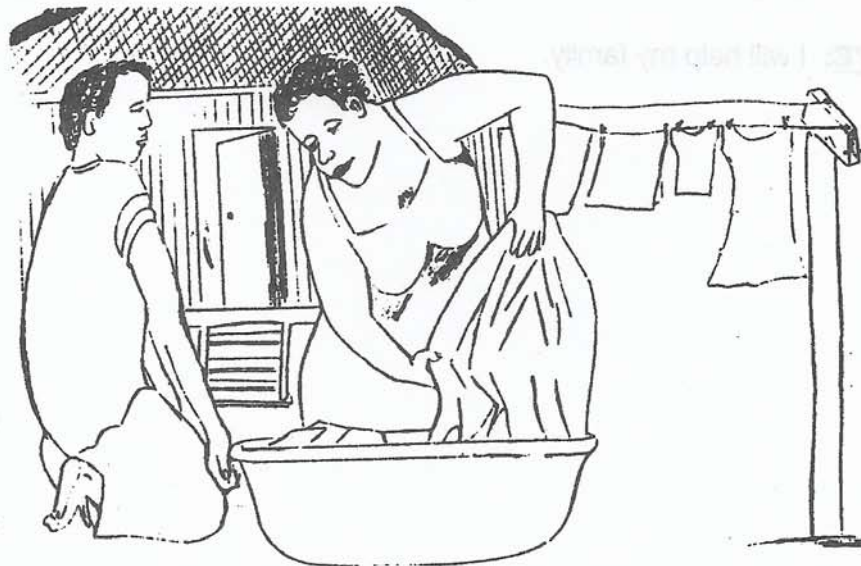
**Scripture:** God knows my mother. He knows how much my mother loves me. Ref Is 49:15a.

**Pictures:** Family poster

**Song:** *God, Father, you love me so. Thank you, thank you.  
You make mother love me too. Thank you, thank you.*

**Story: LUCY'S MOTHER**

One day, as some women were walking past Lucy's house, they called out to her mother, "Come with us. We're going down to the field to watch the boys playing soccer." She answered, "I'd love to go with you, but I'm too busy just now. I have to wash my children's clothes and cook their food. Perhaps I'll be able to go with you another time, when I'm not so busy."



## OUTLINE LESSON 4

### LOOKING AT LIFE

Children name things that their mothers do for them e.g. My mother washes my clothes.

Children realize that their mothers are very good to them.

**Picture:** Mother and Baby

Children realize that mothers show their love for their children by the way they look after them.

**Story:** Lucy's Mother

Why did Lucy's mother stay at home?

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God knows how much your mother loves you.  
(Ref Is 49:15a)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who gave you your mother?

**Consider:** God knows your mothers. He made them so that they would love you. He sees everything that they do for you and He is very pleased with them.

**Song:** God Father , you love me so.

Children appreciate that their mothers do many things for them because they love them.

**Prayer:** Children ask God to bless their mothers.

**FOR MY LIFE:** After school, I will go home and help my mother.

Children draw their mothers washing / cooking etc.

**Picture:** A mother doing something for her children.

Children name things that mothers do for their children.

Each child says:  
My mother loves me. She ... for me.

Sing with actions.

Teacher leads the prayer.

treble

5 5 3 2 5 6 5 5 3 5 1 5 5 3

God Fath - er you love me so. Thank you thank you. You make moth - er

God Pa - pa yu laik - im mi. Tenk - yu, tenk - yu. Tu, ma - ma i

love me too. Thank you thank you.

laik - im mi. Tenk - yu, tenk - yu.



## MY MOTHER HELPS ME WHEN I'M SICK

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- a. realize that their mothers take special care of them when they are sick
- b. be thankful to their mothers

**BACKGROUND:**

A compassionate person shares in the suffering of others and has a strong desire to lessen it, to take it away altogether. Compassion is a beautiful gift that God gives people, especially mothers. Being hard-hearted is the opposite of being compassionate.

In the story of the suffering and death of Jesus, it is His mother and the holy women who stay with Him right to the end. They had great compassion for Him.

**REFLECTION:**

What do I remember about my mother? Is there something I should do for her now?

**PREPARE:**

**Picture:** A mother caring for her sick child

**Card:** A card for each child, with "MOTHER" on it.

**Song:** *God Father you love me so..* page 8

### Story: THE SICK CHILDREN

One day I visited a very big hospital. When I came up to the verandah, I saw lots of mothers sitting there holding sick children. Some of the children were crying and their mothers were rubbing their heads. Some mothers had bottles of water and biscuits for their children. Some mothers were waiting and waiting because there were many sick children needing medicine. They were very sorry for their sick children.

When I went inside, I saw many mothers sitting beside their children. They had been there all night. In the morning, they washed them and put powder on them and gave them food. Then they sat beside them again and waited for the nurse to come along.

## OUTLINE LESSON 5

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children remember times when they were sick and needed special help. What did your mother do for you?

**Picture:** Family picture

How do mothers feel when their children are sick?  
Why do they stay with them? (to try to take away their pain.)

**Story:** Sick Children

Who stayed with the sick children?  
Was it easy for the mothers to stay at the hospital?

Children understand that mothers give sick children special love and care.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

Who made our mothers "special"?  
What is very special about your mothers?  
When do your mothers take special care of you?

**Consider:** God was very good to give you your mother.  
She loves you and cares for you always and especially when you are sick.

**Prayer:** Children thank God for giving them their mothers.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will take my card home and give it to my mother. I will ask her to tell me about times when I was sick and thank her for looking after me.

Draw your mother

Cards: Children go over the word **MOTHER** and colour it in.

Mime: A mother looking after a sick child.

Children sing : God  
Father loves me so .

Teacher and children  
pray





## MY FATHER LOVES ME

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will-

- a. become aware that their fathers love them and show their love in many ways.
- b. feel proud of their fathers

**BACKGROUND:**

When the Jewish people first began to learn about God, they thought of Him as "the Creator of heaven and earth." Later, as Salvation History unfolded, they began thinking of Him as "Lord of the Nations".

When Jesus came, He taught everyone to think of God as "Father".

During his lifetime, Jesus often called God His Father. His last prayer on the cross was, "Father, into your hands I place my spirit!" Lk 23:46.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I think of God as "My Father"? Do I love and trust Him?

**PREPARE:**

**Flashcard:** God gave me my father.

**Pictures:** Family picture, page 244

**Song:** As for lesson 4. Change to "Father"

**Story: PATRICK AND HIS FATHER**

Patrick lives near the sea. His father often takes him out fishing. He loves going out in the deep, deep sea with his father. One day when they were out in the deep water, they saw children playing in little canoes their fathers had made for them. Patrick said, "Papa, I'd love to have a canoe so that I could play with the others when you're away at work."

So Patrick's father cut down a tree and made a fine canoe. When Patrick came home from school and saw the canoe tied to a tree on the beach, he was so happy. He said, "O Papa, you are so good to me!"

## OUTLINE LESSON 6

**LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children talk about their fathers e.g.

My father mends trucks. He has many tools. He likes me to help him. He takes me to the market.

Children feel proud of their fathers.

Each child draws his/her father. (Display the

**Picture:** Father and Child

What do you think the child feels? Why?

Children realize how special fathers are.

**Story:** Patrick and His Father

Why did Patrick's father make the canoe?

Children share in Patrick's feelings of happiness and pride in his father.

Children become aware that fathers do many things for their children because they love them very much.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD**

**Flash card:** God gave me my father

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE**

Why did God give you your father?

**Consider:** God loves you very much; He gave you your father to look after you and to help you to grow up. He likes you to be happy with your father and to be proud of him.

**Prayer:** Children thank God for their fathers.

**FOR MY LIFE:** When my Father does something for me I will thank him.

drawings.)

Children draw Patrick's canoe.

Children Mime: Things their fathers do for them.

Song: *God Father, you love me so.*

Teacher leads the prayer.





## MY FATHER HELPS ME

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- become aware that their fathers help them in many ways.
- be thankful to God for their fathers

**BACKGROUND:**

Mothers and fathers have different gifts from God and from nature, and so they parent in different ways. Mothers are fitted for caring and comforting children while fathers tend to stimulate, extend and discipline them. Some studies show that fathers have a special role in building children's self-respect. As children pass through different stages of development, demands on mothers and fathers shift back and forward. This means that **both** parents need to be actively involved in rearing children.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I pray for my father? Does he need my help now?

**PREPARE:**

**Picture:** Family picture page 244

**Song:** *I have a house, a very fine house.  
Its walls and roof are strong.  
I have a house, a very fine house  
My father built for me.*

**Story: OUR NEW HOUSE**

I am going to tell you a story about something that my father did for us. Our house was very old and when it rained, water came inside and wet our mats. There were holes in the walls, too, and at night when the wind was strong, we were all very cold.

One morning Papa said, "This is no good, you're all cold and wet. I'm going to build a new house for you!" So Papa went to the bush and worked very hard collecting bush material for our house. When everything was ready, he started to build. He worked and worked all by himself and we were so proud of him. When our house was finished, we made a big party to thank Papa for our new house.

treble

I have a house, a ver - y fine house. Its walls and roof are strong.

I have a house, a ver - y fine house. My fath - er built for me.

## OUTLINE LESSON 7

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children remember times when their fathers helped them. What did he do for you? Do you think he was happy to help you?

They realize that their fathers are happy to help them.

**Picture:** Family picture

Why do these children look happy? -

Children understand that fathers are "special"; they love their children.

**Story:** "The New House"

Why did Papa build the new house?

Children realize that the father cared for his children. They were very proud of him and thanked him.

Children are able to say that fathers work hard to help their children.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

God made fathers "special"; they do good things to their children.

Can you name some things your father has done for you?

**Consider:** God loves you; He gave you your father to help you. He does many things to help you and make you happy.

**Prayer:** Children thank God for their fathers; they ask Him to bless them and keep them safe.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will help my Father to cut the grass.

Children draw themselves with their father.

Draw the new house.

Children sing:  
*I have a house*

Children share: How my father helps me.

Children pray.





## I LOVE MY BROTHERS AND SISTERS

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- become aware of the friendship of brothers and sisters
- thank God for the gift of brothers and sisters

**BACKGROUND:**

To share and to accept others are two things that we all need to learn early in life. These qualities are generally well-taught by brothers and sisters who persevere steadily in their efforts until they achieve a fair measure of success. The ability to live happily and peacefully with others grows out of these qualities. If our brothers and sisters managed to teach us to share and to accept others, then we have a life-long debt to them.

**REFLECTION:**

What have I learned from my brothers and sisters about sharing and accepting others?

**PREPARE:**

**Picture:** Family picture

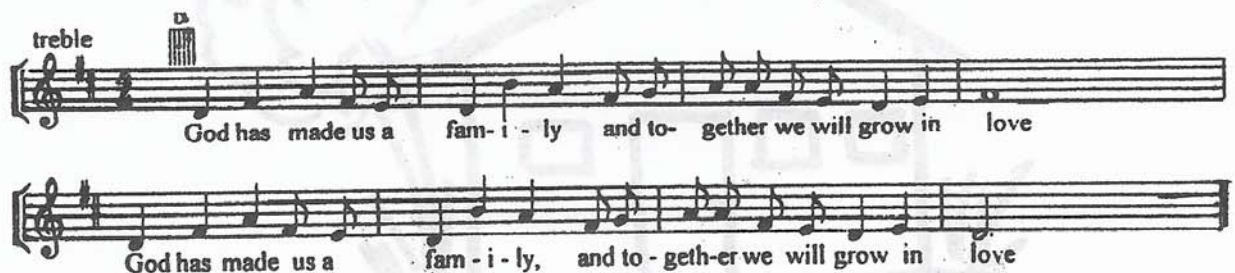
**Song:**

*God has made us a family, and together we will grow in love*

Story: THE TIA FAMILY

Have you ever heard of the Tia family? The four little Tias... Mark and Joe, Mary and Lucy live with their Mum and Dad in a big house right beside a very big river. Every morning the four little Tias walk along a bush track together on their way to school. Mark carries all the lunches and Joe helps his little sisters with their school bags. At lunch time they sit together and share their lunch. Some children say, "Those Tias are always together!"

When school is over, the four little Tias wait for each other and go home together. They talk nicely together on the way home and then help each other with their little jobs. On Sundays, they all put on their best clothes and go off together to Mass. Their parents are so happy to see them sharing everything. They say, "Our children love each other very much!"



## OUTLINE LESSON 8

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

How many brothers and sisters do you have?  
What do you do together?

Children realize that they are happy with their brothers and sisters.

### **Story: The Tia Family**

What is special about the Tia children?

The children understand that the Tias love each other.

Picture: Family Picture

Children realize that it is good to have brothers and sisters.  
They become aware of the happiness of having brothers and sisters of their own.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

Who gave you your brothers and sisters?

**Consider:** Brothers and sisters are a gift from God. They share everything with you; they are your special friends.

### **Song:**

*God has made us a family, and together we will grow in love (2x)*

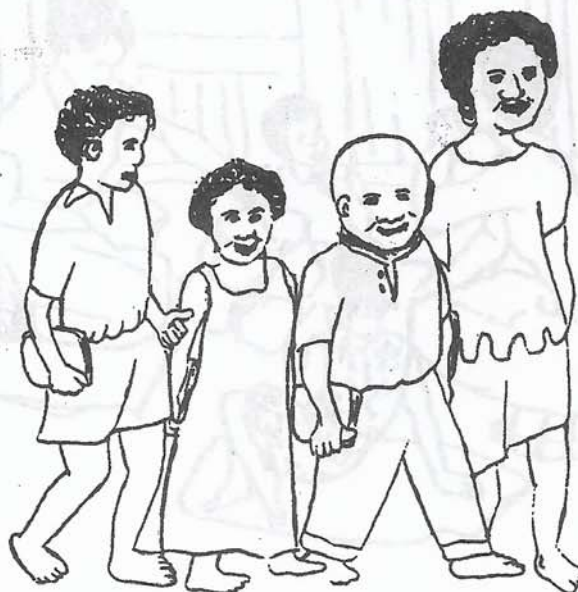
**FOR MY LIFE:** Before I sleep I will say Good Night to my brothers and sisters.

The children draw their brothers and sisters.

Children share:  
What do I do together with my brothers and sisters?

Children pray

Children sing.





## GOD HELPS MY PARENTS

- OBJECTIVES:** Children will -
- become aware that God helps their parents to look after them
  - be happy that they are loved and cared for

**BACKGROUND:**

After having made our First Parents "like himself," God blessed them and said, "Have many children, so that your descendants will live all over the earth and bring it under their control," Gen 1:28. This is how God honoured our First Parents and guaranteed them His help. He wants human beings to become fully mature through responsible parenthood and action in the world.

**REFLECTION:**

God acts at a very deep level in family life. He gives the gift of life through parents and helps them to bring up their children.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God blesses parents (Ref Gen 1:28)

**Picture** Family picture page 244

**Songs:**

*Where O where is mother ? (2x) Look at her (2)  
She is washing clothes. (Make your own verses)*

*Where o where is father?.....*



## OUTLINE LESSON 9

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: What my parents did to get me ready for school.  
(They bought my clothes, prepared my school fees etc.)

They realize that their parents are very good to them.

**Picture:** Family picture

Children realize that parents work very hard for their children because they love them and want them to be happy.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God blesses parents. Ref Gen 1:28

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Consider:** God helps parents to look after their children. He makes them strong and gives them special love for their children.

They are always thinking about their children and doing things for them.

**Songs:** *Where O where is mother? / Where O where is father?*

**Prayer:** God, thank you for my parents. Please bless them and help them to look after us.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will come to school every day to make my parents happy.

Children draw themselves dressed and ready for school.

Children share stories about what their parents do for them.

Sing with actions.

Children pray.

treble

Where o where is moth - er? Where o where is moth - er? Look at her,  
Ma - ma i stap we? Ma - ma i stap we Luk - im em

Look at her. She is washing sa - go. Ver-y good. Thank you God.  
Luk - im em. Em i was - im sak - sak. Gut-pe - la. Tenk - yu God.



## MY FAMILY GOES TO MASS

### OBJECTIVES: Children will -

- become aware that families go to Mass on Sundays
- feel that they want to go to Mass with their family

### BACKGROUND:

Sunday is a day of celebration. It is a holy day, a day with a difference. Every Sunday is a memorial of Easter Sunday when Christ rose from the dead.

In Old Testament times, God's people were instructed to set aside the seventh day of each week as the day on which they remembered God's kindness to them in saving them from Egypt. Now, in New Testament times, God's people set aside the first day of each week as the day on which they remember Salvation. "Very early on Sunday morning ..." The four evangelists record that the Resurrection of Christ took place on Sunday and that is why Sunday is our holy day. The Church asks us to celebrate Sunday by going to Mass.

### REFLECTION:

How do I celebrate Sundays?

### PREPARE:

**Cards:** Trace SUNDAY on each card

**Poster:** A decorated poster with the words:  
*SUNDAY is a special day.*

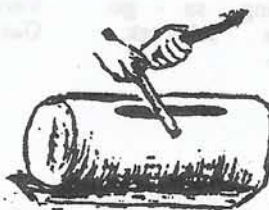
**Picture:** Families going to the Parish Church : page 246

**Song:** *This is the day that the Lord has made*

### Story: SUNDAY

Sunday is a special day! It is not a school day; it is not a working day! The big church bell or garmut wakes everyone up saying "Sunday today! Sunday today! Sunday today!"

We get up, have a wash and put on our best clothes. Then off we go to Mass with our families. The church looks so nice with candles and flowers. We feel happy in God's house waiting for Mass to start.



## OUTLINE LESSON 10

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name the days of the week. They note that Monday to Friday are school days; Saturday is market day and Sunday is a **special** day. It is God's special day.

**Story:** Sunday

Children feel that Sunday is special. They realize that it is the day for going to Mass.

**Picture:** Families going to Mass

Children realize that going to Mass on Sunday is very important for families.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

**Poster:** Children admire the decorated poster; they understand that Sunday is special.

**Consider:** God wants families to go to Mass together on Sundays.

**Song:** *This is the day...*

Play: Ringing the Mass Bell. or beating the garmut. Say: Sunday today."

Children draw themselves going to Mass with their families.

Cards: Children trace over **SUNDAY**

Children sing.

*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, and be glad in it.  
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.*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will go to Mass on Sunday.

**D**

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, and be glad in it.

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.



## I BELONG TO A VILLAGE

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- experience security in belonging to a village
- appreciate that this good feeling is a gift from God

**BACKGROUND:**

Because teachers are professional people, they have a special role and special status in the village community. Teaching is a profession to be proud of. A teacher's influence is far-reaching; every teacher has a long arm into the future.

**REFLECTION:**

Through my profession, I share in a special way in the teaching mission of Jesus.

**PREPARE:**

**Poster:** The name of a local village and the words,  
*God Bless Our Village (decorate)*

**Card:** A small card for each child with the name of his / her village (town) printed lightly on it.

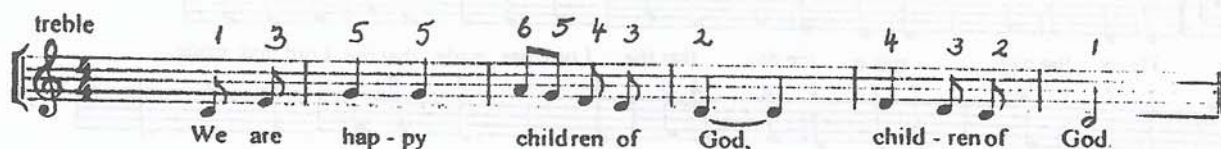
**Song:** *We are happy children of God, children of God.*

**Story: MATTHEW'S VILLAGE**

Matthew's village is near a lovely clean river and it has a big sports field where Matthew and his friends play. The village houses are close together and so everyone feels safe. The gardens are back a little in the bush. Everyday, the people go to the gardens with their bush knives and spades. Often, you can hear them singing and laughing as they go.

When their work is finished, they go and wash in the river. What a happy time everyone has there playing and splashing in the water!

Soon there is a little fire at every house and the cooking pots are full of food. The children are very hungry, waiting for the evening meal. Everyday is a happy day for Matthew!



## OUTLINE LESSON 11

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children share: What I like about my village. (feel safe; know everyone; people help me; near the sea ...)

**Story:** Matthew's Village  
Why is Matthew happy in his village?

Children appreciate village life more deeply.  
They notice the things that make Matthew's life happy.

What do you like doing in your village?

Children become more aware of familiar and pleasant aspects of village life..

**Poster:** Name of Village and prayer

Children recognize the name of their own village

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

**Consider:** God has given you a place in your village.  
He knows your village and wants you to be happy there.

**Prayer:** Let us pray for our village: God bless our village.

**Song:** *We are happy children of God*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will say the prayer, God bless my village.

Children sing a song they sing in their village.

Draw Matthew going to the garden.

Teacher and children make a list: Things we do in our village.

Put up the poster.

**Card:** Children complete the card.

Teacher and children pray.

Children sing.





## I BELONG TO A SCHOOL

- OBJECTIVES:** Children will -
- become aware that they belong to a school that is like **another home** for them
  - thank God for their school

**BACKGROUND:**

Many useful studies have been done to prove that environment affects people. Teachers know from experience that the way children behave depends very much on their school. If the school is clean and orderly, the children will show this in the way they act. They will be tidy and polite and grow up as self-respecting and thoughtful people.

**REFLECTION:**

God made a beautiful world for me. Am I prepared to create a clean, attractive place for the children to live and work in?

**PREPARE:**

**Blackboard Drawing:** The school

**Poster:** Name of School and "God bless our school."

**Song:** *God bless our school. Make it a happy school*  
(Make your own melody).

**Story:** *History of the School* (The teacher finds out all about the school from the village people.)

**Blackboard:** Complete with sketches

My school has .... (trees) and (flowers). Every morning we ..... (sweep) our classroom. I put the rubbish in the ..... (rubbish tin). My teacher locks the ..... (door) before she goes home.  
I am .... (a happy face) at my school.



## OUTLINE LESSON 12

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Teacher and children go for a walk around their school taking notice of the trees and flowers, the playground and the buildings.

They become familiar with the nice things around the school

**Poster:** Name of School

The children recognize the name of **their** school.

**Story:** My School

Children hear the story of their school.

They feel that they belong to their school. They know people (ex-students) of their school. They are proud of it and want to take care of it.

**Blackboard Drawing:** The school

Children experience that they belong to the school and feel that they care about it very much.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Consider:** God has given you a school where you learn many things and find many friends. He wants you to be happy at school.

**Prayer:** Let us thank God for our school ...

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will be happy to come to school every day.

Teacher and children put up the poster.

Children re-tell the Story, My School. Name ex-students.

Children look at things in their class-room.

Children sing:  
*God bless our school*

# GOD BLESS OUR SCHOOL



## ***I BELONG TO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH***

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- a. become aware that they belong to the Catholic Church
- b. be happy to go to **their** church

**BACKGROUND:**

Sometimes we are quite-surprised to find that we have forgotten something that was once very important to us, for example a marriage or a death. But that is how it is! We need reminders. What if we were to forget our Baptism and the kindness of God in the mystery of Salvation! Where would we find meaning for our life?

Our parish church is a splendid reminder of important spiritual things. It is a constant reminder to us that we are the 'New' People of God. The Mass that is celebrated there on Sundays keeps alive the memory of Redemption and our hope of eternal life. We have reason to love our parish church and to be glad when people refer to us as 'the Catholics'.

**REFLECTION:**

Does my community see me as a loyal Catholic? Do I take an interest in my parish church?

**PREPARE:**

**Pictures:** People going to Church, page 246

**Poster:** Decorated. Name of the Parish Church.

**Song:** *This is the day* (Lesson 10)

**Story: ROSE GOES TO CHURCH**

Even though she was just a little girl, Rose was always very happy to hear her mother say, "Come on now, Rose; we're going to church. I want to get you ready for Mass." True, Rose was too small to know that it was Sunday, but she liked going to the church; she liked hearing the church bell ring and seeing the pretty flowers in the church. One day her mother asked, "Rose, do you know that we belong to the Catholic church? We always go to the Catholic church. It's our Church."

### **OUTLINE LESSON 13**

**LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children talk about **their** parish church. Is it big? What is it made from? Has it got flowers growing around it? What do you see inside?

**Poster:** Name of Parish Church  
Children become familiar with the name of **their**

Large b'board drawing:

Parish Church and realize that their church is the Catholic church.

**Story:** Rose Goes to Church  
Why is Rose happy to go to Church?

Children realize that Rose likes her church. She feels that she belongs to it.

**Pictures:** People going to church

Where are these people going?  
What do they do at their church?

Children understand that people like going to **their** church; they realize that they are going to the Catholic church and that Catholics pray together in **their** church.

#### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

**Consider:** We have our own special church called the Catholic Church. We belong to this Church; it is **our** Church.

**Song:** *This is the day*

**Prayer:** Let us pray for all the people who belong to our Church...

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will always say: I belong to the Catholic Church.

The Parish Church.  
Children decorate the drawing.

Display the poster.  
Children repeat the name.

Children retell the story.

Complete orally:

Our Church is the  
----- Church.

Children sing.

Teacher leads the prayer.





## I HAVE A SPECIAL PLACE TO PRAY

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- realize that the church is a special place to pray
  - join in prayer with others in the church

**BACKGROUND:**

In Old Testament times, God chose the People of Israel as His own special people. He wanted them to be a holy people, dedicated to worshipping Him. The Commandments set their life-style and prepared them for worship. The rules for worship were given to strengthen their faith and to help them to be reverent during worship.

For more than 500 years, God's people had no special house in which to worship God. It was only in the time of King Solomon, 970-931 B.C. that a proper Temple was built. The story of the Building and Dedication of this Temple is in the O.T., 1 Kgs Chapters 5, 6 and 8.

**REFLECTION:**

"Can you, O God, really live on earth? Not even all of heaven is large enough to hold you, so how can this Temple that I have built be large enough?" 1 Kg 8:27.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God's house is a special place to pray.

Ref Jn 2:13-17

**Story:** A short history of the Parish Church

**Blackboard Drawing:** A Church

**Song:** *Come and go with me to my Father's house....  
where there's joy...*

**Story: A BEAUTIFUL HOUSE FOR GOD**

A long time ago, there lived a "bigman" named Solomon. Solomon wanted to build a beautiful house for God to live in. He wanted God to be so close that everyone could visit Him and pray to Him. So, Solomon bought good timber and many very big stones. Then he got workmen to build God's house and decorate it. When it was finished, Solomon and all the people came to visit God in His beautiful new House. They prayed and sang to Him. Ref 1Kg 5f.

The musical score is written on three staves. The first staff contains the melody with lyrics: "Come and go with me - To my father's house. - To my father's". The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "Yu kam wantaim mi Long hausblong papa God. Long haus blong papa". The third staff concludes the melody with lyrics: "house. - To my father's house. Come and go with me - long God Long haus blong papa God. Yu kam wantaim mi long to my fath-er's house where there's joy sing joy sing joy sing. haus blong papa God yu - mi sing sing sing."

## OUTLINE LESSON 14

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

**Picture / Drawing:** A Church

What do people do in the church?

Children understand that people need a church.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** A Beautiful House for God. Ref 1Kg 8:27

**Scripture:** Jesus told everyone, God's house is a special place to pray. Ref Jn 2:13-17

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Why did Solomon build a house for God?

What did Jesus say about God's house?

**Blackboard Drawing:** The Church

Children understand that the church is God's house. He is happy when people come to pray in His house.

**Story:** Our Parish Church

Children hear the story of their Parish Church; they realize that they have a special place to pray.

Where do we often go to pray?

**Consider:** We have a special place to pray. God likes to meet us in our church; He likes us to join with others there to pray to Him.

**Song:** *Come and go with me to my Father's house. (3x)*  
*Come and go with me to my Father's house,*  
*where there's joy, joy, joy.*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often go to pray in our church.

Children draw their church.

Children re-tell the story.

Children re-tell the story, Our Parish Church.

Children draw themselves praying in their church.

Children sing



## ***I MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS***

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. be able to make the Sign of the Cross
- b. enjoy making the Sign of the Cross carefully

**BACKGROUND:**

The Sign of the Cross is extremely rich in meaning because it brings together the two great mysteries of our faith. When we make the Sign of the Cross, we express our faith in the mystery of the Holy Trinity, God Father, Son and Holy Spirit and in the mystery of the Redemption.

From the earliest times, the Church has venerated the Cross. In the second part of the Good Friday Liturgy, the Church invites everyone to venerate the Cross.

"We worship you, Lord,  
we venerate your cross,  
we praise your resurrection.

Through the cross you brought joy to the world."

It is quite difficult for small children to make the Sign of the Cross. They have to know that it is a religious sign; they have to be able to remember and co-ordinate words and actions. Teachers know how to take time and to persevere with practice until the children can make the Sign of the Cross confidently and reverently.

**REFLECTION:**

How and when do I make the Sign of the Cross?

**PREPARE:**

**Poster:** A cross and the words:

***In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.***

**Drawing:** A Church with a Cross on it.



**IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER  
AND OF THE SON  
AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN.**

## OUTLINE LESSON 15

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

**Revision:** What village do you belong to?  
What school do you belong to?  
What church do you belong to?

Children realize that they belong to a village, a school etc.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Drawing:** A Church with a Cross

Children become aware of the Cross on the Church. It is a 'special' sign; it tells them that this house belongs to God.

**Poster:** Children become aware of the Cross and of the words.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**The Sign of the Cross:**

Catholics also make this sign on themselves. It is a special sign that tells them that they belong to God. It is the Sign of the Cross. They often make this Sign because they are happy that they belong to God. They learn to make this Sign well.

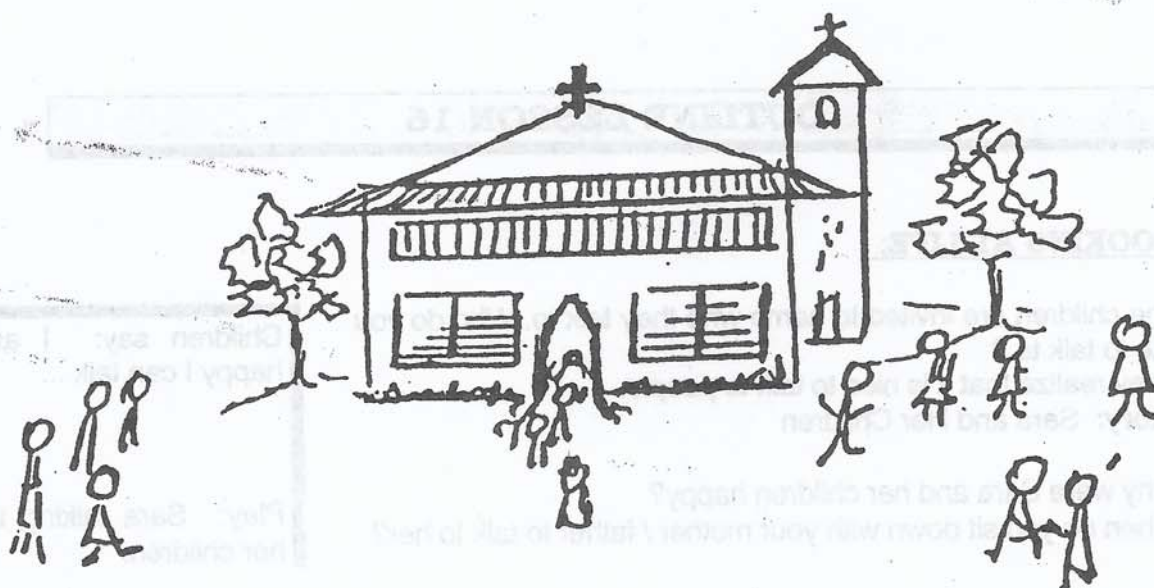
**FOR MY LIFE:** I will learn to make the Sign of the Cross well.

**Note:** For the next few weeks, the teacher gives the children time to practise the Sign of the Cross.

Children look at the posters in their classroom.

Children draw the Cross.

Children practice the Sign of the Cross.





## UNIT 2: I AM HAPPY I CAN DO MANY THINGS

### FOR THE TEACHER

### UNIT 2:16

## I CAN TALK

- OBJECTIVES:** Children will -
- become aware of their gift of speech
  - want to speak nicely always

**BACKGROUND:**

"No spring of water pours out sweet water and bitter water from the same opening," Jeremiah 3:11. The gift of speech is like a spring. Each person is responsible for the kind of words that pour out from this spring.... sweet words or bitter words.

The wonderful gift of speech is meant to be used for praising and thanking God and for helping our brothers and sisters. "Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you." Eph 4:29.

**PREPARE:**

Picture: A Family, page 33

### Story: SARA AND HER CHILDREN

I am going to tell you a story about a mother named Sara and her children. One very hot day Sara sat down under a shady tree with her children around her. They were talking to her; they were telling her about a game they liked very much. Sara looked happy sitting there with her children talking to her. At last she said, "Thank you for telling me your nice stories. I'm always happy to hear your stories." Then one of the children said, "Mama, we like you to tell us stories, too."

## OUTLINE LESSON 16

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

The children are invited to name who they talk to. Who do you like to talk to?

They realize that it is nice to talk to people.

**Story:** Sara and Her Children

Why were Sara and her children happy?

When do you sit down with your mother / father to talk to her?

Children say: I am happy I can talk ...

Play: Sara talking to her children.

Children become aware that talking to their mothers / fathers makes them happy.

**Picture:** A family

Children understand that talking nicely together makes a family happy.

**Good words:** Children share good words: please, thank you, good morning

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE**

What kind of words does God want you to say?

**Consider:** God made you so that you can talk. Being able to talk is a lovely gift from Him.

He likes you to make others happy when you talk.

Can a pussy talk? Can a dog talk?

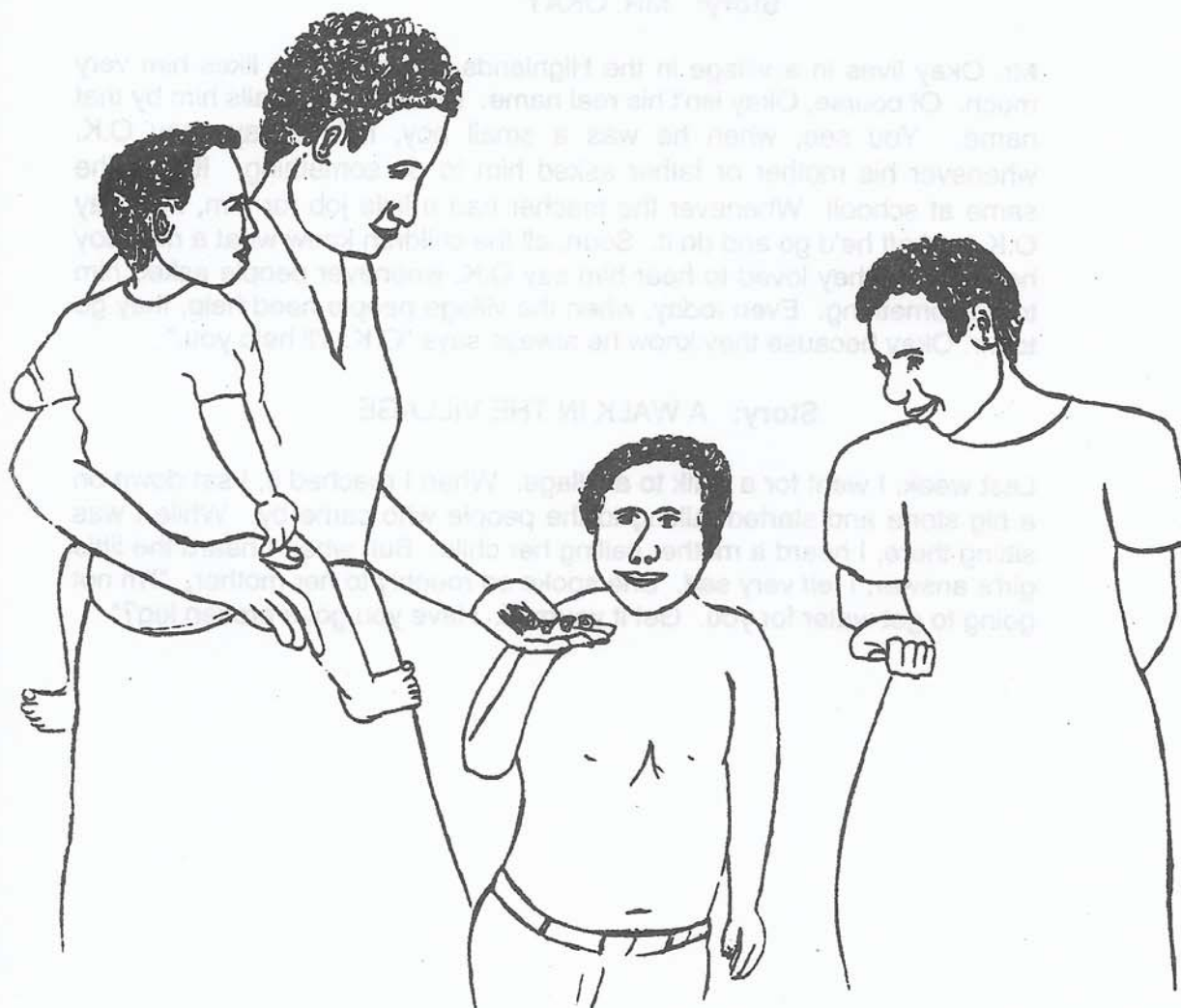
Children realize that only people can talk.

**Prayer:** God my Father, I thank you that I can talk.

Teacher: Write good words on the b'board. Children say them.

Teacher leads the prayer.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will always say good words.





## ***I AM HAPPY THAT I CAN TALK***

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that they make people happy (or sad) when they talk
- b. try to say good words always

**BACKGROUND:**

The Apostles gave very definite instructions to the early Christians about how they should use the gift of speech. In Baptism, they received the gift of the Holy Spirit; they became God's dwelling place. They were to remember this always and not embarrass the Holy Spirit with rough and vulgar language.

**REFLECTION:**

"Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you." Eph 4:29

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Use words that make people happy. Ref. Eph 4:29

**Story: MR. OKAY**

Mr. Okay lives in a village in the Highlands and everyone likes him very much. Of course, Okay isn't his real name. But everyone calls him by that name. You see, when he was a small boy, he'd always say O.K. whenever his mother or father asked him to do something. It was the same at school! Whenever the teacher had a little job for him, he'd say O.K. and off he'd go and do it. Soon, all the children knew what a nice boy he was and they loved to hear him say O.K. whenever people asked him to do something. Even today, when the village people need help, they go to Mr. Okay because they know he always says "O.K., I'll help you."

**Story: A WALK IN THE VILLAGE**

Last week, I went for a walk to a village. When I reached it, I sat down on a big stone and started talking to the people who came by. While I was sitting there, I heard a mother calling her child. But, when I heard the little girl's answer, I felt very sad. She spoke so roughly to her mother, "I'm not going to get water for you. Get it yourself. Have you got a broken leg?"

## OUTLINE LESSON 17

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Can you remember a time when someone said something that made you happy? Can you remember a time when someone said something that made you feel sad?

Children realize that they can feel happy or sad by what people say to them.

**Story:** Mr. Okay

How did Mr. Okay make everyone happy?

Children realize that everyone liked Mr. Okay because he made them happy when he said "O.K."

**Story:** A Walk in the Village

What did the little girl say to her mother?

Children realize that there are 'bad' words in this story. The little girl's words made her mother very sad.

**'Good and bad words**

Children widen their understanding of good and bad words. They realize that they should use good words.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD

**Scripture:** Use words that will make people happy.

Ref. Eph 4:29.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

**Consider:** God made you so that you can talk. He wants you to make everyone happy by what you say. Some words make others happy and some make them sad. Try to use good words always.

### FOR MY LIFE:

"Thank you" is a good word. I will say "thank you" whenever someone helps me.

Play: Mr. Okay

Draw happy faces and sad faces.

Teacher: Make a list on the b'board.  
Good words.  
Children say these words.

Teacher and children thank God they can talk; promise to say good words.



## I CAN DO MANY THINGS WITH MY MOUTH

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- become aware that their mouth is a gift from God
- be thankful to God for their mouth

**BACKGROUND:**

The Old Testament tells us that the mouth is to be used for praising God. The Psalmist wanted to do this holy work well and so he prayed: "Lord, place a guard at my mouth, a watchman at the door of my lips." Ps 141:3 Because of their special dignity, the early Christians were taught to use their mouths to speak about what God did for them in calling them into new life and to praise Him. They were often warned against using bad language, telling lies and talking about others. In the Letter of St. James there is a long passage about The Tongue. Ref. James 3:1-12.

**REFLECTION:**

Would "a watchman at the door of my lips" be very busy?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** We use our mouths to pray. Ref. Ps 141:3

**Food:** For the children to eat. (fruit..)

**Song:**

*Thank you, God for giving me my mouth (X3)  
I like my mouth!*

**Story:** The Singing Bird

Every morning a beautiful blackbird flies out of the bush and comes and sits on the roof of Clara's house. It rests there for a little while and then opens its little mouth as wide as it can. And out come such beautiful songs! It sings them over and over again. Clara loves this pretty blackbird. She calls it "my" bird. While it is singing, she watches its little mouth very carefully and, when it has finished its song, she tries to copy it.

**Song:**

treble

Thank you God for giving me my mouth Thank you God for giving me my mouth  
Tenk-yu God long givim mi maus. Tenk-yu God long givim mi naus  
Thank you God for giving me my mouth I like my mouth  
Tenk-yu God long givim mi maus. Maus hi-long mi.

## OUTLINE LESSON 18

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children say what they use their mouths for.

They become aware of the many things they are able to do with their mouths.

**Tasting:** Children enjoy tasting and eating food.

**Story:** The Singing Bird

What did the bird use its mouth for?

Children notice that the little bird uses its mouth to sing and that Lucy uses her mouth to copy the bird.

**Song:** Thank you God ...

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD

**Scripture:** We use our mouths to pray. Ref. Ps 141:3.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What **special** thing can you do with your mouth?  
Who gave you your mouth?

**Consider:** God gave you your mouth and you can do many things with it. One special thing you can do with your mouth is pray to God. You can tell God that you are happy you can talk to Him and thank Him for being so good to you.

**Prayer:** Let us use our mouths to pray:  
God our Father, we thank you for giving us our mouth. Help us to use it well.

**Song:**  
*Thank you God for giving me a mouth (X3) I like my mouth.*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often thank God for my mouth.

Let's pretend: We are  
eating bananas /  
pawpaw/ fish

Children share the food.

Retell the story. Copy  
bird calls.

Children sing.

Children draw  
themselves with happy,  
smiling mouths.

Teacher leads the  
prayer.

Children sing.



## I CAN DO MANY THINGS WITH MY HANDS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that their hands are a gift from God
- b. look after their hands

**BACKGROUND:**

The gift of touch is used in the sacraments where the healing and life-giving work of Jesus goes on in a special way.

**REFLECTION:**

How do I use my hands to carry on God's healing and life-giving work in the world today?

**PREPARE:**

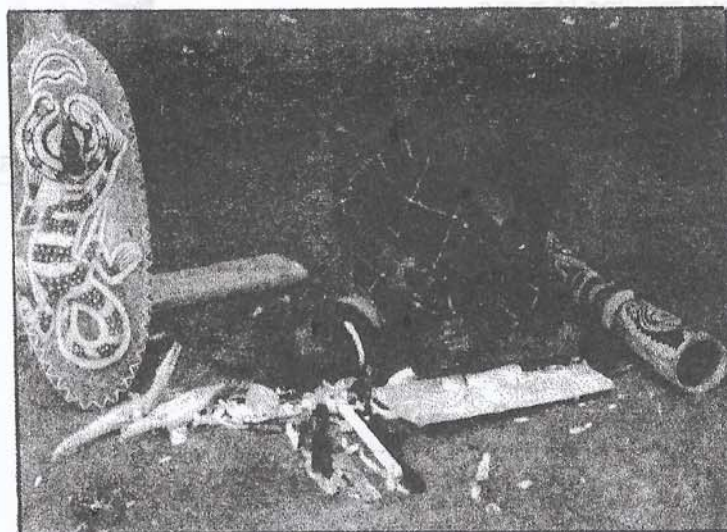
**Story: THE SICK BOY**

One day, Michael became very sick at school. His skin was very hot and sweat came up on his face. He was very afraid and shivering all over. His mother was far away; she was working in her garden.

Michael's teacher saw how upset he was and felt very sorry for him. She took a little towel out of her bilum and wiped Michael's face with it. She put her arm around him and helped him to lie down on the cool cement. Then she sat down beside him and rubbed his arms and legs until he was no longer afraid. When he felt better, she took him by the hand and brought him all the way home to his mother.

**Song:** Music page 36

*Thank you God for giving me hands (3 X)  
Two helping hands!*



## LESSON OUTLINE 19

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name things they do with their hands: e.g. I use my hands to eat. etc.

They realize that their hands are very important.

**Story:** The Sick Boy

What did the teacher do to help Michael?

Children notice how the teacher used her hands to help Michael and to make him feel better.

What can you do with your hands to make others feel better?

Children become aware that they can use their hands to make others feel better.

Children realize that they are happy to be able to use their hands.

**Song:** Thank you God for giving me hands

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Consider:** God our Father has given you hands so that you can do many things for yourself and for others.

**Song:** "Thank you God for giving me hands".

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often wash my hands and look after them.

Children take it in turns to outline their hand on the b'board.

**Mime:** The teacher helping Michael.

Children look at each other's hands.

Children do something with their hands, e.g. write.

Children sing with actions.





## I CAN SEE WITH MY EYES

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- a. become aware that God gave them their eyes to see many things
- b. be thankful to God that they can see

**BACKGROUND:**

There are two Creation Stories in the Book of Genesis. Though they are quite different in style, they both tell us that God made the world and everything in it. He is pleased when we appreciate His work and express our admiration for it in prayer.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I take time to look at God's work of creation?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** based on Gen 1:20-25

When God made the world, he put many beautiful things into it. He made the sun, the moon and the stars. He made rivers and fish and many, many kinds of birds and animals. He made trees and all kinds of plants and beautiful fruit and flowers. And butterflies, too.

God gave us eyes to see all the lovely things He has put into the world and He is pleased when we admire them.

**Pictures or drawings:** plants, flowers, animals, birds, fish

**Song:** Music page 36

*Thank you God for giving me eyes (X3)*  
*Two shining eyes!*

**Note:** If there is a suitable place nearby, this lesson could be given outside.

### OUTLINE LESSON 20

**LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children name things they see every day ... on the way to school / on the way home / in the garden.

Children draw something they saw on the way to school.

They realize how good it is to be able to see so many lovely things.

**Pictures or drawings:** Plants, flowers, animals, birds .. Children take time to admire these things and to see how beautiful they are.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** God put many things into the world  
(Ref. Gen 1:20-25)

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

Why did God make so many lovely things?

Children realize that God is pleased when we look at the lovely things He made.

**Consider:** How nice it is to be able to see so many beautiful things and to know that God is happy when you use your eyes.

**Song:** *Thank you God .....*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will take a walk just to look at things that God made for me.

**Excursion:** If there is a suitable place nearby, take the children on an excursion to see things that God has made for them.

Teacher holds up each picture. Children say: Thank you God. I am happy I can see plants / etc.

Children sing with actions.





## ***I CAN SMELL WITH MY NOSE***

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that God gave them their noses for smelling
- b. experience the pleasure of smelling and thank God

**BACKGROUND:**

The gift of smell enables us to detect and identify chemicals that are carried in the air and it also enables us to taste food. We may not appreciate it as much as the gifts of sight and hearing, but think how much pleasure would go out of life if this gift were lost. Imagine eating tasteless food day after day! Imagine a feast without the smell of scented leaves! Anything with a pleasant smell attracts our attention and gets our instant approval. The smell of Noah's sacrifice pleased the Lord and that is why He promised that He would never again destroy all living beings. Ref Gen 8:20f

**REFLECTION:**

Have I ever thanked God for the gift of smell?

**PREPARE:**

**Samples:** Cooked food, scented flowers and leaves

**Poster:** Children smelling a flower

**Song:** Music page 36

*Thank you God for giving me a nose (3x)*

*Right out in front!*

**Story: A BOY CALLED JAMES**

James was only five years old when his father said, "James, I'd like to take you to the bush, tomorrow." Next morning as they were getting ready to go, James could smell the nice food his mother was cooking for them. As they walked along, he often stopped to smell the fresh leaves and flowers growing along the way.

When it was time to eat, James's father said, "Close your eyes now and guess what kind of food mother cooked for us. James enjoyed the guessing game very much.

When he got home, James told his mother about the "guessing" game and how much he liked the fresh smell of the bush.

## OUTLINE LESSON 21

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name things that they like to smell. (Things they use for a feast / food cooking / fires burning etc)

**Story:** A Boy Called James

What made James feel happy?

Children enjoy James' experience of eating his food in the bush and of smelling so many pleasant things.

**Food / perfumed leaves, flowers**

Children experience the pleasure of smelling scented things.

**Poster:**

Can you remember a time when you smelled a nice flower?

What did it look like?

Where did you find it?

Children remember the smell of scented flowers.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Consider:** God has given you the gift of smell. You are able to enjoy many pleasant smells, especially the smell of food.

**Song:** *Thank you God*

**Prayer:** Thank you God for giving me my nose. I am happy that I can smell many nice things.

**FOR MY LIFE:** When my mother is cooking, I will tell her how nice our food smells.

Children draw something James smelt.

Make a funny drawing of yourself with a very long nose. Hang something that you like to smell on the end of it (a flower)

Sing with actions.

Teacher leads the prayer.





## I CAN HEAR WITH MY EARS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that God has given them ears for hearing.
- b. thank God that they can hear

**BACKGROUND:**

Even though we have the gift of hearing, we have to learn the art of listening. This needs constant practice. And there are many opportunities in daily life for practising this art. Children are wonderful teachers! Good listeners give their full attention to the person speaking and listen with both their ears and their heart.

**REFLECTION:**

Sit very still and enjoy the sounds around you. Thank God for your gift of hearing.

**PREPARE:**

**Music:** Taped music

**Song:** Music page 36

*Thank you God for giving me ears (X3)*  
*Two ears to hear!*

**Story: A STORY ABOUT LUCY**

Lucy was the baby in her family and all the brothers and sisters loved her very much. They enjoyed taking her for a walk to the river. When they were ready to go, they'd call out to their mother, "Mama, we're going now. We've got Lucy." And Mama would say, "Be careful of her; don't let her put little stones in her ears. We don't want her to be deaf!" Lucy's brothers and sisters looked after her very well. She learned to sit on the river bank and listen to the birds singing and to the big children splashing in the water. When they went home, Mama would dry Lucy and make sure that there was no sand in her ears.



## OUTLINE LESSON 22

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Invite the children to listen to music.

They become aware of how nice it is to hear music. They realize that they are using their ears.

### **Let's listen:**

Children sit still and listen to the sounds around them. They realize that they are enjoying many sounds.

**Story:** A Story About Lucy

What did Lucy's mother say?

Children realize that ears are a special gift from God. They must look after their ears.

**Song:** Thank you

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Consider:** How sad it would be if you could not hear people talking and playing; if you could not hear music and birds etc.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for my ears. I am happy that I can hear so many things.

**Song:** Thank you God....

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often thank God for my ears and take care of them.

Children sit still and listen to sounds.

Children draw Lucy.

Children sing.

Teacher leads the prayer.

Children sing





## I CAN LEARN MANY THINGS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- become aware that they can learn many things through their five senses
- be happy that they can see, hear etc

**BACKGROUND:**

Some people say that everything in our minds enters through our senses and they compare our senses to doors. Besides allowing traffic to pass through, doors are also important as points of control. If our senses are like doors, then it would be wise to control what passes into our minds through them.

Sometimes the Bible speaks about God as though He, too, has five senses. It says that God sees and hears; that He smells and touches things. God saw Hagar running away from her mistress, Gen 16:8; He heard the baby Ishmael crying under a bush, Gen 21:17. He smelt the smoke of Noah's offering, Gen 8:21. His touch changed many things.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I control what passes into my mind through my senses?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** (based on Gen 1:26-27)

When God made the world and saw how beautiful it was, He wanted to share it. So He made a man and a woman and gave them very special gifts.

God gave the man and the woman eyes to see and ears to hear and a mouth to taste. He gave them a nose to smell and hands to feel and to help.

God was pleased that He made the man and the woman. He thought, 'They have many gifts; they will be able to learn many things.'

**Picture:** Two children, page 49

**Poster:** Five columns with headings (sketches): eyes, ears, nose, mouth, hands.

**Song:** Music page 46  
*Two little eyes.....*

Two	little	eyes	to	see	God's	world
Two	little	ears	to	hear	His	word
One	little	mouth	to	say	His	name
Two	little	hands	to	do	His	work
Two	little	feet	to	walk	His	way

## OUTLINE LESSON 23

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children feel their eyes, ears, nose, mouth and hands. They become aware of these important "things".

**Picture:** Two children

Children recognize that the child can see many things, hear many things etc because of his eyes, ears etc.

**Poster:** Children recognize eyes, ears etc.

What can you see? What can you hear? etc  
They realize that they can learn many things and discover many things.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD

**Scripture:** Gen 1: 26-27 (as paraphrased)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

What special "things" did God give the man and the woman?

**Consider:** Eyes, ears, nose, mouth, hands are gifts from God. God gave you these gifts so that you can learn many things.

**Prayer:** Let us tell God that we are very happy with our special gifts and thank Him for them.

**Song:** *Two little eyes....*

**FOR MY LIFE:** When I learn new things, I will say, Thank you God.

Children draw eyes, ears ....

Teacher and children fill in columns on the poster.

**Prayer:**

Teacher:

I can learn many things:

Children:

**Thank you God**

Children sing.





## **CELEBRATION: I THANK GOD I CAN DO MANY THINGS**

### **PREPARE:**

**Flowers:** Invite children to bring flowers

**Altar:** Bible / candle / Naming tree / posters used in Unit 2

**Songs:** Songs from Units 1 & 2

**Food:** Something that is easily shared e.g. Twisties / peanuts ... as part of the Celebration

\*\*\*\*\*

Gather the children around the Altar and sing a song that the children enjoy singing.

### **OPENING PRAYER:**

**Teacher:**

God our Father, we have come to thank you for our special names and to tell you that we are happy that we can do many things. We thank you for giving us eyes and ears, noses, mouths and hands.

**Teacher:**

Remember how happy you were when you discovered your special name and how you enjoyed putting it on the Naming Tree. (Invite each child to say his/her name. My name is ....)

**Children:**

Repeat the name and say: ...., your name is special.

**Teacher:**

God our Father has given us many special gifts. Let us think about them and say thank you to God. (Look at the posters. Children say what they can see, hear etc)

**Teacher:**

Make a prayer for each gift, e.g. Thank you God for giving me ears. I am happy that I can hear birds singing. **Let us sing to God:**

**Children:**

*Thank you God for giving me ears (3X)*

*Thank you God for giving me eyes .... continue*

*Thank you God for giving me eyes (3X) Two shining eyes!*

Thank you God for giving me a mouth (3X)  
I like my mouth!

Thank you God for giving me a nose (3X)  
Right out in front!

Thank you God for giving me hands (3X)  
Two helping hands!

**Teacher:**

Let us finish our celebration by sharing food. (Children sing or listen to music while the food is being shared.)

### **SIGN OF THE CROSS**

Picture of two children (Lesson 25)





## UNIT 3: SOMETIMES I AM HAPPY: SOMETIMES I AM SAD

### FOR THE TEACHER

### UNIT 3:

## ***MANY PEOPLE LIKE ME***

### **OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- a. become aware that they are liked by many people and by their Heavenly Father
- b. experience happiness and security

### **BACKGROUND:**

Christian love is a very demanding thing. Could you say: I'm always patient and kind; I'm never jealous or conceited or proud; I'm never bad-mannered or selfish or cross; I don't keep a record of people's wrongs; I'm unhappy with evil, but happy with the truth. I never give up; and my faith and hope and patience never fail.' Ref 1 Cor 13:1-13.

### **REFLECTION:**

Do I take up the challenge of Christian love?

### **PREPARE:**

**Picture:** Two children. Page 49

### **Story: I'M SOLAI**

My special name is Solai. I have two very bright shining eyes and two good ears and a mouth that laughs and talks. I have strong hands to help at home and at school. And many, many people like me, especially my mother and father

Uncle Joe and Aunt Millie come to see me and bring me mangoes and peanuts. I'm so lucky! Grandpa often calls me to sit beside him and tell him stories... and I know he likes me very much.

When I come to school, my teacher smiles at me and says, "Good morning, Solai" and my school friends like playing with me. It's the same when I go to Mass. Our priest smiles at me and calls me "Solai". He makes me feel good. I'm happy because so many people like me! And, of course, God my Father likes me, too!

## OUTLINE LESSON 25

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name people who help them, for example their mother / father / grandpa / teacher.

Why do so many people help you?

Children realize that many people like them.

**Story:** I'm Solai

Why is Solai always happy?

Children see that Solai is a happy person who knows that many people like him.

**Picture:** Two children

Who helps these children at home?

Children realize that the people at home **do things** for them because they like them.

Children realize that teachers do things for them because they like them.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

**Consider:** God likes you and He wants other people to like you, too. He gave you your families, your school and your church. Every day, you meet many people who like you and help you.

**Prayer:** Let us thank God for all the people who like us: God our Father, we are happy that so many people like us. Bless all these people and make them happy, too.

### FOR MY LIFE:

When anyone helps me, I will know that he/she likes me.

Draw yourself with a happy smiling face.

Group work: Children share stories about what people do for them

Children draw themselves with someone who likes them.

Share prayers: Thank you God for ... he/she likes me.



## I LIKE MANY PEOPLE

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- experience the happiness of being among friends
- realize that God is always with them

**BACKGROUND:**

People who are deprived of a sense of **belonging** feel insecure and worthless. This is true for everyone, but especially for children. They should be made welcome and given their own things... their own bed, their own books, their own desk. Later on, when they feel secure, they can learn to share.

Look at the refugee problem in the world today. There are millions of people who have no place on earth they can call their own. **They don't belong.** This is their deepest suffering.

**REFLECTION:**

God's promise to Moses "I will be with you." Ex 3:12a.

**PREPARE:**

**Picture:** A Family, page 244

**Song:** We are one big happy family, page 53

*We are one big happy family, God's family, God's family.*

*We are one big happy family, God's family are we.*

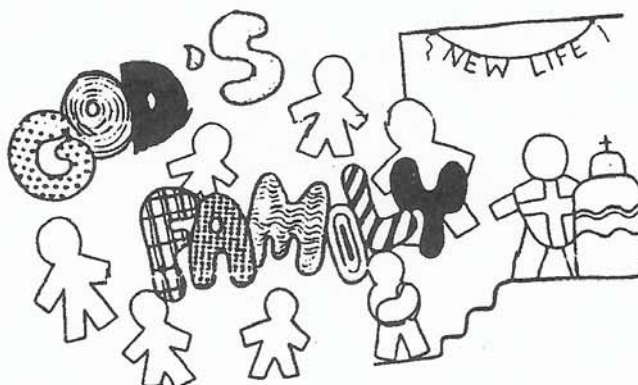
*She is my sister, he is my brother,*

*Our Father in heaven, He loves you and me.*

**Story: SOLAI SAYS WHO HE LIKES**

On Saturdays, I get up early to go to the market with Papa. I feel very important sitting beside him on the truck. He talks to me about his business and tells me about the market. I enjoy meeting all Papa's friends in the market; they always smile and shake hands with us.

Sundays are always happy days for me. I talk to lots of people at Mass and when I come home, I sit under our big tree with my family. Friends come to visit us and we have music and very nice food. I like many people and I'm happy when I see them and talk to them.



## OUTLINE LESSON 26

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name:

-people / children they have met at school

They realize that they are beginning to meet new people.

**Story:** Solai Says Who He Likes

Children share Solai's feelings of happiness at being with his parents / family / friends.

**Picture:** A Family

Why are these children happy?

Who else would they like being with?

Children feel happy and secure. They realize that they enjoy being with people they like.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Discussion:** New friends

Children become aware that they are happy to be meeting new people and making new friends.

**Consider:** God helps you to like the people / children you meet because He wants you to feel safe and happy all the time.

**Prayer:** Children thank God for people they like.

**Song:** *We are one big happy family*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will try to make new friends at school.

Children draw themselves with someone they have at school.

Children retell the story.

Children share:  
What I like doing with my mother / my father / etc

Children pray

Children sing with actions.

neue

1 1 1 2 3 3 3 2 1 2 2 1 7 3 3 2 1 1 1 1 2

We are one big hap - py fami - ly, God's fa-mi-ly, God's fa-mi-ly. We are one big  
Yumi wanpela bik--pela fami - li, famili bilong God famili bilong God Yumi wanpela

3 3 3 2 1 2 3 2 2 2 1 5 3 6 5 3 4 2 5

hap-py family. God's family are we. She is my sis - - ter, he is my  
bik-pela famili. famili bi-long God. Em sus - sa bi - long mi em bra-ta bi -

4 2 5 5 3 6 5 3 2 4 3 2 1

bro - - - the Our Fath - er in hea - - - ven lo - ves you and me.  
long mi. God Pa - pa long he - - ven i laikim yu na mi.



## I ENJOY MANY THINGS

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- become aware that there are many things they enjoy doing
- be happy to do their little tasks

**BACKGROUND:**

People are able to work out why they enjoy doing some things and dislike doing others. This brings them to the question of motivation in their lives. Why do they do certain things? What motivates them? Motivation is something that needs to be worked at because it can always be improved. St Paul taught the people of Corinth to do all their work "in love". Ref 1 Cor 16:14. Good motivation grows out of faith and bears fruit through self-discipline and self-sacrifice.

**REFLECTION:**

"Whatever you do,... do it all for God's glory." 1 Cor 10.31

**PREPARE:**

**Song:** Tune: Where is Thumbkin: page 55 Words page 55.

**Story: SOLAI SAYS WHAT HE ENJOYS**

I have a very nice bed that Papa made for me and I really enjoy my bed. I love to roll up in my blanket and sleep like a pussy ... and God minds me while I sleep. When Mama calls me, I stretch out very straight and listen to the morning sounds. I say "Good morning" to God and get ready for school.

I enjoy walking to school with my friends. I love looking at trees and flowers and the beautiful blue sky. And God knows that I'm on my way to school!

After school, I go home to play with my dog and water our garden. Mama always has such nice food for us. Then Papa tells stories until it's time for us to go to sleep.

treble

Where's my sar - rif' where's my sar - rif? Here it is. Here it is

The grass is very tall now, very very tall now Yo-llo ho Yo-ho ho.

## OUTLINE LESSON 27

**LOOKING AT LIFE:** Children say what they enjoy doing at home / at school.

**Story:** Solai Says What He Enjoys

Children realize that they enjoy the things that Solai enjoys. Like Solai, they are happy also in God's presence.

Have you seen children sweeping / gardening .....  
Do you think they enjoy doing these things?

Children imagine themselves doing similar jobs.

**Song:** *Where's my sarif*

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

**Consider:** God your Father knows that you have many little jobs to do every day and He wants you to be happy doing them. He is with you all the time and, when you are happy doing your jobs, God is very pleased with you.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will do my work to please God.

**Song:**

*Where's my sarif (2 X) Here it is (2 X)  
The grass is very tall now; very, very tall now Yo ho ho!*

*Where's my big ball (2 X) Here it is (2 X)  
I'm off to play with James now; kick the ball with James now, Yo ho ho!*

*Where's my bush knife (2 X) Here it is (2 X)  
I want to plant my seeds now; plant them in my garden, Yo ho ho!*

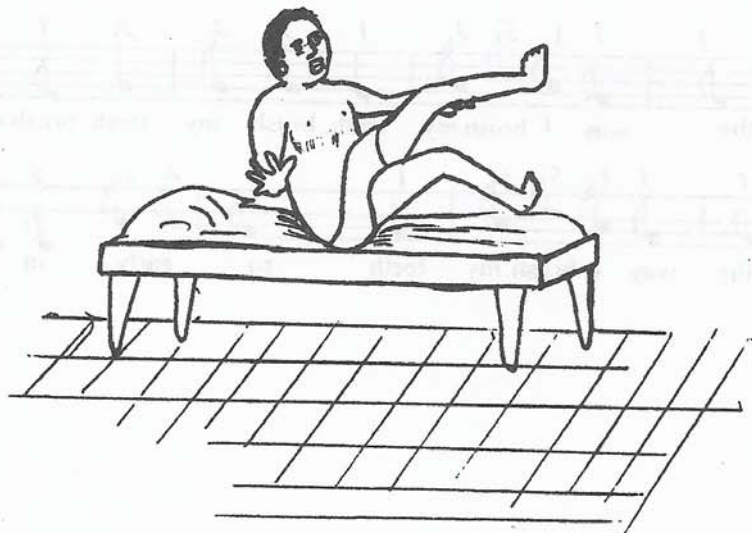
Children themselves draw something they enjoy doing.

Children mime: How I cut grass etc.

Sing with actions.

Children pray: God my Father, every time, I.....

**Response:** I will do my work to please You.





## I LIKE TO LEARN NEW THINGS

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- become aware of the happiness of learning new things
- show that they are thankful to those who teach them

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible respects human knowledge and the work of teaching. In particular, it invites people to the work of acquiring a special kind of knowledge which it calls **wisdom**. Wisdom enables a person to live in harmony with God and without 'bumping into' others. Jesus excelled in this kind of knowledge.

**REFLECTION:**

Am I in control of my own life?

**PREPARE:**

**Song:** Words: Next page / **Tune:** The Mulberry Bush, page 56

**A New Learning Activity:** Example: A Game or a pattern ...

**Story:** SOLAI IS HAPPY TO LEARN NEW THINGS

It was very hard for me when I started school. I often cried in the mornings when I was getting ready and sometimes in school, too. But I don't cry any more! You see, I've learned so many new things. Before, I couldn't read; I couldn't write; I couldn't draw; I couldn't even put on my clothes without Mama or pack my school bag. Anyway, I don't have to think any more about that because I'm so happy to be learning new things every day!

The musical notation is written on two staves in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, with lyrics 'This is the way I brush my teeth, brush my teeth. brush my teeth' underneath. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with lyrics 'This is the way I brush my teeth so early in the morn - ing' underneath. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above the notes. A key signature of one flat (Bb) is shown at the beginning of the first staff.

## OUTLINE LESSON 28

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children share: What I've learned since I started school.  
(Teacher praises the children for learning new things.)

**Story:** Solai Is Happy To Learn New Things

Children realize that they are like Solai. They feel happy to be growing up.

**A New Activity:** Teacher teaches something new e.g. a new game / a new pattern / a cross etc

What new thing have you just learned?  
How do you feel now that you can do this?

Children experience the happiness of learning new things.  
They realize that many people help them to learn.

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

**Consider:** God likes you to learn from your parents, grandparents and others at home. He likes you to come to school to learn from your teachers and He likes you to show that you are thankful to everyone who teaches you.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for Papa and Mama and for my teachers. Help me to learn new things every day.

**Song:** This is the way ..

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will tell my family what I learned at school today.

**Song:** This is the way ....

*This is the way I brush my teeth X3*

*This is the way I brush my teeth, early in the morning.*

*This is the way I go to school X3*

*This is the way I go to school, early in the morning.*

*This is the way .... (add your own words*

**Blackboard:**

Make a list of things the children have learnt at school.

Children show each other what they have learnt.

Children share: What I would like to learn.

Teacher leads the prayer.

Children sing with actions



## ***I DON'T LIKE BEING SAD***

- OBJECTIVES:** Children will -
- become aware that sadness is part of life
  - that God is with us when we are sad

**BACKGROUND:**

God calls the whole human family into eternal life. He wills eternal happiness for everyone. He does not promise freedom from suffering in this life, but gives us the great promise: "I will be with you." Ex 3:12a

**REFLECTION:**

The shadow of the Cross falls across everyone's path challenging each one to find meaning in it as Jesus did.

**PREPARE:**

**Drawing:** A sad-looking person

**Story:** SOLAI SHARES A SAD STORY

One Saturday afternoon some big children came to our house. They stood in a little group talking quietly to my big brother and sister. Sometimes they'd look around to see where I was. Then one of them said, "Solai, please go and get us the spade." I ran off and got it and when I came back with it... everyone was gone!

This made me very sad. They didn't want me. I went and told Mama how they tricked me. She knew how sad I was and spoke so nicely to me. She said, "They shouldn't have tricked you like that, but never mind, put up with it for the love of God."

After that, I went and sat on the doorstep all by myself. I couldn't do anything. But, somehow, I remembered how nicely Mama said: "Put up with it for the love of God."

**Story:** JOSEPH AND HIS BROTHERS Ref Gen 37

Long ago, there lived a good boy named Joseph. God liked him and was always with him. Joseph had many brothers, but he was sad because they didn't like him. They'd never let Joseph go anywhere with them. They used to say among themselves: "Leave him. We don't want him. If we do anything, he'll tell on us and Papa will be cross."

Joseph's father liked him very much and was sorry to see him so sad because of the way his brothers treated him.

## OUTLINE LESSON 29

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Can you remember a time when you felt sad?  
What made you sad?  
What did you do when you were sad?  
Who helped you to feel happy again?

They realize that no-one likes to feel sad.

#### **Story:** Solai Shares a Sad Story

Children enter into Solai's feelings of sadness.  
What made Solai sad?  
How could you see that Solai was sad?  
How did Solai's mother help him?

**Drawing:** A sad-looking person  
How does this person look?

Children realize that everyone knows what it is like to feel sad.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Story:** Joseph and His Brothers, Ref Gen 37

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

Why was Joseph sad?  
Who felt sorry for Joseph?  
Who was with him all the time?

**Consider:** God knew that Joseph was sad and He stayed with him to help him. God knows when you are feeling sad, too. He is with you and helps you.

**Prayer:** God our Father, when we are sad, please help us.

**FOR MY LIFE:** When my friend is sad, I will stay with him / her.

Draw yourself with a sad face.

Dramatize the story.

Children retell the story.

Teacher leads the prayer



## ***I DON'T LIKE TO FEEL AFRAID***

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- a. become aware of the experience of fear
- b. will feel that God is near

**BACKGROUND:**

Fear is an unpleasant feeling. It comes on spontaneously when we believe that danger or pain or death is near. Like every human emotion, fear can be controlled.

Often we are afraid of others. We are afraid that they might destroy our property, break up our friendships, mislead us, spoil our name or even our lives. These are all the things that God's commandments protect! By respecting God's commandments, we bring peace into our communities.

**REFLECTION:**

"Perfect love drives out all fear," 1 Jn 4,18a.

**PREPARE:**

**Story: SOLAI SHARES A SECRET**

Today, I am going to tell you a secret about myself. I'm not going to speak loudly because it's a secret.

One day when I went home from school, there was no one at home. When I came near our house, I saw that the kitchen door was locked ... and I knew that Mama was not home!

I didn't know what to do. I was all by myself. I looked at the padlock on the door. Then, suddenly I dropped my bag on the ground and fell down on the little heap of stones beside our house ... and cried.

Well, that's my secret. I'm afraid when I'm by myself.

**Story: THE STORY OF JOSEPH (continued) Ref Gen 37**

One day, Joseph's brothers tied him up and threw him into a deep, dark hole. Poor Joseph! He was all by himself in that hole; he thought he would die there and never see his father again. But God was looking after Joseph. God knew that he was in that hole and He saved him. Joseph didn't die and, one day, he saw his father again! Now they knew that God had been with them all the time.

## OUTLINE LESSON 30

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share their experience of fear.  
Why don't you walk about in the dark?  
How do you feel in a big storm / earthquake?

Children realize that they often feel afraid.

**Story:** Solai Shares His Secret

Children feel sorry for Solai and understand how he feels.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Story:** The Story of Joseph, Gen 37

Children share Joseph's fear and are happy that God helped him.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

How did Joseph feel?  
Who was with Joseph?  
Who kept Joseph safe?

**Consider:** God does not want you to feel afraid. He is with you always and will always look after you.

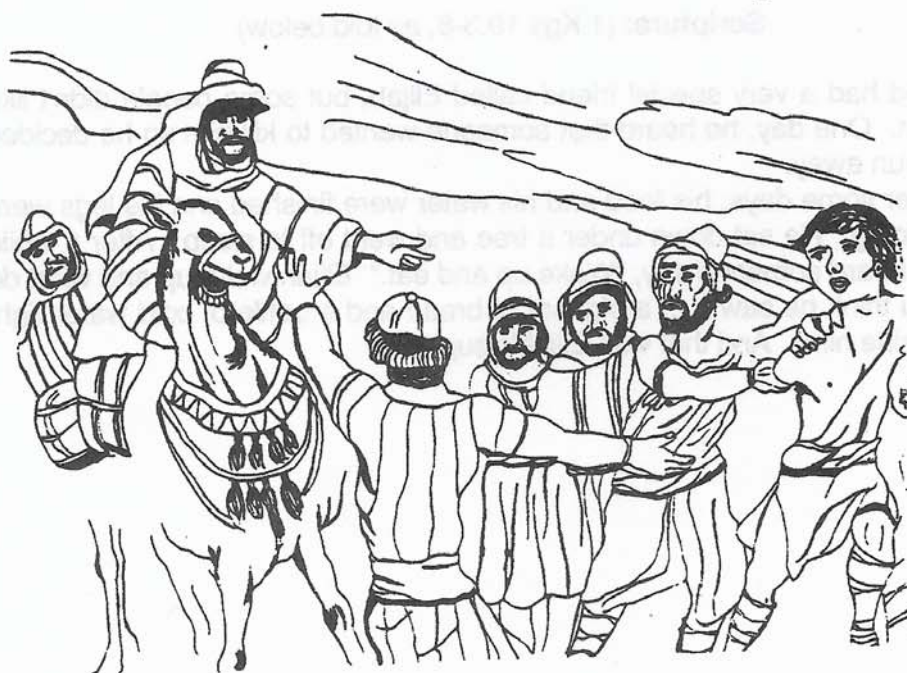
**Prayer:** Let us ask God to look after us. Say,  
**The Lord be with you.**  
**And also with you.**

**FOR MY LIFE:** When I am afraid, I will make the Sign of the Cross.

Draw Solai looking at the padlock on the kitchen door. Retell the story.

Draw Joseph and his father together again.

Children give each other the Sign of Peace.





## I LIKE SURPRISES

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- a. experience the joy of surprise
- b. feel that God is very near to them

**BACKGROUND:**

Jesus taught his followers to be wise and to plan their lives and not leave important things to chance. But we cannot plan on the graces God will give us. These will always come as surprises. They bring us joy and help us on our journey home to heaven.

**REFLECTION:**

"Your Father knows what you need before you ask," Mt 6,8.

**PREPARE:**

Plan a surprise for your class

**Story: SOLAI SHARES HIS SUPRRRISE**

It was a very hot afternoon and I was working in the garden with Papa and Mama. I was so tired. My back was painning and my arms were painning. I was wishing they would finish and go home. But they kept on working, working, cleaning our garden.

As I stood up to straighten my back, I turned around ... and there was a beautiful white cockatoo walking down the middle of our garden. It came right up to where we were working and I think it was trying to say something!

We stood looking at it for a long time ... and it stood quite still while I ran up and caught it. "What a beautiful surprise!" said Mama. "Let's go home and share our surprise with everyone!"

**Scripture: (1 Kgs 19:3-8, as told below)**

God had a very special friend called Elijah, but some people didn't like him. One day, he heard that someone wanted to kill him so he decided to run away.

After some days, his food and his water were finished and his legs were painning. He sat down under a tree and went off to sleep. After a while he heard someone say, "Wake up and eat." Elijah woke up and what do you think he saw? .... a big loaf of bread and a bottle of cold water right beside him! And that was Elijah's supprise!

## OUTLINE LESSON 31

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children experience the surprise the teacher planned for them.

How did the surprise make you feel?

Children wonder about surprises. Why do they happen?

**Story:** Solai Shares His Surprise

What was the surprise? Did someone plan it? How did it help Solai?

Children enter into the joy of surprise. They notice that it just happened and that it helped Solai.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Elijah on Mount Sinai, Ref 1 Kgs 19:3-8.  
Elijah's Surprise ... as told above.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

How did God make Elijah happy?

**Consider:** Even though surprises just seem to happen, we can thank God for them because they make us happy and help us.

**Prayer:** God our Father, we thank you for all the nice surprises we have had. Help us to be your good children always

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will plan a surprise for my family.

Draw Solai holding his cockatoo.

Draw Elijah when he woke up.

Teacher and children pray





## UNIT 4: I LEARN TO LIVE AS GOD'S CHILD

FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 4:32

### I AM GOD'S CHILD

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- know that they are God's children
  - be happy to learn to grow up as good children of God

**BACKGROUND:**

The Sacrament of Baptism makes us children of God and members of the Catholic Church. In Baptism, we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and the gift of eternal life. We respond to the grace of Baptism by living in union with Christ.

At Easter time, Catholics renew their baptismal promises. They realize that through Baptism, they share in the Risen Life of Christ. They realize that they must try to be "like Christ" in their daily lives and not spoil their Baptism by separating themselves from Him.

**REFLECTION:**

"Those who live as the Spirit tells them to, have their minds controlled by what the Spirit wants." Ro 8:5b

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** We are God's children. Ref 1 Jn 3:1

**Picture:** A child being baptized. Page 248

**Story: A NEW BABY GETS HER NAME**

William lives in a village right up in the Highlands. He has a very big garden and works hard to grow food for his family.

One night William's wife had a new baby. In the morning all the children gathered around to look at their new baby sister. She looked lovely sleeping in her mother's arms.

Soon all the children started asking about a name for their little sister. William said, "She is a beautiful baby! She must have a beautiful name!" The children called many names, but William thought that they were not pretty enough. At last their mother said, "Let's call her Carmel-Anne!" And that was the name she was called, when her family brought her to the church to be baptized.

## OUTLINE LESSON 32

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children share: How we get ready to welcome a new baby into our family. They realize that new babies are very important and that there are many things to do for a new baby.

**Story:** A New Baby Gets Her Name

Children appreciate that it was very important to bring Carmel-Anne to the Church (God's house) and to give her a special name in God's family.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Picture:** A Child being Baptized

Children understand that when a baby is baptized it belongs to God. God is its Father; He knows it and takes care of it and wants it to be His happy child.

**Scripture:** We are God's children. (Ref 1 Jn 3:1)

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

Have they ever seen a baby being baptised?  
(Who was there? What name was the baby given? etc)

Children understand that Baptism is very important; that it is very important to be God's child.

**Consider:** God knows you and cares for you. He knows your name. He calls you His child and He wants you to know that He is your Father.

**Prayer:** Let us thank God for making us His children: God my Father, I am happy that I am your child. Please look after me and help me to be a good child.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will learn the OUR FATHER.

**NOTE:** Teacher, begin to teach the Our Father. .... a few lines at a time.  
( See PRAYER SECTION at the back of the book)

Teacher does  
chalkboard  
sketches (clothes,  
baby oil etc)

Children mime:  
Carmel-Anne  
being baptized

Children say: I'm  
(name). I'm God's  
child.

Teacher and  
children pray.



## ***I LISTEN TO MY PARENTS AND TEACHERS***

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- a. become aware of what it means to be obedient
- b. be obedient because God wants obedient children

**BACKGROUND:**

After many years of slavery in Egypt, the people of Israel were set free. God brought them out into the desert and, at Mt Sinai, made them His own people. From that time, their safety and happiness depended on their **obedience** to God.

Moses, their leader, never failed to stress the importance of **obedience**. "Remember these commands (of the Lord) and cherish them. Tie them on your arms and wear them on your foreheads as a reminder. Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you are resting and when you are working. ... Then you and your children will live a long time in the land that the Lord your God promised to give to your ancestors. You will live there as long as there is a sky above the earth." Deut 11:18-21

**REFLECTION:**

What importance do I place on obedience to authority?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God wants us to be obedient. (Ref Deut 11:18f)

**Picture:** A Family page 244

**Song:** *We are one big happy family*, page 53

**Story:** THE STORY OF KATHY PREP

Kathy Prep was only a little girl when she started going to school and so her mother worried about her. "Kathy," she said, "Walk along the little road when you are going to school and coming home. And please come straight home when school is finished."

One afternoon some children called out, "Kathy, come with us. We're going to play first and then go home. We know a good way to go." But little Kathy Prep remembered what her mother had told her and so she said "Goodbye" to the children and went straight home.

## OUTLINE LESSON 33

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name things their mothers and fathers tell them to do.

They realize that mothers and fathers are happy when their children do as they are told.

#### **Story:** Kathy Prep

What did Kathy's mother tell her to do?

What did Kathy do?

Children understand what it means to obey their mothers / fathers.

#### **Picture:** A Family

Who do you obey at home?

Who do you obey at school?

Children realize that fathers, mothers and teachers lead the children and the children obey them.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD

**Scripture:** God wants us to be obedient. Ref Deut 11:18-21.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Consider:** You are God's child. He wants you to be an obedient child.

**Prayer:** Make the Sign of the Cross. Pray: God, my Father, I am God's child. I will be obedient at home and at school.

**Song:** *We are one big happy family*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will obey my parents and teachers

Teacher: Make a list on the chalkboard.

Children re-tell the story.

Draw yourself doing something your mother told you to do.

Children pray with the teacher.

Sing with actions.



## I LOOK AFTER MY THINGS

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- realize that they should look after their things
- look after their things because God wants them to

**BACKGROUND:**

God highlights the importance of property by protecting it by two of the Commandments: "You shall not steal. You shall not desire ... anything that another person owns," Ex 20:15,17. How much trouble comes our way because of disrespect for property and unlawful desire for it!

**REFLECTION:**

Do I look after my own things and everything that is given to me for my use?

**PREPARE:**

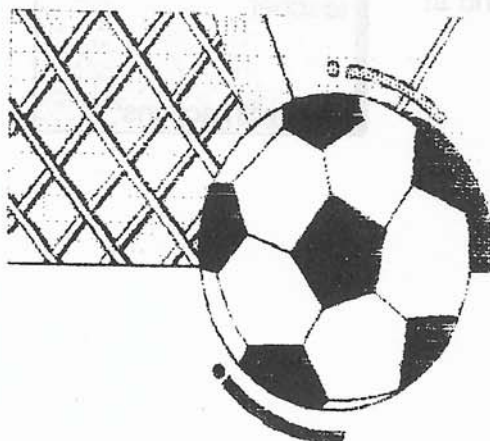
**Scripture:** God wants us to look after our things. (Ref Ex 20:15,17)

**Chalkboard Sketches:** Things children use e.g. balls, books, shoes, bags etc

### Story: THE LOST BALL

One day, Michael's father and mother went to town to buy clothes for all their children. In one of the stores, Michael's mother saw a big red ball hanging in a net. "Our children would like that ball," she said. Michael's Dad opened his pouch and took out the money to pay for it. And that is how the children got their ball!

One day, when Michael was playing with some other children, he got cross and kicked the ball as far as he could. "Leave it!" he said... Oh, sorry! When he went back next day, the ball was gone!



## OUTLINE LESSON 34

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name things that belong to them.

Who gave you these things? Where do you keep them? How do you look after them?

Children realize that they have many things to use and to look after.

### **Blackboard Sketches:**

Children recognize things that they own and use. They describe how they look after them.

**Story:** The Lost Ball

Why did the ball get lost?

How did Michael's parents feel?

Children understand that Michael did not look after his ball. He made his mother and father sad.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD

**Scripture:** God wants us to look after our things.

Ref Ex 20:15, 17.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Why do we look after our things?

**Consider:** You need many things at home and at school. Your parents buy the things you need. You should look after your own things and never spoil other children's things. God wants you to look after your things at home and at school.

**Prayer:** God our Father, we are happy that we have things for home and for school. Help us to look after them well.

### FOR MY LIFE:

Children tidy their things remembering that God wants them to look after their things.

Children draw something that belongs to them.

Draw the ball hanging on its nail.

Game: "I am touching .... (e.g. a book) and it belongs to ..."

Teacher and children pray.



## I PLAY PROPERLY

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- become aware that selfishness spoils happiness
  - want to make others happy at play

**BACKGROUND:**

St Peter expected Christians to be uncomplaining and **to give-in to each other.**

Two letters from St Peter have been kept for us in the New Testament. They are both rather short and quite easy to read.

The sufferings of Jesus were always fresh in St Peter's mind. Because of this, he considered the pains and hardships of life to be small things that pass quickly; they can be accepted because of the joys of Heaven.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I work well with others in my family / on the staff? Do I give-in to others for the sake of peace?

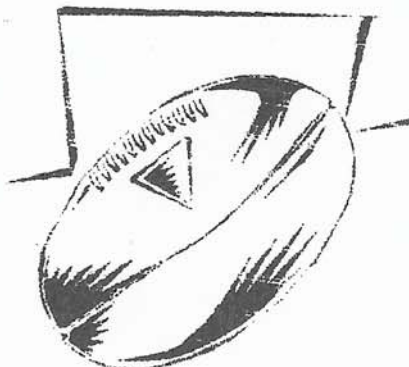
**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Give in to each other. Ref 1 Pt 1:13f

**Story: LAZY JAGI**

Jagi is a bit fat and a bit lazy. At play-time, when the children take the ball out to play, lazy Jagi always grabs it and sits on it. And that's the end of the game!

Sometimes the children want to have races. Lazy Jagi sits down at the starting-line fixing his shoes or doing something else, while everyone waits and waits ... and the bell rings again before the game really starts! Jagi is just the same in school. Sometimes there are nice games in the lessons, but lazy Jagi always spoils them. At colouring-in time, Jagi hides the red crayons; when there are guessing games, Jagi goes on strike. It is always the same old story ... Jagi never plays properly with anyone.



## OUTLINE LESSON 35

### LOOKING AT LIFE

Can you remember a time when someone spoiled a game?  
What happened?  
How did you feel?

Children realize that they are happy when everyone plays properly.

**Story:** Lazy Jagi

Why did Jagi spoil the game? ... the races?

Children realize that Jagi spoils happiness because he is selfish.

Children understand that they make each other happy by playing properly together.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Give in to each other. Ref 1 Pt 1:13f

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

How can we make other children happy?

**Consider:** God our Father likes us to play properly; He likes us to make others happy when we play. He likes us to be unselfish.

**Sing:** *We are one big happy family*

**Prayer:** Children thank God for all the happy times they have had playing together. Tell Him that they will try to make others happy whenever they play together.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will make others happy when I play.

Dramatize or draw:  
Jagi spoils a game.

Make or draw happy  
faces and cross  
faces.

Sing with actions.

Children make their  
own prayers.





## I SPEAK NICELY TO OTHERS

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- a. realize the importance of speaking nicely
- b. speak nicely to others because God wants them to

**BACKGROUND:**

The gift of speech is one of the many wonderful gifts given by God to human beings. It is one of those special gifts that make us "like God". It sets us above the rest of creation; it makes us "a little less than the angels," Ps 8:5. Through this gift, we are able to express our thoughts and our feelings; we are able to live socially and enrich ourselves and others through communication. We are able to praise God in prayer and song.

In the Letters kept for us in the New Testament, there are many references to the proper use of our gift of speech. "Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you... No more shouting or insults ... nor is it fitting for you to use language which is obscene, profane, or vulgar. Rather you should give thanks to God.... Speak to one another with the words of psalms, hymns and sacred songs; sing hymns and psalms to the Lord with praise in your hearts." Ref Eph 4 & 5.

Teachers pay attention to the way children speak to each other and lead them to appreciate their gift of speech.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I use my gift of speech in a Christian way?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God wants us to speak nicely to each other.  
Ref Eph 4 & 5

**Flash cards:** Thank you. Please. Good morning. I'll help you. (any other helpful words)



## OUTLINE LESSON 36

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children sit down in twos or in small groups in a pleasant place and talk about what they did last night / what they learned in school or tell a story etc.

They experience the pleasure of talking to each other.

Where have you seen people talking together?

The children become more aware of their own good gift.

Name times when you talk to your friends.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God wants us to speak nicely to each other. Ref Eph 4 & 5.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

#### **Flash cards:**

Children become familiar with the kind of words that help others. They learn to say them in a pleasant way.

Who knows some more helpful words?

**Consider:** God has given you the gift of speech. He wants you to speak nicely to each other. He wants you to use helpful words and not to use rough words.

**Prayer:** Let us ask God to help us to speak nicely to others.

Children draw themselves talking to a friend.

Display the flash cards.

Children repeat the words.

Children make their own prayers.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will say "please" when I ask for something.



## I SHARE IN MY FAMILY'S WORK

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that sharing in family work makes family life happy
- b. want to share because sharing pleases God

**BACKGROUND:**

In every family different age groups and generations live together. The old and the young help each other to grow wiser and more tolerant.

In their families, people learn to respect other people's rights; they learn 'the give-and-take' of social life and its responsibilities. The family is well-recognized as being the foundation of society. (Ref The Church in the Modern World, par 52)

**REFLECTION:**

"Do not forget to do good and help one another because these are the sacrifices that please God," Heb 13,16

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Do not forget to share with one another.  
Ref Heb 13,16

**Song:** *I will get the firewood*  
(Tune: Mulberry bush) Music page 56

**Story: A VISIT**

One day Christine asked her friend, Alice to visit her house. She said, "You can have a rest at my house and have some food, too." As Alice came along with Christine, she saw Christine's Papa cutting firewood. He was whistling while he worked and Mama was preparing food. Her big brother, Leo was feeding the chickens and her sister, Susan was minding the baby. Teresa, another sister, was sweeping around the kitchen and her small brother, Michael was watering the garden. Everyone was busy sharing the little jobs that had to be done before night came on.



## OUTLINE LESSON 37

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children say who does the different jobs at home. e.g. Who sweeps?  
Who waters the garden?  
Who minds the baby?  
Who washes the saucepans?..... etc.

### **Story: A Visit**

Why was it nice to visit Christine's family?

Children understand that sharing in the work makes Christine's family happy.

How can children make their family happy?

Children become aware that sharing the work makes families happy.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Do not forget to help one another. Ref Heb 13,16.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Consider:** God tells us that happiness comes when we help / share the family work.

How do you help in your family?

**Song:** *I will get the firewood, firewood, firewood,  
I will get the firewood, I want to help my mother.  
I will mind the baby .....  
I will get the water.... cont.*

**Prayer:** Let us ask God to help us to share in the work of our families

**FOR MY LIFE:** Today, I will do the work in my family as well as I can.

Mime: Christine's family sharing the work.

Children draw themselves sharing the work at home.

Children sing with actions.

Children pray.



## I LEARN TO SHARE WITH OTHERS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that they help others by sharing with them
- b. share their things because God wants them to

**BACKGROUND:**

For the early Christians, sharing their things was an important way of showing their love for each other. Sharing was a feature of their communities. "All the believers continued together in close fellowship and shared their belongings with one another. They would sell their property and possessions and distribute the money among all, according to what each one needed" Acts 2:44-45.

**REFLECTION:**

What is my attitude to sharing? Do I make excuses for not sharing?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God's people shared their things. Ref Acts 2:44-45

**Song:** *We are one big happy family*, page 53

### STORY: THE LUNCH

Mary was sitting all by herself behind the tank. She was so upset; she was crying to herself and wiping her tears away with her dress. Suddenly Alice came around the corner and saw her there. "What's wrong? What's making you so sad?" she asked.

At last, Mary was able to tell the little story about her lunch. Her mother had prepared such nice lunch for her that morning. Mary carried it to school very carefully and put it up on a branch of the big tree, right near the bell. She thought it would be quite safe.... and went to class.

At play-time, Mary was feeling hungry and went to get a scone. The lunch was gone! There was not a scrap left! A skinny, old dog had stolen it and run away with it.

Alice was so sorry for Mary. She knew how hungry and disappointed she was, so she ran off and got her lunch. "Let's share mine. It will do the both of us!" Mary stopped crying. She was happy sitting beside Alice sharing her lunch.

## OUTLINE LESSON 38

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name things they share at home / at school.

They realize that sharing makes them and others happy.

**Story:** The Lunch

Tell the story **stressing** that Alice made Mary happy through sharing her lunch.

How did Alice make Mary happy?

Children understand that sharing is a way of making others happy.

Have you seen people sharing things? What were they sharing?

Children discover that people share all kinds of things and that sharing brings happiness.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD

**Scripture:** God's children shared their things.  
Ref Acts 2:44-45.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What do you think God's people might have shared?.

**Consider:** God wants you to share your things because you make others happy when you share.

**Sing:** *We are one big happy family*

**Prayer:** Let us make the Sign of the Cross and ask God to help us to share with others.

**FOR MY LIFE:** Today I will share .....with .....

Dramatize the story,  
The Lunch

Children draw some of  
their things. Circle the  
ones they could  
share.

Children draw  
themselves sharing  
twisties etc.

Sing with actions

Children pray.



## I SHARE AT SCHOOL

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- appreciate the school community as a special place for sharing
- want to please God through sharing at school

**BACKGROUND:**

There are many good things about modern times. People everywhere are trying to get more and more knowledge about people and things and they are realizing the need to work together. In fact, teamwork is a special feature of modern life. Worldwide, people are looking for fellowship and feeling responsibility for the world and for the development of people.

Christian teachers, with their faith and their special vocation, have unique opportunities for tuning children into these good aspects of our times.

**REFLECTION:**

How can I carry out my Christian duty of building a better world?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God's people shared their things. Ref Ac 2:43f

**Blackboard:** What we do together at school

We .... (pray) together. (Complete with sketches)

We .... (play / work / sing ...)

**Song:** *We are one big happy family*, page 53



## OUTLINE LESSON 39

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children talk about their school as a family. Who looks after your school / who works in your school etc. The school children begin to realize that they are like brothers and sisters in a family.

**Song:** *We are one big happy family*

Children appreciate the family aspect of their school. They realize that it is an extension of their own family and that their parents ask the teachers to take care of them at school.

**Blackboard:** What we do together

We .... (pray) together.

We .... (sing/ play/ work/ learn/ talk...

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

God's people shared their things. Ac 2:43f

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

You are God's children. How can you make each other happy at school?

**Consider:** God wants you to like your brothers and sisters in the school. He wants you to care about them and to show this by sharing your books, pencils etc.

**Prayer:** Let us ask God our Father to help us to be kind to our brothers and sisters in school: ....

**Song:** *We are one big happy family*

### FOR MY LIFE:

I will share my .... (books etc) with the boys and girls who sit near me in school.

Sing with actions.

Children draw or mime what they do together.

Children draw themselves with a school friend.

Children pray

Sing with actions.



## ***I SHARE IN VILLAGE LIFE***

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- a. become aware of sharing in village / community life
- b. share because God wants them to

**BACKGROUND:**

"Community" is a well-recognised value of traditional life in Melanesia. In the days gone by, people found reliable support in their village communities and, in serving their communities, they found a purpose in life. People's life-style is changing very rapidly today therefore, it is important to look at traditional values and rescue whatever was good in the past. A sense of community is certainly something well-worth preserving.

**REFLECTION:**

"Christ gave his life for us. We too, then, ought to give our lives for our brothers," 1 Jn 3,16.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God wants us to help others. Ref 1 Jn 3, 16.

**Song:** *It's I who build community*, page 81

*It's I, it's I, it's I who build community (x3), It's I who build community.*

*It's you..... It's we ..... It's Christ.....*

### **Story: THE SAD LEADER**

Thomas is a very old man. His hair is white and he has a long white beard and uses a stick when he walks. He has very bright eyes, but somehow they look quite sad. One day, Thomas sat down with the school children and told them a very sad story. He said, "My village is a very sad village. No one helps anyone else. When the bell rings for community work, no one turns up for work and when the bell rings for community celebrations, only a few children come. We never have happy times, now.

Sometimes one of us gets sick, but no one helps the sick person to go to hospital. One person says to the other: 'You go. I'm too busy. I need my truck.' That's what my village is like! It's a very sad place!

## **OUTLINE LESSON 40**

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children talk about village or community life.

What do the people do together in your village / community?

How does it feel when everyone takes part?

Children experience the feeling of sharing community life.

**Story:** The Sad Leader

Children understand that lack of sharing in village (community) life makes people feel unhappy.

**LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** God likes us to help others. Ref 1 Jn 3, 16.

**DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

**Blackboard sketch:** A well-kept village. How would you like to live in this village? Why?

Children realize that the people share in the life of the village life. They are happy and proud of their village.

**Consider:** God wants people to live happily together. He tells us that sharing makes our communities happy.

**Song:** *It's I who build community...*

Children become more aware of the importance of sharing in community life.

**Prayer:** Let us ask God to help us to make community life happy

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will be there when my community has something to do.

Children draw themselves helping in their village / community

Children name things that made Thomas sad.

Children learn the song

Teacher and children pray

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below each staff. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above the notes. The lyrics are: "It's I, it's I, it's I who build community. It's I, it's I, it's I who build community. It's I, it's I, it's I who build community. It's I, it's I, it's I who build community." The score ends with a double bar line.



## ***I SHARE IN MY CHURCH COMMUNITY***

**OBJECTIVES:** Children will -

- a. become aware of their church-community
- b. feel that God wants them to share in the life of this community

**BACKGROUND:**

Sunday worship is a community activity for which we must prepare well. At Mount Sinai, God said to Moses, "Go to the people and tell them to spend today and tomorrow purifying themselves for worship. They must wash their clothes and be ready the day after tomorrow. On that day, I will come down on Mount Sinai, where all the people can see me." Ex 19:10b-12. The Bible people were always taught to prepare their offerings carefully and to present them to God with faith and reverence.

**REFLECTION:**

What do I give and receive in my church-community?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God wants us to share with others in our church community  
Ref Ac 2:43f

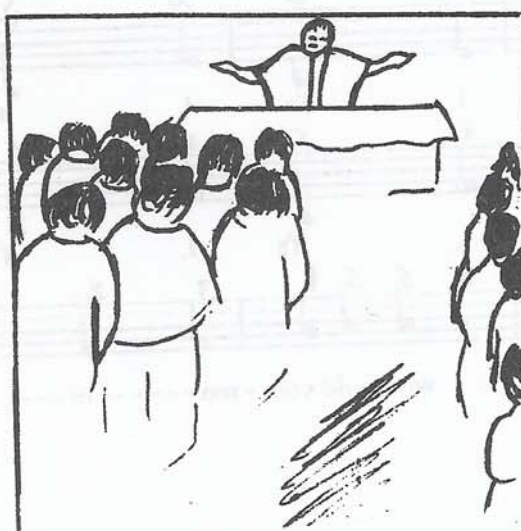
**Picture:** Families going to Mass, page 246

**Song:** A song used at Sunday Mass

**Story: LEO GOES TO CHURCH**

Leo was a little boy who lived in a village that had a very nice church. Every Sunday, when Leo heard the Church bell, he'd say to his mother, "Mama, I want to go to church."

Leo's mother would wash him and dress him in his best clothes. While she was doing this, she'd talk to him about what people do in church. "Leo, remember to sit down quietly and to pray and sing with the others." And she'd give him a coin to put in the basket. Leo always tries to join in the prayers and songs at Mass.



## OUTLINE LESSON 41

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name things they share at home, in their village and at school.  
They appreciate more deeply the idea of sharing.

### **Picture:** Families at Mass

Children recall that they belong to this Church and realize that they know many people they meet at the Parish Church. The church-bell calls the people to come and meet God.

**Story:** Leo Goes to Church  
Why is Leo happy to go to church?

Leo wants to be with the community to meet God. He wants to give his gift to God and share in the prayers and songs.

Who goes to your church on Sundays?

Children understand that old people and young people and children all go to church together.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God wants us to share with others in our church-community. Ref Ac2:43f.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who do you meet at church?

**Consider:** God likes to meet you in the church with your community. He likes you to pray and sing and offer your gifts together with others.

**Song:** A song used at Mass

Children understand what it means to share with others in their church.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will pray and sing with others in the church.

Children draw themselves helping to prepare the church for Mass.

Children draw the church-bell or garamut.

Retell the story, Leo Goes to Church.

Draw yourself in the church.

Children sing.



## UNIT 5: SOMETIMES I DO NOT LIVE AS GOD'S CHILD

FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 5:42

### SOMETIMES I DON'T WANT TO SHARE

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that sometimes they are selfish
- b. want to be unselfish

**BACKGROUND:**

When our First Parents, Adam and Eve sinned, they introduced selfishness into the human family. Every one of their descendants experiences the effects of selfishness. Although Jesus and Mary were totally unselfish, they experienced the effects of selfishness more deeply than anyone else.

Selfishness, which is at work in each of us, can be overcome to some extent by prayer and self-sacrifice. Everyone has to learn to think of others. In giving us The Great Commandment, Jesus challenges our selfishness.

"Love your neighbor as yourself," Mt 22:39b.

Teachers know how to lead children to think of others and how to encourage them in self-sacrifice. This is very important in their education.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I take up the challenge of my own selfishness?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God wants us to care for each other. Ref 1 Cor 13:1f

**Examples:** Prepare examples of unselfishness from everyday life

**Song:** *We are one big happy family*, page 53

**Story: THE SELFISH CHILDREN**

One day, as the children were going home from school, they were running and jumping along the road. Suddenly Joan hurt her leg and had to sit down. It was paining so much that she couldn't walk. The other children saw Joan sitting there holding her leg, but they didn't bother to help her. They just went on enjoying themselves. One of the boys called out, "Get a stick and you'll get along all right. We're going home." Oh, Poor Joan!

## **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

**Story:** The Selfish Children

Why didn't the children help Joan?

Children realize that it was selfishness that caused them to leave Joan by herself on the road.

Children think of times when they did not wait and help someone or lend something. Perhaps they were selfish, too.

**Discuss:** Examples from everyday life

Children become aware that unselfishness is seen in everyday life.

How does the mother / nurse show that she is unselfish?  
Children appreciate what it means to be unselfish.

## **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** God wants us to care for each other. Ref 1 Cor 13:1f

## **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

What does God want us to do?

**Consider:** God loves and cares for everyone and wants you to do the same. He doesn't want you to be selfish.

**Prayer:** Let us ask God our Father to help us to be unselfish.

**Song:** *We are one big happy family*

Children feel that it is good to be unselfish in their "big" family.

**FOR MY LIFE:** After school, I will go and help.....(name)

Children dramatize the story.

Children make sentences: e.g. My mother is unselfish, she ... for me.

Children think of times when they were selfish. Say, God, I'm sorry I was selfish.

Children sing with actions.



## ***SOMETIMES I DON'T LISTEN TO MY PARENTS***

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that they should listen to their parents
- b. feel sorry for not listening to their parents

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible tells about many different kinds of sins. The first sin recorded is a sin of disobedience. God said to Adam, "You may eat the fruit of any tree in the garden, except the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad. You must not eat the fruit of that tree; if you do, you will die the same day," Gen 2:16f. The story goes on, "So (Eve) took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, and he also ate it."

Gen 3:6b.

This same spirit of disobedience is born in us and we often have to struggle against it. The Bible has several verses encouraging parents to train their children in a spirit of obedience. The Fourth Commandment is addressed to everyone, not only to children, because God wants obedient people.

**REFLECTION:**

Could I be described as an obedient person?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God want His children to be obedient. Cf "Obey the commands of the Lord your God," Deut 4:2b.

**Story: THE DISOBEDIENT CHILD**

One day it was raining very heavily so Michael said to his son, Michael Junior, "Don't ride the bicycle today. You might skid and fall off." Michael Junior said, "Okay, Dad, I'll stay at home." But he really wanted to go to his friend's house and he loved riding his bicycle! Michael Junior knew that his father was going to the market after lunch and so he waited. After his father had gone, Michael Junior wheeled out his bicycle and off he went. When he came back, he put the bicycle away very quietly in its place behind the kitchen!

## OUTLINE LESSON 43

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children remember things that they were told to do. e.g. My mother told me to sweep up the leaves. Teacher asks: Did you do it .... (continue)

**Teacher:** Introduce one or two School Rules and encourage the children to follow them.

**Story:** The Disobedient Child

What did Michael's father say?  
What did Michael do?

Children understand the meaning of disobedience. Notice that Michael was not punished. He did not fall off the bicycle. But, he was disobedient.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God wants His children to be obedient.  
Ref Deut 4:2b.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Do you think that God was pleased with what Michael did?

**Consider:** God wants children to listen to their parents and teachers. He helps you to be obedient and blesses you when you obey.

**Prayer:** Let us ask God our Father to help us to listen to our parents and teachers and to do whatever they tell us .....

**FOR MY LIFE:** When my mother (father) tells me to..... I will do it.

Children memorize the rules.

Say: I will keep these rules.

Children retell the story.

Children draw themselves doing something their parents told them to do.

Teacher and children pray.





## **SOMETIMES I DON'T WANT TO GO TO CHURCH**

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that sometimes they don't feel like going to Church (Mass)
- b. feel that it is important for them to go to Mass

**BACKGROUND:**

Feelings play a very important part in life. They make life exciting and challenging. However, we need to learn to understand our feelings and to master them. When people try to solve their problems with their feelings, they usually end by making matters worse. Joy and peace and love are good, helpful feelings. They can be enjoyed and cultivated.

It is true that we don't always feel like doing our duty and that isn't wrong. But, it is possible to overcome our feelings and to get on with what we are supposed to do.

Feelings are very important to small children. Many teachers understand this and know how to help them to deal with their feelings.

**REFLECTION:**

Am I learning to deal with my feelings?

**PREPARE:**

**Flash card:** Sunday is God's day.

**Picture:** A Church Scene. Page 246.

**Song:** *This is the Day* (Lesson 10)

### **Story: THE SUNNY BRIDGE**

Joseph used to often tell his friends stories about the big river near his village and about the bridge where people often sat trying to catch fish.

One Sunday morning, Joseph wanted to go fishing. He thought he might be lucky enough to catch a fish for himself. But, he knew that his parents were getting ready for Mass and this made him feel cross. He kept thinking about the sunny bridge and the fish. It was very hard for him to give up the idea of going fishing!

## OUTLINE LESSON 44

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Everyone has a special job to do at home / at school, but sometimes they don't feel like doing it.

Children share: It's my job to ....., but sometimes I don't feel like doing it.

Teacher: I understand, but you should do your job. **(continue)**

They realize that important things must be done.

**Story:** The Sunny Bridge

Why was it hard for Joseph to go to Mass with his parents?

Joseph knew that going to Mass is important and so he changed his mind.

**Picture:** Church Scene

Why are these people going to church?

Children realize that it is important to go to Mass on Sundays and that many people go even when they have other things to do.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Flash card:** Sunday is God's day.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Which day is God's special day?

**Consider:** Sunday is God's day. God wants you to think of Him every Sunday and go to Mass. He wants you to leave your work and your games and to go to Mass every Sunday. It is important to go to Mass.

**Song:** *This is the day*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will go to Mass on Sundays.

Children retell the story.

Children draw themselves going to Mass.

Write: "Sunday" and decorate it.

Children sing.



## SOMETIMES I DON'T SPEAK NICELY TO OTHERS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that sometimes they speak roughly to others
- b. give up speaking roughly to others

**BACKGROUND:**

It is not uncommon to hear people complain about noise which they describe as "pollution". The noise of traffic bothers many townspeople. Trucks and cars tear past their homes day and night. Factory workers are often weary from the noise of machinery. After putting up with this all day long at work, should they have to listen to loud, rough talking in their homes? Sometimes, thoughtless people turn up their radios to full volume and use amplifiers so that no one in the neighbourhood escapes. What is all this noise doing to people?

Everyone needs to pay attention to his / her tone of voice and realize that it is a mark of respect to speak politely.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I try to speak politely to others, especially to the children I teach?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Don't shout at anyone. (Ref Eph 4:31b)

**Examples:** Times when you've heard rough speaking

### Story: THE SAD MOTHER

Once there was a mother who lived with her children in a little bush village. The mother's name was Celine. Celine was very sad because not one of her children spoke nicely to her. They always shouted at her. One of them would call out, "Where's my food?" Another one would shout, "I want my shirt." Then two or three would shout out together, "Why don't you light the fire for us? We're always cold, here!" Every day, Celine would hear her children talking to each other, but the words she heard only made her sad... Shut up! I won't! Do it yourself! Get out! One day Celine said to herself, "I wish my children would try to speak nicely. I'm so tired of all this rough talk."

## OUTLINE LESSON 45

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children remember times when someone spoke roughly to them.  
How did you feel when this happened to you?  
They realize that rough speech hurts them and others.

**Story:** The Sad Mother

Why was Celine so sad?

Children realize that no one likes to be spoken to roughly or to listen to rough speaking.

### Sharing examples:

Children listen to 2 or 3 examples.  
They become more aware that rough speaking hurts them and others and spoils family and community life.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Don't shout at anyone. Ref Eph 4:31b.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

How does God want you to speak?

**Consider:** You are God's children and He loves you. He wants you to remember that you belong to His family and that you ought to speak nicely to everyone.

**Prayer:** Let us pray:

God our Father help us to show our love for one another by always speaking nicely. We are sorry for the times when we spoke roughly at home and at school.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will never speak roughly.

Children practise saying things nicely e.g Please ...  
(Use a pleasant tone of voice.)

Children remember times when they spoke roughly. Say: We are sorry for speaking roughly.

Teacher leads the prayer.



**PRAYER SERVICE****WE ARE SORRY THAT WE DO NOT ALWAYS LIVE  
AS GOD'S CHILDREN****PREPARE:****The Bible:**

Display the Bible in a suitable place and invite the children to decorate it.

**Scripture:** Eph 5:1f (paraphrase)

*Since you are God's dear children, you must try to be like Him. You must try to love everyone just as He does. He treats everyone very nicely. God is pleased when His children share their things, when they listen to their parents and teachers and when they speak nicely to each other. God is always happy when His children go to Mass.*

**Pictures:**

Put up the pictures and drawings used in Unit 5, Lesson 42-45.

**Stories:**

Revise the stories used in Unit 5, Lesson 42-45. Use them as a "shared homily".

**Response:****God our Father we are sorry.**

(Write this on a chart or on the Blackboard. Make your own tune.)

**Offertory:**

Invite the children to prepare an offering as a **sign** that they are sorry for the times when they have not lived as God's children.

**PRAYER SERVICE**

**Introduction:** Welcome the children to the Prayer Service.

We are all God's children. He knows and loves each one of us and wants us to live together as His own special family. But sometimes we do not live as His children. Now we want to show that we are sorry and to ask Him to help us to live as good children.

**Opening Prayer:**

God our Father, we have come to You today to show that we are sorry for the times when we have not lived together as your good children.

**Scripture:** Let us listen to what God is saying to us today:

**Eph 5:1f** (Paraphrased above. Hold the Bible as though reading from it.)

**Instruction:** What is God saying to us today?

(**Teacher:** Make use of a few pictures and one or two stories used in Unit 5, Lessons 42-45)

**Pause:** Children think of times

- when they did not share their things with others
- when they did not listen to their parents ...
- when they did not speak nicely to others ...
- when they did not go to church.

**Prayer:**

God our Father, we know that we have not always lived as your good children and so now we want to say that we are sorry ....

- for the times we have been **selfish** and not shared our things  
(Response)
- for the times we have **disobeyed** our parents and teachers  
(Response)
- for the times when we **spoke roughly** to others  
(Response)
- for the times we **did not go to Mass** on Sunday  
(Response)

**Procession:**

Children bring their offering to God. (Sing an offertory hymn that is well-known in the parish.)

**Final Song:**

*We are one big happy family*





## UNIT 6: GOD MADE THE WORLD BEAUTIFUL

### FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 6:47

## GOD MADE THE WORLD

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- learn that God made the world
- thank God for making the world so beautiful

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible begins with the story of Creation. It tells us that before God made the world, there was nothing and no one, only darkness and disorder. Then it goes on to say that God made everything: day and night, the sky and the water, the dry land and the oceans, the heavenly bodies, the plants and animals and, last of all, human beings.

The Bible tells us that God made everything by the power of His word. It says, "God commanded," and repeats this seven times in the story. No one interfered with God or advised Him or helped Him in any way. Creation was entirely His work and it was very good in His eyes.

God's purpose in making the world was to share His life and happiness with the human family. In the work of Creation, God's goodness was made known on earth.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I take time to admire God's work of Creation?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God made the world. Ref Gen 1:1f

**Pictures:** Nature scenes e.g. rivers, oceans, plants etc

**Song:** page 94

1. Who made all the things on earth? (4x) - God from heaven above.
2. Who made all the flowers that bloom? (4x) God from heaven above.
3. Who made all the trees that grow? (4x) God from heaven above.
4. Who made all the birds that fly? (4x) - God from heaven above.
5. Who made all the fish that swim? (4x) - God from heaven above.
6. Who made children you and me? (4x) - God from heaven above.



## OUTLINE LESSON 47

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

If convenient, teacher and children take a nature walk near the school admiring the sky, the trees, the birds etc.

They become aware of Creation.

**Pictures:** Nature scenes (or take the children outside)

Children admire the nature scenes. They become more aware of beauty in the world.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God made the world. Ref Gen 1.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who made the world?

Why did God make the world so beautiful?

**Consider:** All the beautiful things you see around you are God's gifts to you. He made them for you because He loves you and wants you to be happy.

**Song:** *Who made all the things on earth....*

Children express their happiness in song.

**Prayer:** Let us thank God for making the world so beautiful for us. God our Father, we thank you for making the world so beautiful.

### FOR MY LIFE:

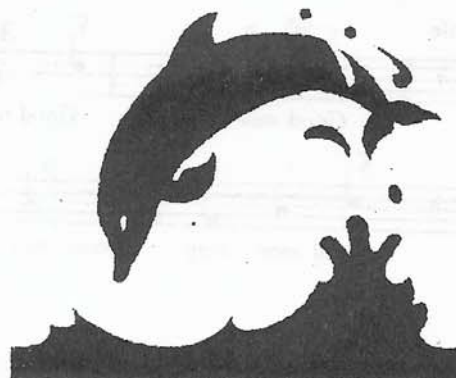
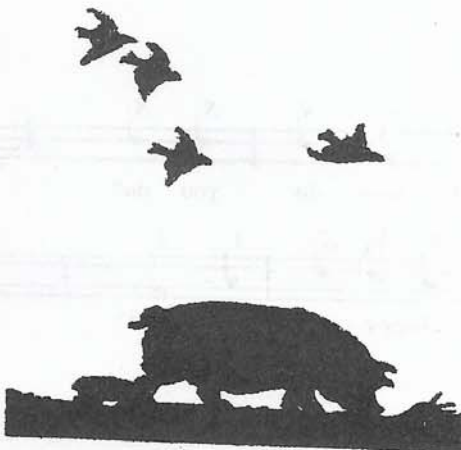
As I am coming to school, I will sing the song *Who made all the things on earth....*

Children name things in nature that they like.

Children draw things that God has made.

Children sing.

Teacher leads the prayer.





## GOD MADE DAY AND NIGHT

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. learn that God gave them the day for working and the night for sleeping
- b. thank God for day and for night

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible tells us that the dark of night is under God's control and that it is good. It is part of His creation. He made it so that we would have time to rest and sleep. In God's plan, day-time is for working and night-time is for sleeping.

The moon and stars are signs of God's presence; He watches over us while we sleep.

**REFLECTION:**

In the work of Creation, God gave everything its own special purpose. Do I try to discover and respect God's purpose in everything?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God named the light "Day" and the darkness "Night." Gen 1:5

**Sketches:** sleeping mat / pillow etc

**Song:** page 96

*Good morning (x2), and how do you do?*

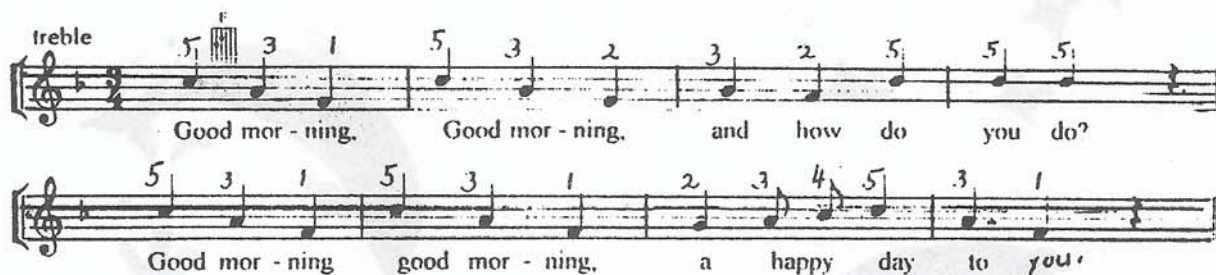
*Good morning (2x), a happy day to you.*

*Good night and good night (2x) and good night to you.*

*Good night and good night (2x) and may God watch over you.*

**Story: GOD MADE DAY AND NIGHT**

God made the world so that His family would be happy. First, God made light and then He made darkness. God called the light "day" and the darkness "night". When God looked at what He had made and He was very pleased because it all looked so good and beautiful. He wanted everyone to be happy; He wanted everyone to have a time for working and a time for sleeping.' (Refer Gen 1:3-5)



## OUTLINE LESSON 48

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share their experience of waking up in the mornings and looking forward to doing many things. They also share their experience of night-time and how they like going to sleep after their long day at school.

What time do people go to work?  
What time do they come home?

Children realize that "day" is the right time for working and playing.

**Sketches:** Sleeping mat, pillow etc

What are these things for?  
When do we use them?

Children think of night as the right time for resting and sleeping, for getting ready for work.

**Important greetings:** Good morning: Good night

Children become aware of the importance of greeting each other as day begins and as the night comes on. They learn to use these greetings.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God named the light DAY and the darkness NIGHT.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who made day and night?  
Why did God make day and night?

**Consider:** God wants us to work during the day and to sleep at night so as to be ready for our work next day.

**Prayer:** Children thank God for day and night

**FOR MY LIFE::** I will say Good Morning and Good Night to everyone.

Children mime  
getting up / going to  
bed.

Children draw  
themselves going  
to school.

Children draw  
themselves  
sleeping at night.

Children greet each  
other.

Children sing:  
Good morning.

Teacher and  
children pray



## GOD MADE THE SUN

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- learn that God made the sun and become aware that they enjoy its light and colour
- thank God for giving them the sun

**BACKGROUND:**

Many people living in the Bible Lands believed that the sun was a god. They worshipped it and had special celebrations in its honour.

Although God's people admired the sun, they realized that it was something God made for them. In their prayers of praise, they called on the sun to join in praise of God, the Creator of all things. "Sun and moon, praise the Lord" Ps 148:3.

**REFLECTION:**

God is greater than anything He made.

**PREPARE:**

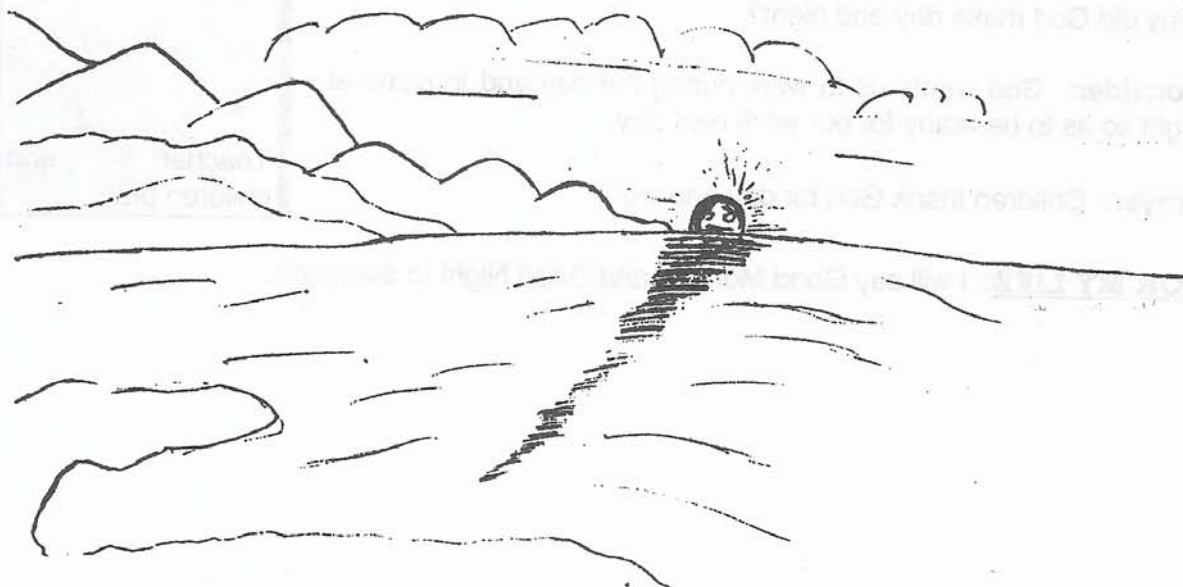
**Scripture:** God made the sun. Ref Gen 1:14-20.

**Drawing:** The Sun / sunrise / sunset

**Song:** *Who made the sun so bright and warm? (4x) page 94*  
*God from heaven above.*

**Story:** GOD MADE THE SUN (based on Gen 1:14-19)

God made the sun and put it in the sky so that there would always be daylight and colour in the world. When He saw how big and bright and warm it was, He was so pleased. God loved the sunlight and all the beautiful colours that He could see in the sunlight. He wanted many people to enjoy the sun and all the lovely colours in the world.



## OUTLINE LESSON 49

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children talk about times when they have enjoyed watching the sun rise and set. They appreciate that sunrise and sunset are very beautiful.

**Drawing:** The sun

Children imagine the great size of the sun and appreciate its warmth.

**Drawings:** Sunrise / sunset

Children describe the sky at sunrise / sunset.

They appreciate the colours made by the sun.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God made the sun  
(based on Gen 1:14-19)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

**Song:** *Who made the sun*

**Consider:** God loves you and wants you to be happy. He made the sun so that you can enjoy sunlight everyday and see all the lovely colours in the world.

**Prayer:** God our Father, we thank you for making the sun. It is so big and bright and we are happy we can see all the lovely colours in the world.

### FOR MY LIFE:

I will take my drawing home and say the prayer: Thank you God for making the sun.

Children draw the sun .....

and colour the sky.

Children re-tell the story.

Children sing.  
Children name the colours they often see.

Teacher leads the prayer



## THE SUN HELPS US

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- become aware that the sun helps them in many ways
- feel thankful to God for giving them the sun

**BACKGROUND:**

According to the Creation Story, Gen 1:1f God is the cause of light, not the sun. In the beginning, God commanded, "Let there be light - and light appeared," Gen 1:3. When God made the sun, the moon and the stars, He put them in the sky to separate day from night and to mark days, years and special times for religious festivals. Ref Gen 1:14. They were not for adoration as some people thought. They are 'the work of God's hands' and God made them for our benefit.

**REFLECTION:**

"The city of God has no need of the sun to shine on it, because the glory of God shines on it,..." Ref. Rev 21:23

**PREPARE:**

**Flash card:** God made the sun

**Drawings:** Clothes on a line / a child lying in the sun

**An excursion** (or bring a few plants)

**Song:** *Who made the sun....* Lesson 49

**Story: A SICK BOY**

One morning Joe got up to go to the store, but suddenly he felt cold and sick. He said to himself, "I'd better go and sit in the sun." So he went outside and found a nice sunny place to sit down.

His parents were very worried about him because he was so cold. His mother spread a mat for him and he slept in the sun. After some time, Joe was warm again and he felt better. He got up and went into his house and had some food. His mother said, "Joe, I'm so pleased you are feeling better again. Thank's be to God for the sun!"

Next day, Joe was happy to be back at school again. He hated missing school!



## OUTLINE LESSON 50

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children describe sunrise and sunset.

**Story:** God made the sun

Children recall that God made the sun and that they enjoy its light and colour.

**Story:** A Sick Boy

Children realize that the warm sun helped Joe when he was sick.

**Drawings:** Clothes drying / A child sleeping in the sun

How does the sun help you?

Children realize that the sun helps them in many ways.

**Excursion / plants:**

Children admire plants and learn that the sun helps them to grow nice and green.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Flash card:** God made the sun

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

Who made the sun?

Why did God make the sun?

**Consider:** God is very good; He loves you; He made the sun to help you in many ways.

**Prayer:** Let us thank God for giving us the sun

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will help Mama to put the clothes / sleeping mats out in the sun.

Children sing: Who made the sun...

Children draw clothes drying in the sun...

Children memorize  
GOD MADE THE  
SUN.

Teacher and children pray.



## GOD MADE THE MOON AND STARS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. learn that God made the moon and stars
- b. admire the moon and stars and thank God

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible people thought that the moon and the stars were among the most wonderful things that God made. They liked to say, "The heavens show forth the glory of God."

They marvelled at the number of the stars; they believed that God knew exactly how many there were and that He had a name for each one. They even said that, at the dawn of creation, the stars sang to God in praise of His work.

**REFLECTION:**

"Lord, you have made so many things!  
How wisely you have made them all." Ps 104,24

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God made the moon and the stars to light up the sky at night.  
Ref Gen 1:16

**Drawings:** The moon and stars

**Drama:** See Lesson Outline

**Song:** *Who made the moon to shine at night (4x)* music page 94  
*God from heaven above.*

**Story: GOD MADE THE MOON AND STARS**

After God had made the sky, He put lights in it to light up the earth. God made the sun for day-time and the moon and stars for night-time. God thought that the moon and stars made the sky look very pretty at night and He was so pleased with the beautiful light that came from them. And that's why there is such a lovely moon and so many bright stars in the sky at night. (Ref Gen 1:6-19)

## OUTLINE LESSON 51

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: What we like to do when the moon is full and shining bright.

They appreciate that moonlight is something special.

### **Drama or Blackboard sketch:**

A family sitting in the moonlight. The children are looking up at the sky and talking about the moon and stars.

Mama: "We're very lucky to be sitting here in the moonlight. It feels so still and quiet."

Child: Papa, where did the moon and stars come from? Who put them up in the sky?

Papa: (Tells the story, God made the moon and the stars. Ref Gen 1:16)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Drawing:** The Moon and Stars

Who made the moon and stars?

Children appreciate God's beautiful gift and thank Him for making the moon and stars.

**Song:** *Who made the moon .*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will sing the song, 'Who made the moon' for my family.

Children draw themselves in the moon-light looking up at the sky.

Children act the play.

Children say: Thank you God for the moon and stars.

Children sing





## BIRDS SING FOR US

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- learn that God made birds
  - thank God for giving them birds

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible often draws our attention to birds in order to tell us about God and spiritual things.

God carried His people out of slavery "as an **eagle** carries her young on her wings," Ex 19:4.

The **ibis** knows when the river will flood and the **rooster** knows when the rain will fall ... they watch; they are not caught unprepared!

The **ostrich** is strong and fast, but hopelessly foolish and reckless.

The **swallow** likes to be close to God; she lays her eggs in His sanctuary and her little ones come out in His presence.

At the baptism of Jesus, the Holy Spirit appeared as a gentle bird, a **dove**. Jesus wanted so much to save His people; He wanted to gather them around Himself "as a **hen** gathers her chicks under her wings," Mt 23:37.

**REFLECTION:**

What appreciation do I have for God's gift of birds?

**PREPARE:**

**Drawing:** Birds

**Feathers:** Collect or draw

**Song:** *Who made all the birds that fly (3x)* page 94  
*Who made all the birds that fly*  
*God in heaven above.*

**Story: GOD MADE BIRDS (Ref Gen 1:20)**

When God had finished making the sky, He thought how nice it would be to fill the sky with birds and so He made all kinds of birds ... big ones and small ones, some with beautiful bright feathers and others not so bright. But God liked them all and He gave them the gift of song.

They sing in the sky and in the gardens and in the bush. They sing at sunrise to say "Good morning" and at sunset to say "Good night" to everyone.

## OUTLINE LESSON 52

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children go outside to see and to listen to birds. They try to imitate them.

They realize that birds make them happy.

### **Drawing:** Birds

Children look carefully at the birds and notice how beautiful their feathers, their eyes, beaks and legs are. They are able to describe birds they see every day.

### **Feathers:**

Children see how beautiful feathers are and realize how good they are for decoration.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God made birds (Ref Gen 1:20)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Song:** *Who made all the birds?*

**Consider:** God loves you very much and wants you to be happy. He likes you to enjoy the birds and to think of Him when you see them or hear them singing.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for giving us birds. We are happy when we see them in our gardens and in the bush and when we hear them singing.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will never harm birds.

Children draw birds and colour them.

Children decorate a child with feathers.

Children sing

Children display their drawings

Teacher and children pray.





## GOD CARES FOR THE BIRDS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that God cares for the birds
- b. be careful not to harm birds because God made them

**BACKGROUND:**

Jesus used the image of birds to help us to appreciate how much God loves and cares for us. He tells us to learn from the birds the meaning of trust in God, our Father. Even though they know nothing of planting and harvesting, they do not go hungry because God Himself feeds them. Jesus said that nothing happens to even the smallest and plainest of birds without God knowing about it. "Aren't you worth more than many sparrows?" Mt 6:26.

**REFLECTION:**

God is honoured when we respect His gifts.

**PREPARE:**

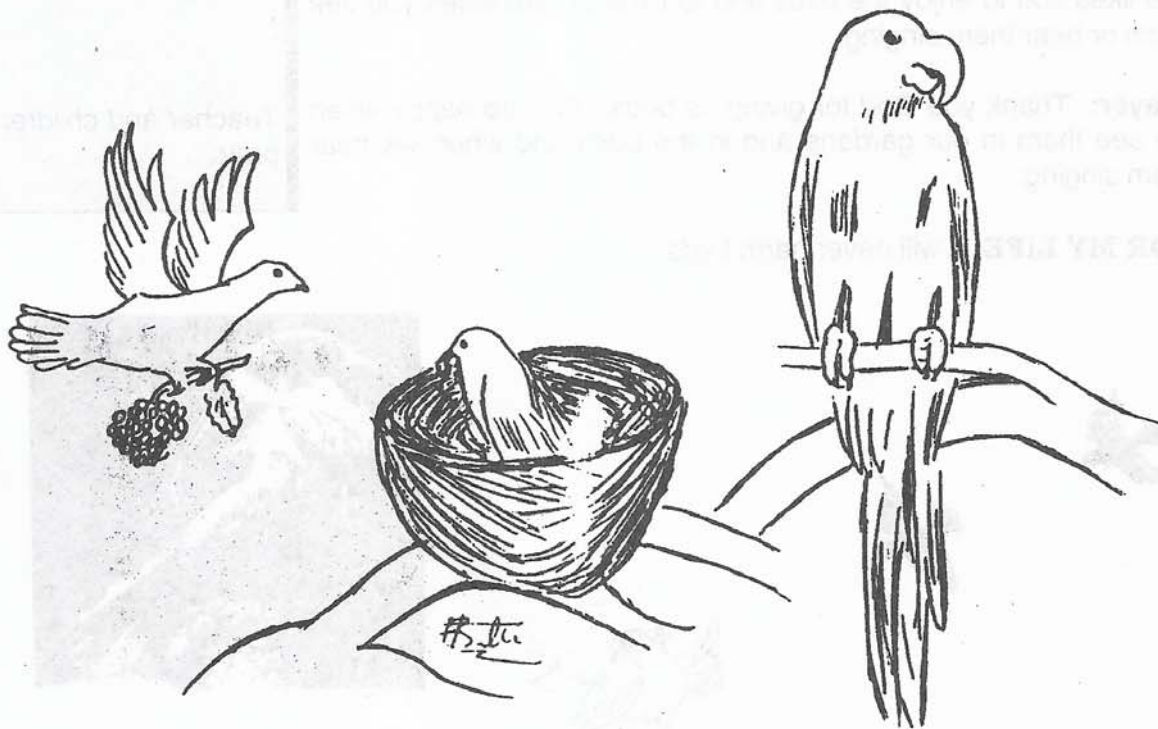
**Scripture:** God our Father takes care of the birds. Ref Mt 6:26.

**Drawing:** Birds

**Poster:** God cares for the Birds (Decorate in class with children's drawings.)

**Story:** God Made Birds (as in previous lesson)

**Song:** Who made all the birds .....Lesson 52



## OUTLINE LESSON 53

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children talk about birds. What do birds eat? Where do they find their food? Where do they build their nests?

**Revision:** God made birds (Previous lesson)

Children appreciate that God made birds and likes them and cares for them. He gives them food and water and a place to make their nests.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God our Father takes care of the birds.  
Ref Mt 6:26.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

#### **Picture of Birds:**

How does God care for birds?

**Consider:** God likes birds very much. He sees how beautiful they are and looks after them. He gives them food and water and grass and sticks to make their nests. Whenever a bird is hurt or killed, God knows about it. God does not want you to harm birds.

**Prayer:** Children thank God for the birds.

**Song:** *Who made all the birds .....*

**Poster:** God cares for birds

Children appreciate the message on the poster and promise not to harm birds.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will never harm birds because God made them.

Children draw the sky full of birds.

Draw a bird eating its food.

Children pray.

Children sing.

Children read poster. Decorate.



## FLOWERS MAKE THE WORLD BEAUTIFUL

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- become aware that God made flowers
  - thank God for the gift of flowers

**BACKGROUND:**

Jesus' own Province, Galilee, was well-known for its lovely wild-flowers. Jesus referred to them in His Sermon on the Mount when He explained that true religion calls for complete trust in God. "And why worry about clothes? Look how the wild flowers grow: they do not work or make clothes for themselves. But I tell you that not even King Solomon with all his wealth had clothes as beautiful as one of these flowers," Mt 6:28-29.

**REFLECTION:**

Spend time admiring flowers. How beautiful your creation is, my God!

**PREPARE:**

**Fresh flowers:** One for each child

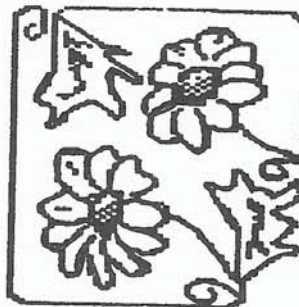
**Drawing:** Different kinds of flowers

**Poster:** Thank you God for flowers. (Decorate )

**Song:** *Who made all the flowers that bloom (3x) page 94*  
*Who made all the flowers that bloom?*  
*God in heaven above,*

**Story:** GOD MADE FLOWERS (Ref Genesis 1:11-12)

God wanted the world to be a very beautiful place for us to live in and so He made flowers. God made all kinds of flowers... hibiscus and frangipani and bougainvillea and many, many more. He put flowers everywhere ... in gardens, in the bush, on the mountains, up the trees and even in the water! God thought the flowers looked beautiful and that they would make everyone very happy.



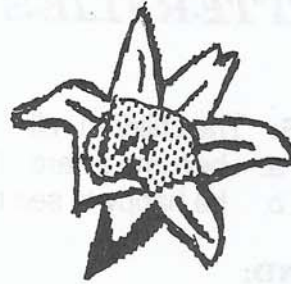
## OUTLINE LESSON 54

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: Where do we find flowers?  
What do we do with them?  
They realize that flowers make them happy.

**Fresh Flowers:** (Give each child a flower)

Children look carefully at their flowers. They admire the colour, shape, perfume. Compare their flowers.



### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Story:** God made flowers (Ref Gen 1:11-12)  
Children become aware of flowers as a gift from God.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Drawing:** Flowers

Who made the flowers?

Children recognize different flowers and admire them.

**Consider:** God loves you and wants you to have a very beautiful world to live in. All the flowers that God made are for your happiness. You should be careful not to spoil them.

**The Poster:**

Children express thanks to God for flowers.

**Song:** *Who made all the flowers*

### FOR MY LIFE:

Tomorrow, I will bring flowers to school to decorate the altar in our classroom.

Children put their flowers in their hair.

Children re-tell the story.

Children draw flowers.

Use children's flowers to decorate the poster.

Children sing.





## BUTTERFLIES MAKE US FEEL HAPPY

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- become aware of butterflies as a gift from God
- be happy to see butterflies and thank God for them

**BACKGROUND:**

Butterflies are not beautiful all at once!

- They have to become beautiful and this takes time. Becoming beautiful is a process for butterflies, and for people, too. But God wants all of us to be beautiful and sometimes He hides us away to give us time to think and pray. The full beauty of butterflies is seen only in sunlight: the full beauty of people is seen only in the light of God's presence.

**REFLECTION:**

What could I learn about my life from butterflies?

**PREPARE:**

**Specimen:** A butterfly in a jar (if possible)

**Drawing:** Different kinds of butterflies

**Prayer Chart:** Thank you God for butterflies. (Decorate with children's drawings)

**Song:** page 110

*Butterflies are very nice, thank you God.*

*Butterflies have pretty wings, thank you God.*

### Story: GOD MADE BUTTERFLIES

In the beginning, God made the world very beautiful. He put many lovely things in it such as birds and flowers. Then He thought of butterflies! How nice they would look flying around among the flowers!

So God made many kinds of butterflies and gave them beautiful colours and very soft wings. He was so happy to see them flying around in the sunlight. (Adapted: Gen 1:22-24)

The musical notation is written on two staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. It contains the melody for the first line of the song. The second staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat and a 3/4 time signature. It contains the melody for the second line of the song. The lyrics are written below the notes.

treble

But - ter - flies are ve - - ry nice.

But - ter - flies have pret - - ty wings

Thank you. God.

## OUTLINE LESSON 55

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Pass around the jar with the butterfly and give the children time to admire it and talk about it.

**Drawing:** Different kinds of butterflies

Children admire the butterflies and take special notice of their bright colours and lovely wings.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God made Butterflies (Adapted from Gen 1:22-24)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who made butterflies?

Why do you think God made them?

**Consider:** God made butterflies to make us happy. They are a gift from God that can be easily hurt.

**Prayer Chart:** Children express their thanks to God for the gift of butterflies.

**Song:** Butterflies...

Children express the happiness for God's gift.

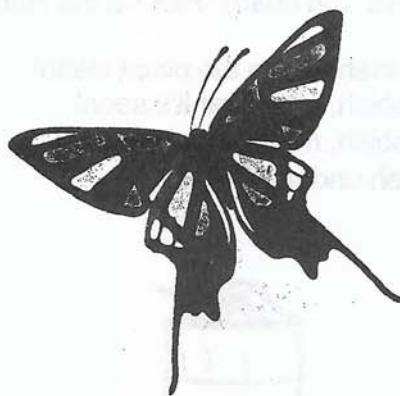
**FOR MY LIFE:** I will never harm butterflies.

Children draw different kinds of butterflies. Use bright colours.

Children retell the story.

Children read and decorate the chart.

Children sing.





## WE MAKE OUR PLACE BEAUTIFUL

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that God wants them to make the place where they live beautiful
- b. work with others to keep their place nice

**BACKGROUND:**

God's people loved to go over and over the Story of Creation because it told them so much about the power and goodness and kindness of God. The Bible people introduced their God to others as "The God Who made Heaven and Earth," Jon 1:9. They were very proud of God's "handiwork" and saw in it a reflection of His glory.

**REFLECTION:**

God did not need the world for Himself. He made it for us to live in. How do I show that I appreciate my home?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** The world belongs to God. Ref Ps 24:1

**Sketch:** Rubbish bins

**Story: "A GIRL CALLED KATE"**

Kate was the youngest in her family and she was in Prep. Everyday, before she went to school, Kate had some little jobs to do at home. She watered the flowers and then picked up all the rubbish around the house and put it right into the rubbish bin near the kitchen. When she's finished, she calls out, "Mama, I'm going now. Goodbye."

Kate and her parents were proud of their nice, clean place.

**Poem:** (on chart) "Pick up the Rubbish"

Pick up the rubbish, make the place clean!  
Pick up the rubbish, wherever it's seen!  
Pick up the rubbish, make the place neat,  
No more rubbish under your feet!



## OUTLINE LESSON 56

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children tell each other what they do to make their place / their school look nice. (e.g. I sweep. I pick up rubbish etc)

They realize that it is important to clean up.

Where have you seen a beautiful place?

Children learn that people make places look nice by cleaning them up, by planting trees and flowers.

**Story:** "A Girl called Kate"

Why is Kate's place so nice?

Children realize that Kate cares about her place. She takes time to clean up and to care for her garden.

**Sketch:** Rubbish bins

Children become aware that they must work to make their place look nice.

**Poem:** "Pick up the Rubbish"

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** The earth belongs to God. Ref Ps 24:1.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Consider:** The world belongs to God. He lets us live in the world and wants us to be happy. You say 'Thank you' to God by looking after your place well.

**Prayer:** Let us thank God for making the world and promise Him that we will look after everything that He has made.

**FOR MY LIFE:** Children go out and clean up around the school.

Children retell the Story

Children draw a rubbish bin

Say the poem with actions

Children make their own prayers.



## WE CARE FOR EVERYTHING GOD MADE

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- become aware of the importance of taking care of everything God made
- be thankful to God for giving them so many gifts

**BACKGROUND:**

God made the world to be lived in. He is honoured when we use His gifts with care and gratitude.

Selfishness and greed cause people to misuse God's gifts of creation.

**REFLECTION:**

"God looked at everything He had made, and He was very pleased." Gen 1,31. Am I pleased with God's gifts of creation?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Everything that God made is good.

Ref Gen 1:25

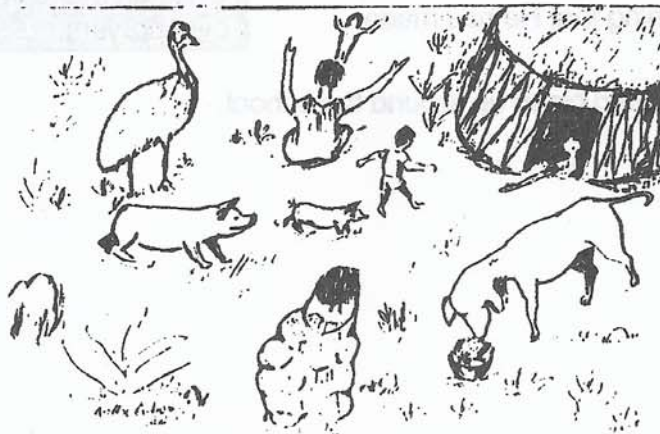
**Picture:** People caring for plants / animals

**Poster:** I will look after everything God made

**Story:** "A GIRL CALLED KATE" (for revision)

**Chart:** Poem, "Pick up the Rubbish". For decorations, draw rubbish bins around the border.

**Response:** I will look after everything you have made



## OUTLINE LESSON 57

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children re-call the story, "A Girl Called Kate." Why did Kate's place look nice? Does your place look nice, too? Children appreciate that it is sad to see places untidy with flowers and trees all broken about.

#### **A short walk:**

Children see what it means to spoil trees and gardens.

**Poem:** "Pick up the Rubbish"

Children understand that it is **their** work to pick up rubbish around their home and school.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Everything God made is good. Ref Gen 1.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Why does God care about everything?

**Consider:** God cares about everything because everything He made is good. He sends sun and rain; He gives food to the animals and birds and new life to trees and flowers. He wants you to respect every-thing that He made.

**Prayer:** Response:

I will look after everything you have made.

**Teacher:** God our Father, we thank you for everything you have made.

**Side 1:** I will keep my place clean and tidy. (Response)

**Side 2:** I will not break trees and flowers. (Response)

**Together:** God bless my place.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will help to look after our trees and gardens.

Children take a short walk to look at trees, etc

Children tidy their classroom and the area around it.

Say the Poem

Teacher and children pray.



## UNIT 7: GOD GIVES US MANY THINGS TO USE

### FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 7:58

## GOD GAVE US TREES

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- learn that God made trees
  - thank God for the gift of trees

**BACKGROUND:**

The biggest and most beautiful tree known to the people of the Bible was the cedar tree. Its wood is a warm red colour and it is good for polishing and carving. This was the timber chosen by King Solomon for God's Temple in Jerusalem. He wanted to give the best to God!

**REFLECTION**

In what ways do I express my appreciation of trees?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God made all kinds of beautiful trees.  
Ref Gen 2:9

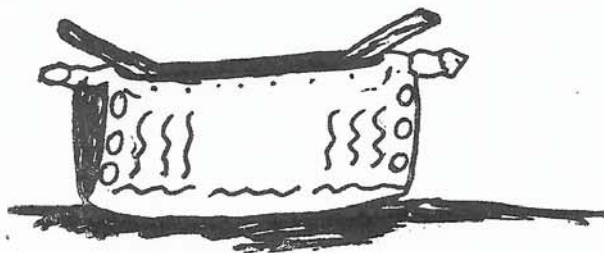
**Drawing:** Different kinds of trees.

**Cards:** A card for each child with the words: Thank you, God for trees.

**Poem:** Only God can make a tree (See next page)

### Story: PETER'S GARAMUT

One day Peter and his father went to the bush together. As they walked along, they saw all kinds of trees... big ones and tall ones, nice leafy ones and many, many more. As he was walking, Peter stopped suddenly and said, "Papa, let's cut down one of these trees and make a garamut!" His father said, "All right, here's a big, strong one. We'll cut just one branch off it for our garamut." They worked hard at making their garamut. Peter wanted to try it out and so they carried it to a clear space and began to beat it with a strong, straight stick. When the people heard the garamut, they came hurrying to the clear space. There was Peter and his father smiling proudly at their new garamut!



## OUTLINE LESSON 58

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name or describe their trees at home and at school. Why do you like your trees?  
What do you use them for?

**Drawing:** Different kinds of trees

Children recognize the different kinds of trees and are able to name some of their special uses.

**Story:** Let's make a Garamut

Children deepen their appreciation of the importance of trees.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God made all kinds of beautiful trees.  
Ref Gen 2:9

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who gave us trees?

**Poem:** Only God can make a tree

*Thank you God for trees so tall.  
Thank you God for trees so small.  
Thank you God for thinking of me.  
Only you can make a tree!*

**Consider:** God shows you how much He cares for you through His gift of trees...for shade, for fruit, for firewood etc.

**Prayer:** Children thank God for the gift of trees.

### FOR MY LIFE:

(Teacher gives out the cards.) I will decorate my card and take it home.

Children draw different kinds of trees.

Children discuss the story.

Group work: Learn the poem.

Children pray or sing the poem.





## WE CARE FOR GOD'S GIFT OF TREES

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware of the importance of looking after trees
- b. make up their minds not to spoil God's gift of trees

**BACKGROUND:**

Trees have a very important place in the Story of Salvation. The Bible tells us that our First Parents ate the fruit of a tree that God told them not to eat. On Good Friday, we honour the 'Tree'(of the Cross) on which Jesus died so that we might have eternal life.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I show my gratitude for trees by taking care of them?

**PREPARE:**

**Drawing:** Trees (as for previous lesson)

**Song:** Music page 36

*Thank you God for giving us trees  
Thank you God for fruits and leaves  
Thank you God for the gift of trees  
We thank you, God.*

**Story:** Miriam's Tree

In a village not far away, there lived a little girl called Miriam. One day, her mother said, "Miriam, today, I'd like to plant some trees so that our place will look nice." Miriam was happy to help her mother. They planted six trees altogether, one for each member of the family. Miriam, which tree would you like as **your** tree. Miriam chose a rain tree. Her mother said, "If you look after it carefully, it grow into a very big tree and it will make our place look very, very nice." So Miriam watered her tree every week and cleared around it. It grew up straight and soon it was taller than Miriam herself.



## OUTLINE LESSON 59

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Teacher and children take a walk around the play-ground to look at the trees.

Which tree did you like best?

Did you see any trees that have been spoiled?

How did you feel when you saw these trees?

Children see that trees are beautiful and that it's sad to see trees that have been spoiled.

### **Drawing:** Trees

Children take time to admire the trees. They remember that God made them and that they need trees.

**Discussion:** How to look after trees.

Children learn that God is pleased when they look after trees and is disappointed when they spoil them.

### **Story:** Miriam's Tree

Why did Miriam and her mother plant trees?

How did Miriam look after her tree?

God is pleased when you plant trees and look after them. He makes them grow for you and He does not want you to spoil them by chopping them for nothing or by cutting your names into them.

**Song:** *Thank you God for giving us trees*

**Prayer:** God our Father, we thank you for the gift of trees. We will look after our trees and never spoil them.

Draw trees.

Children draw themselves watering a little tree.

Children say how they look after trees.

Children re-tell the story.

Children sing.

Teacher and children pray.

**FOR MY LIFE:** Class project: Planting and looking after a tree.



## OUR FOOD GARDENS

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- realize that their food gardens are a sign of God's care for them
  - ask God to bless their gardens

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible uses the image of a garden as a way of expressing God's love and care for His people and their land. Because most of the people of Israel were gardeners, this "picture" would have appealed to them. The Bible calls God 'the gardener of Israel' and, although He did everything that a careful gardener would do, His 'garden' (His people) failed to produce anything good. He was disappointed to find that "every grape was sour!" Ref Is 5:1-2.

**REFLECTION:**

When I work in my garden, I continue God's work of Creation.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God planted a garden ... and He made all kinds of beautiful food grow there. Ref Gen 2:8-9

**Song:** page 120

*How I love, how I love, how I love my garden.*

*Thank you God, thank you God, thank you for my garden.*

**Story:** Tami and the New Garden

Tami lives with his family in a village not far away. He's in Grade 1 and goes to school everyday so he doesn't have much spare time!

One Saturday, his father said: "Tami, there's no school today. How would you like to come to the bush with me and help me to make a new garden?" Tami was very happy to spend the day in the garden with his father. They worked hard all day and were really very tired.

Before going home, they sat down to have a rest. Tami's father said: "This is going to be a great garden. We'll have lots of food, but let's ask God to send rain and sun on our new plants." So Tami and his father asked God to bless their garden and then set off for home.



## OUTLINE LESSON 60

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children name the different kinds of food they get from their gardens.  
They realize how important their gardens are.

**Story:** Tami and the New Garden

What did Tami and his father do ?  
What did God do for the new garden?

Children understand that God blesses their gardens. They dig and plant and God sends sun and rain.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God planted a garden ... He made all kinds of beautiful food grow there. Ref Gen 2:8-9.

Children wonder about God's garden.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What do you do in your garden?

Children realize that God shows His care for them by blessing their gardens and making them produce food. He is happy to see them neat and clean. God likes you to work in your gardens.

**Prayer:** Let us ask God to bless our gardens.

**Song:** *How I love...*

Children express the happiness they feel about their gardens.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will visit my garden and ask God to bless it.

Draw Tami and his father going to the garden at sunrise.

Draw yourself cleaning your garden.

Children pray.

Children sing.





## WE THANK GOD FOR OUR GARDENS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. learn that God helps them to have good gardens
- b. thank God for their gardens

**BACKGROUND:**

It is clear, from many of His parables, that Jesus understood the work of gardening very well. He had studied seeds closely and knew all about planting, caring for gardens and harvesting.

In describing the Mystery of the Kingdom of God, Jesus used the image of the growing seed. He noted that the tiniest seed has a power in itself for growth. And growth goes on unnoticed. This is how it is, Jesus said, with God's Kingdom.

**REFLECTION:**

I cannot make seeds to grow, but I can help them to grow.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God makes plants grow for us. Ref Ps 104:14f.

**Samples:** Bring seeds / vegetables to show the children

**Song:** *How I love my garden..* Lesson 60

**Story: ANNA PLANTS A GARDEN**

One Saturday morning Anna got up at sunrise and went to her garden to get the soil ready for new seeds. She cleared the ground and made the soil fine and nice for the little seeds. As she planted her seeds and watered them carefully, Anna thought about all the lovely food she would have later on.

Anna remembered to weed and water her plants and God sent sun and rain to help them to grow well. Then one day, she brought home a nice big cabbage. Her mother said: "Anna, that's a beautiful cabbage. You worked very hard in your garden and you see that God has blessed it."



## OUTLINE LESSON 61

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: What I do in my garden.  
How I feel when the rain waters it.

**Show:** Seeds and vegetables

Children wonder about growth. They admire the tiny seeds and the beautiful vegetables.

**Story:** Anna Plants a Garden

What did Anna do for her garden?

Children share Anna's feelings as she looks after her garden and waits for her food to grow.

Children learn that they can talk to God while they are working in their gardens; they can thank Him and ask Him to bless their work.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God makes plants grow for us. Ref Ps 104.14f.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What does God do for your gardens?

God shows His care for you by making food grow in your garden.  
This food keeps you well and happy. You should thank God for it.

**Song:** *How I love my garden.*

**Prayer:** Let us thank God for all the food we get from our gardens.

**FOR MY LIFE:** As I clean my garden, I will thank God for all the food in my garden.

Children handle the seeds and vegetables.  
Draw seeds and vegetables.

Draw Anna planting her garden.

Sing:

Children pray.





## GOD GIVES US WATER

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware of water as a wonderful gift from God
- b. thank God for His gift of water

**BACKGROUND:**

Because their rainfall was low, the people of the Bible Lands really appreciated the value of water. They had to depend on wells and springs or on cisterns for their water supply. They liked best to drink "living water", which was water from wells and springs. One of their customs was to offer water to thirsty travellers.

In Chapter 4 of his Gospel, St John presents Jesus to his readers as a tired, thirsty traveller who asks a woman for a drink from a well. They talk together about water and life and worship of God. Gradually, Jesus leads her on to the realization that He is able to give her the "living water" of eternal life. She believes in Him and knows "that she will never be thirsty again."

**REFLECTION:**

Water is a sign of life and growth and cleansing. In our Christian life, it is a sign of eternal life.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God made rain water and sea water. Ref Gen 1:6-7

**Pictures:** Rivers/ lakes / people using water

**Song:** Music page 54

*Get some water, get some water*

*Water is for cleaning, water is for washing,*

*Thank you God, thank you God* (Add your own words)

**Story: CHILDREN WHO LOVED WATER**

Mark and Mary are very lucky children because they live near a river. Even when they were small babies, their mother used to put them into the river and wash their little bodies all over. They always had lovely soft clean skin. Sometimes their mother would let them play in the water while she washed the clothes and dried them in the sun. Mark and Mary still love washing themselves and playing in the river and helping their mother to wash the clothes and the vegetables. They look very healthy.

## OUTLINE LESSON 62

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children say what they use water for at home.

Where do you get your water?

Do you ever waste water?

Children understand that water is very important for life?

**Story:** Children Who Loved Water

Children share the happiness of Mark and Mary as they wash and play in the river and help their mother.

**Pictures:** Rivers / lakes

Children admire the "water" scenes and wonder where all the water comes from.

**Pictures:** People using water

Children realize that water is a wonderful gift; people use it for so many things.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God made rain water and sea water.

Ref Gen 1:6-7.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who gives us water?

**Consider:** God made water so that we could be clean and healthy and enjoy swimming and playing in it. We should remember that water is a lovely gift from God and never waste it or make it dirty for nothing.

**Prayer:** God our Father, we thank you for the gift of water. It is so good to be clean and to have nice fresh water to cook our food. Thank you for looking after us so nicely.

**Song:** *Get some water (X2). Hurry please. /  
Water is for washing, water is for cooking  
Thank you God. (Tune: Where is Thumbkin)*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will never waste water.

Children draw themselves getting water.

Children re-tell the story.

Make a list on the blackboard: We use water for ...

Children draw clouds and rain.

Teacher leads the prayer.

Children sing



## GOD GIVES US FISH

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- learn that God put fish in the rivers and seas
  - thank God for giving us fish

**BACKGROUND:**

Fishing was an activity or industry that was well-known to Jesus. The Lake of Galilee, in His home Province, was full of fish. At least four of Jesus' apostles were fishermen. When He called them, He explained their new 'work' or vocation in terms of being "fishers of men." Lk 5:10.

What is going to happen on the Last Day, the Day of Judgment? Jesus answered this question with the Parable of the Net. "When the net is full, the fishermen pull it to shore and sit down to divide the fish; the good ones go into the buckets, the worthless ones are thrown away." Mt 13:47f

**REFLECTION:**

Do I try to learn spiritual things from what I see in everyday life?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God filled the water with all kinds of fish. Ref Gen 1:20

**Drawings:** Fish and fishing

**Song:** Music page 126

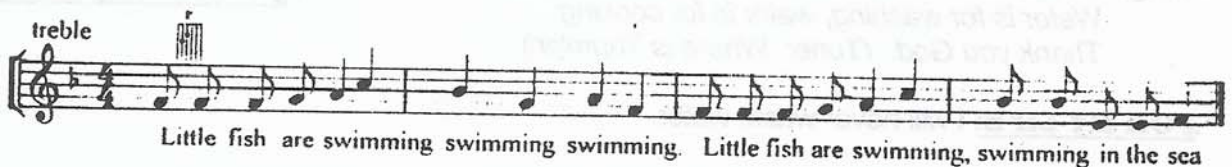
*Little fish are swimming swimming, swimming.*

*Little fish are swimming in the sea.*

*( Big fish....Coloured.fish...)*

**Story:** PETER AND HIS FRIENDS GO FISHING (Adapted Jn 21)

One day Peter said to his friends, "I want to go fishing tonight." Some of them said, "We'll go along with you." So they got into Peter's boat and pulled out into deep water. They put out their big net and drifted and drifted all night, but had no luck at all. They were all very disappointed and were just going to go home when they heard Jesus call out telling them to have one more try. So they put out their nets again and this time they caught lots and lots of fish. They had a very happy time pulling in their net and counting their fish.



## OUTLINE LESSON 63

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children remember times when they have enjoyed eating fresh fish.

Where did they get it? How big was it? etc

They appreciate that fish is very special food.

### **Drawings:** Fish and Fishing

Children are happy to see such nice fish and enjoy the work of fishing.

### **Story:** Peter and His Friends

Children share the experience of Peter and his friends. Why were they disappointed? Why were they so happy?

**Song:** Little fish...

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God filled the water with all kinds of fish.  
Ref Gen 1:20.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who made fish for us to enjoy?

**Consider:** God loves you very much and He has shown His love for you by giving you many things. Fish is one of His special gifts to you. He put fish in the water so that you could have good food.

**Prayer:** God our Father, we thank you for loving us and giving us so many things. Today we want to thank you for putting fish in the sea for us.

### FOR MY LIFE:

I will write: "Thank you, God" on my drawings and take them home for my family.

Children draw a plate of food with nice big fish on it.

Draw a fishing line with a fish on the end of it.

Children retell the story.

Children sing

Teacher and  
children pray  
together.





## GOD MADE ANIMALS FOR US

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. learn that animals are a gift from God
- b. treat animals properly and thank God for them

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible refers to three different classes of animals. First, the wild animals that God cares for by providing food and water. Then, beasts of burden which are so helpful to man. These are the camel, the ox and the donkey. The farm animals are the sheep, the goat, the pig and the dog. The Bible describes the qualities of animals and draws lessons for life from them.

**REFLECTION:**

God has given everything its own place in Creation.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God made all kinds of animals. Ref Gen 1:24

**Pictures:** Different kinds of animals. Page 249

**Song:** Music page 36

1. *Thank you God for my pussy-cat. Thank you thank you God*
2. *Thank you God for my puppy-dog,*
3. *.....my fat round pig*
4. *.....busy little chicks..*

**Story: JOSEPH AND THE PUPPY**

When Joseph came home from school, he always went and sat on the swing near his house. As he sat there swinging away, he'd sing songs about puppies. He really wanted a puppy of his own. Sometimes he'd ask his father to get him one. His father would say, "Wait, I'm still looking for a nice one for you."

One day, when Joseph was resting under a little bush, he heard a noise just beside him and turned to look. And what do you think he saw? A little black puppy with one white ear was creeping up towards him.

Joseph put out his hand. The puppy came closer and closer; it let Joseph rub its head and back. Joseph was very excited. He picked up the little puppy and carried it home. "It must belong to someone," his father said. They waited, but no one came for the puppy! At last Joseph said, "It's mine now and its name is Smudge."

## OUTLINE LESSON 64

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children talk about the animals they have at home. How do your animals help you?  
How do you look after your animals?

They see that animals are good, if they are looked after.

**Pictures:** Different kinds of animals

Children enjoy the animals and notice how beautifully they are made.

**Story:** Joseph and the Puppy

Children realize that the puppy will help Joseph and that he will look after it well.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God made all kinds of animals.  
Ref Gen 1:24.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Do you think that God cares about animals?

**Consider:** You are God's child and He wants you to be happy and to have everything that you need. He gave you animals to help you. They are a gift from God and so you should look after them well.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for all the beautiful animals You made. We like them and they help us very much.

**Song:** *Thank you God...*

### FOR MY LIFE:

I will take home my drawing and tell my family the story of Joseph and the Puppy.

Make a list on the chalkboard: Animals we know:

Children draw Joseph with Smudge.

Draw your dog watching your house.

Teacher and children pray.

Children sing



## GOD MADE FIRE FOR US

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- appreciate fire as a "special" gift from God
  - respect fire and thank God for it

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible, which makes many references to fire, generally uses it as a sign of God's presence. God was present with His people in the Desert; "in the night he went in front of them in a pillar of fire..."

Ex 13:21.

At Mt Sinai, where God gave the Law to Moses, He came down on the holy mountain in fire so that the people experienced His presence.

At Pentecost, the New People of God also experienced God's presence. "They saw what looked like tongues of fire which spread out and touched each person there," Acts 2,3.

**REFLECTION:**

What does fire tell me about God?

**PREPARE:**

**Song:** *Little flames are dancing, dancing, o ho ho (3x) page 131*  
*Big red flames are jumping, jumping.....*  
*Look the fire is burning burning.....*  
*Look the fire is dying dying.....*

**Story: GETTING A FIRE-STICK**

When Mama was a little girl she lived in a village high up in the mountains. She was the first born. Every afternoon, she'd light the fire to cook the food for the family. When everyone had eaten, she'd put more wood on the fire and the whole family would sit around it and tell stories.

The children slept close to the fire. It dried their clothes and kept them warm. Sometimes, the fire "died" during the night and when Mama woke up she'd go to get a fire stick from another family. She'd take a present to the family and come back swinging her fire stick.



## OUTLINE LESSON 65

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

The children share their experience with fire.  
What do you use fire for at home?  
Who lights the fire? Do you play with fire?

They appreciate that fire is "special".

### **Story:** Getting the Fire Stick

Children deepen their appreciation of the value of fire as they realize how it helped the children in the mountain village.

**Play:** Family sitting around the fire.

Children understand that fire is good; it warms you, dries you etc.  
It is not for playing with.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Consider:** God made many things for us to use. Fire is a good gift because it helps us in many ways. We respect fire and never play with it.

**Prayer:** God our Father we thank you for giving us fire for cooking our food and keeping us warm.

**Song:** *Little flames are dancing...*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will never play with fire.

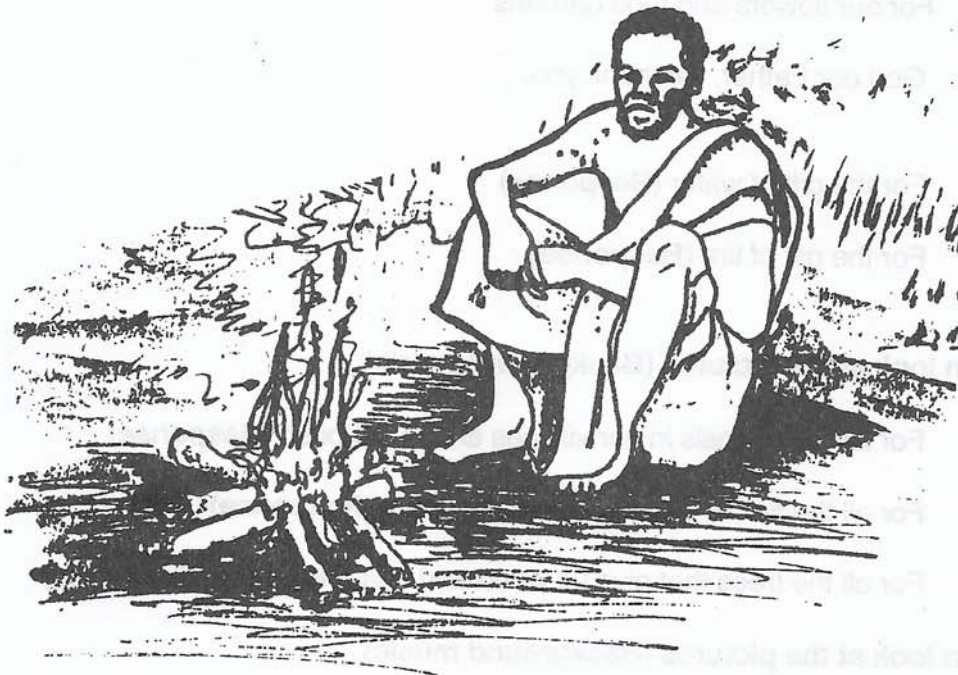
Children draw a fire.

Children draw a woman with a fire stick.

**Quiz:** When we are cold, fire ....  
When we are sick, fire ...  
(continue)

Teacher and children pray.

Children sing with actions.





## CELEBRATION : GOD CARES FOR US

### PREPARE:

Invite the children to bring flowers / fruit / vegetables / seeds and to help with decorating the altar. Place the Bible on the altar and put the flowers etc near it.

**Pictures / Drawings:** Display pictures used in Unit 7

**Chart or Blackboard:** Response ... God our Father, we thank you

**Music:** Prepare quiet background music

**Songs:** *Thank you God for .....*

**Food:** Try to have some food as part of the celebration (peanuts, twisties)

\*\*\*\*\*

### Leader:

Today, we will celebrate God's care for us. God has given us many things to use and now we want to thank Him. Let us begin with the Sign of the Cross.

### Opening Song:

*Thank you God .....*

### Leader:

God our Father is with us today. We are happy to be together.  
We are happy that God shows His care for us by giving us so many good things to use.

**Leader:** For our flowers and food gardens

**Response:** God our Father, we thank you.

**Leader:** For the gift of water (Response)

**Leader:** For the gift of fire (Response)

**\*\* Children look at the pictures (Background music)**

**Leader:** For all the animals in our villages and in the bush (Response)

**Leader:** For all the fish in the sea and in the rivers (Response)

**Leader:** For all the trees that give us wood and fruit and shade (Response)

**\*\* Children look at the pictures (Background music)**

## THE LIVING WORD: (Adapted from Gen 1)

God made everything for us to use. He is happy when we use things well and when we say 'Thank you' to Him.

**Final Prayer:** Let us sing:

*Thank you God for the world so sweet.*

*Thank you God for the food we eat.*

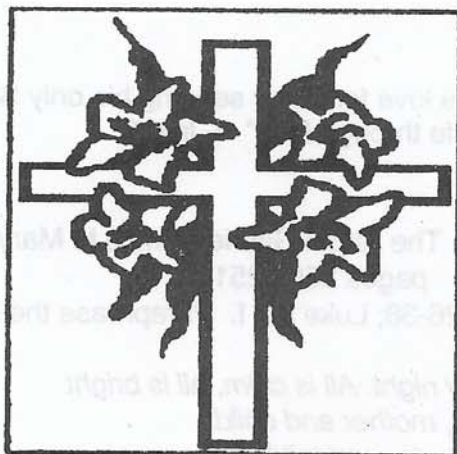
*Thank you God for the birds that sing*

*Thank you God for everything.*

## Sharing the Food:

To conclude the Celebration, teacher and children share the food.

Sing songs from Unit 7 until the time is up.





## UNIT 8: JESUS LIVED IN A FAMILY

### FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 8:67

## GOD'S SON CAME TO LIVE ON EARTH

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- become aware that God's Son came to live with us and His name was Jesus
  - want to know and love God's Son

**BACKGROUND:**

This is an important and difficult lesson because now the teacher introduces the children to a great mystery of Faith, the Mystery of God-made-Man. St John writes about it in these words: "The Word became man and, full of grace and truth, lived among us." Jn 1:14.

Perhaps many of the children already know Jesus, but nevertheless, **the teacher introduces Him in a formal way.** He is God's Son; His mother is Mary of Nazareth; He has come into this world to redeem and save it. His 'special' name, Jesus, means "Saviour".

Here are three great Scripture passages about the Mystery of God-made-Man: Mt 1:18-2:23; Luke 1:5-25:2; John 1:1-18.

Up to this point in the Programme, the teacher has been helping the children to grow in their relationship with **God their Father** through experiencing His goodness in their own lives and in the work of Creation. Now, they begin to deepen their relationship with God the Father through Jesus.

**REFLECTION:**

"God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we might have life through him." 1 Jn 4:9.

**PREPARE:**

**Bible Pictures:** The Angel Gabriel comes to Mary / The Birth of Jesus  
pages 250, 251..

**Bible:** Luke 1:26-38; Luke 2:1 f. Paraphrase the stories.

**Song:**

*Silent night, holy night. All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin, mother and child.  
Holy Infant so tender and mild.  
Sleep in heavenly peace. (2x)*

## OUTLINE LESSON 67

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share stories about babies.

They appreciate how very nice babies are. They realize that babies belong in families and that they make families happy.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Picture:** The Angel Gabriel comes to Mary

Children hear that God sent the Angel Gabriel to Mary to tell her that it is time now to send His Son to earth, and to ask her if she would be His mother. Mary said 'Yes' to God.

**Picture:** The Birth of Jesus

Children hear the story of the birth of Jesus. They welcome God's Son. They see that God has prepared a home for Him with Mary and Joseph to care for Him. He is a beautiful baby and His special name is "Jesus".

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Consider:** God loves you very much and wants you to love Him, too. He sent His Son, Jesus to be your brother.

**Prayer:** Thank you God for sending your Son Jesus to live with us and to be our brother.

**Song:** *Silent Night*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will be Jesus' brother / sister.

Children draw a mother and baby.

Children tell the story.

Children write Jesus' name. Decorate.

Children write: God loves me.

Teacher and children pray

Children sing.

**SILENT NIGHT**

Si --- lent night. Ho --- ly night All is calm, all is bright  
 Kris -- mas nait. San --- tu nait. Ol i slip, sta i lait.

round yon vir --- gin mother and child. Ho --- ly in - fant so ten - der and mild.  
 Nau Ma --- ri - a i kar -- im God Son. Lik -- lik Ji - sas kam daun hia long graun.

Sleep in hea - ven - ly pence --- Sleep -- in hea - ven - ly pence.  
 Ji - sas Ri - di -- ma i kam --- Ji - sas Ri -- di --- ma i kam.



## JESUS' MOTHER MARY

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- hear that God chose Mary to be Jesus' Mother
  - be happy to honour Mary

**BACKGROUND:**

There are many references to Mary in the O.T. and the N.T. The Old Testament speaks in different ways about a particular woman who is to have a special part in putting down the serpent (Gen 3,15), and who is to bear a son whose name will be Immanuel (Is 7.14, Mic 5:2-3). The mysterious O.T. references become quite clear in the New Testament, for example, "The angel had a message for a girl promised in marriage to a man named Joseph, who was a descendant of King David. The girl's name was Mary." Lk 1:27. Catholics reflect deeply on Mary's role in the work of Salvation and honour her with gratitude.

**REFLECTION:**

Because of her faith, Mary had a special part in the mystery of Salvation.

**PREPARE:**

**Pictures:** Mary and Jesus. Page 193

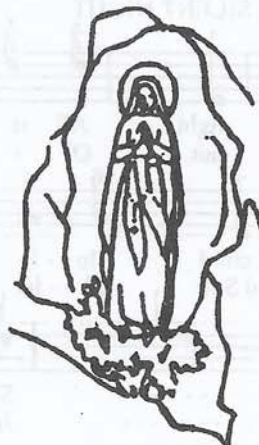
**Poster:** Write the prayer, "Hail Mary ... Jesus."

**An altar** in honour of Mary (Children help)

**Story:** A MOTHER FOR GOD'S SON (Ref. Lk 1:26-36)

Once, in a little village called Nazareth, there lived a beautiful young girl named Mary. God liked her so much that He chose her to be the mother of His Son, Jesus.

He sent an angel from Heaven to ask Mary if she would be willing to be the mother of His Son. When Mary understood what God wanted, she said 'Yes' to Him. So God made Mary the mother of His Son, Jesus.



## OUTLINE LESSON 68

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: What our mothers do for us.

They realize that it is very important to have a mother.

What does a mother do for her baby? ...

Children realize that a mother and her child share many things; they have to be together.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** A Mother for God's Son (based on Lk 1:26-36)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Why is Mary such a special mother?

Children realize that Mary is a special mother because Her baby is God's Son.

**Picture:** Mary and Jesus

Children realize that Mary loves her baby, Jesus, and does everything for Him.

Mary is a very special Mother; she is Jesus' mother. God's children like to honour Mary.

**Poster:** The Hail Mary

Children begin to learn the Hail Mary.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will tell my mother the story about Mary.

Children draw themselves with their mother.

Children retell the story.

Complete: Mary I-v-s Jesus.

Children stand near the altar.

Children say the Hail Mary



## ST JOSEPH LOOKED AFTER JESUS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- be able to say that God chose St Joseph to look after Jesus as a father
- pray to St Joseph

**BACKGROUND:**

As Background for this lesson, read Mt 1:18-2:23 and Lk 2:1-52. These chapters introduce St Joseph and give insights into his role in the Holy Family. They help us to appreciate what kind of man he was.

**REFLECTION:**

Joseph was a man who always did what was right. Ref Mt 1:19a.

**PREPARE:**

**Pictures:** Joseph and Jesus, page 253

**Song:** 138

- Joseph hold the little child, rock him, rock him off to sleep.  
He will dream of angels bright,  
and stars and kings and sheep so white - o Jesus.
- Joseph hold the holy child, see how he rests his little head  
He will sleep the long night through,  
ox and donkey by his bed. - o Jesus.

**Story:** JOSEPH OF NAZARETH (based on Mt 1:18-25)

Everyone liked Joseph of Nazareth. The village people used to say: "Joseph is a very good young man. He is a very good carpenter; he never tricks anyone."

One day Joseph told his uncle that he would like to get married. His uncle said, "That's very good news. Who would you like to marry?" Joseph said that he liked Mary, and wanted to marry her. She also lived in Nazareth. Joseph's uncle sent a present to Mary and she was very happy to accept it because she knew that Joseph was a very good man.

Joseph and Mary got married and Joseph knew that it was his special work to look after God's Son, Jesus. He loved Mary and the baby Jesus very much and looked after them very, very well.

1. Joseph hold the little child, rock him, rock him off to sleep. He will dream of  
angels bright, and stars and kings and sheep so white - o Jesus.

## OUTLINE LESSON 69

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children describe how their fathers look after them. What does your father do for you?

They appreciate their father's care.

How do little children feel being with their father?

Children realize that fathers are very special. They love and care for their children in many ways.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Joseph of Nazareth (adapted)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who did Joseph marry?

What special work did he do for God?

Children are introduced to Joseph and realize that God chose him to look after Jesus.

**Picture:** Joseph with Jesus

Children understand that Jesus loved Joseph. He worked hard as a carpenter to make a nice home for Jesus.

Why did Jesus love St Joseph?

God wanted Jesus to live in a family and so He chose Joseph of Nazareth to make a happy home for Him. Jesus likes us to pray to Joseph.

**Song:** *Joseph hold the little child*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will tell my father about St Joseph.

Children draw themselves with their father.

Children retell the story

Children write the names "Joseph":  
"Jesus".

Children honour Joseph. Sing.





## JESUS HELPED ST JOSEPH

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. suggest ways in which Jesus might have helped St Joseph
- b. want to help their fathers as Jesus did

**BACKGROUND:**

The people of the Bible had great respect for trades. Young Jewish boys had to learn trades. Joseph was a carpenter and Jesus followed this same trade until he began his work of preaching and teaching.

Other trades well-known to the Jewish people were spinning and weaving, dyeing cloth, pottery making, tent-making, and carving. Besides trades, there was a wide range of agricultural activities and professions open to young Jewish boys.

**REFLECTION:**

"Discipline your son and give him work to do, or else he will be an embarrassment to you." Sir 30:13.

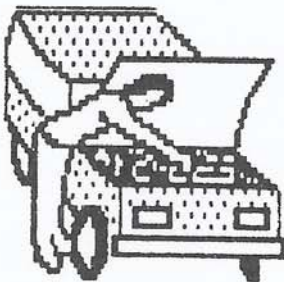
**PREPARE:**

**Picture:** Joseph and Jesus, page 253

**Story:** THE BOY WHO HELPED HIS FATHER

Dermot's father was a mechanic. There were old broken-down cars and trucks all around his house. Whenever cars or trucks broke down, people brought them to Dermot's father to fix them because he was a good workman and never tricked anyone. He'd work all day and, sometimes, nearly all night, too. You see, he always felt sorry for people who had trouble with their cars and trucks.

Whenever his father was working, you'd see Dermot with him. He could guess which tools his father needed and away he'd go to get them. He could see when his father needed a rag and off he'd go at full speed for it. He knew all the spare parts by name. He was such a big help to his father and he was learning to be a good mechanic himself!



help them.

Children re-tell the story.

art. 100

## Discuss

... ..

100

- Joseph's

ed Joseph.  
d Joseph.

1. *Chlorophyll a* (Chl *a*)

Children suggest things they could do.

that God

Children pray.



## JESUS PRAYED WITH HIS PARENTS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- become aware that Jesus prayed with His family
- want to pray with their families as Jesus did

**BACKGROUND:**

In Jewish homes, religion and family life were inter-woven. Children learned the religious history of Israel from their parents; they celebrated the religious festivals in their homes and, from their parents' example and guidance, they acquired the Wisdom of their ancestors. Moses taught parents that it was their duty to explain to their children all that God had done for them. They were to answer their children's questions about religion, carefully. (Ref Jos 4:5-7)

There were no schools such as we have today. Girls learned home-making skills from their mothers and boys were taught useful trades by their fathers. "He who does not teach his son a useful trade is bringing him up to be a thief." (A Jewish saying.)

**REFLECTION:**

What importance do I give to family prayer?

**PREPARE:**

**Picture:** A Family Praying. Page 254

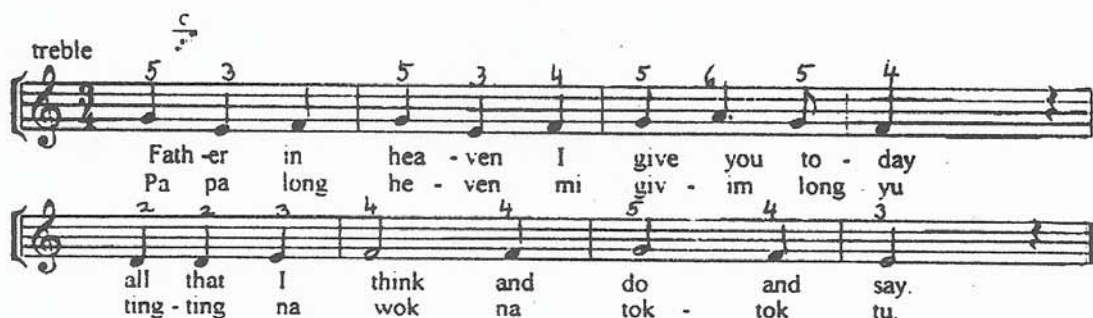
**Drawing:** The Holy Family in front of their house

**Song:** *Father in heaven I give to you today  
all that I think and do and say.*

**Story: A MESSAGE FOR EVERYONE**

Father Patrick was a priest who lived in a big country called America. Father Patrick visited many, many countries because he had a very important message for families. His message was that families should pray together.

Father Patrick went to many countries. And, wherever he went, he carried a lovely statue of Mary with him. As they flew from one country to another, Father Patrick talked to Mary and asked her to bless all the families of the world.



## OUTLINE LESSON 71

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children are told that their country is called Papua New Guinea and that there are many other countries in the world. Perhaps they could name some of them.

**Story:** A Message for Everyone

Children realize that Father Patrick's message is very important for families.

**Drawing:** The Holy Family (in front of their house)

Children see that Jesus' house looked like a big box. The roof was flat and it had steps leading up to it. In the evenings, the Holy Family sat together on the roof of their house to tell stories and pray.

Children imagine how Jesus must have enjoyed sitting there with his parents listening to stories about His ancestors and praying to God.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Picture:** The Holy Family

Children learn that Jesus, Mary and Joseph prayed to God everyday. They liked to feel that God was close to them and they talked to Him about many, many things.

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

**Picture:** A family praying together

Children understand that when families pray together, they are like the Holy Family.

**Song:** *Father in heaven*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will pray with my parents.

Discuss Father Patrick's message.

Complete orally: Jesus listened to stories and prayed with His family.

Children draw Jesus praying with His family.

Children sing.



## ***JESUS' FAMILY LIVED IN A VILLAGE***

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. be able to say that Jesus' family lived in a village called Nazareth
- b. try to make their villages happy places

**BACKGROUND:**

Many tourists and pilgrims go to visit the village of Nazareth to honour its only famous son, Jesus. Nazareth is situated in Galilee and is quite large today. In Bible times it was much smaller. Nazareth was the home of Mary and Joseph and the place where Jesus spent most of His life. It was at Nazareth that the Annunciation of the Lord took place. Mary and Joseph set out from Nazareth to go to Bethlehem and, after King Herod's death, they came back and settled there again. Since He lived in Nazareth for about thirty years, He was well-known to the local people. They called Him the son of Joseph, the carpenter and Mary. Jesus set out from Nazareth on His teaching mission and often returned to His home, there. When the time came for Him to go to Jerusalem, Jesus finally left Nazareth.

**PREPARE:**

**Flash card:** "Nazareth" in large letters

**Story:** LOUISE LEAVES HER VILLAGE

When Louise was old enough to start school, her uncle took her to live in town. But she was not happy at all. True, her uncle looked after her, but she was always thinking about her village.

She thought about the garden and the pigs; about the river and the children she played with. When people passed her in the street without smiling, she'd cry for the people she knew in her village. They were so friendly! Louise remembered how quiet it was at night in the village and how safe she felt there. Poor Louise, she really missed her village.



## OUTLINE LESSON 72

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children describe what they see and do in their village.

They deepen their appreciation of village life.

**Story:** Louise Leaves Her Village

Children understand that it was very hard for Louise to leave her village. They feel sorry for her.

Would you find it hard to leave your village?

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Flash Card:** "Nazareth"

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE

Children learn that Jesus' village was named "Nazareth". Nazareth was very important to Jesus; He loved His village. **It was hard for Jesus to leave Nazareth.**

Children imagine Jesus sharing in village life in Nazareth. (Jesus worked, played, visited families, prayed with others in the village.)

**Prayer:** Jesus, thank you for living with your parents in the village of Nazareth. Help us to make our villages good and happy places

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will ask Jesus to bless my village.

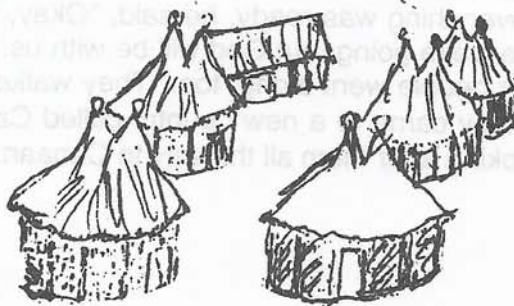
Teacher and children make a list: Things we do in our village.

Children retell the story.

Children write: "Nazareth".

Children draw Jesus carrying water.

Teacher and children pray.





## UNIT 9 STORIES JESUS HEARD AT HOME

### FOR THE TEACHER

### UNIT 9.73

## ABRAHAM TRUSTED GOD

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- become aware that Jesus liked to hear stories about His ancestors
- trust in God as Abraham did

**BACKGROUND:**

God's work of Salvation began with the call of Abraham, Gen 12:1-9. The Bible remembers him because of his faith in God and shows that nothing was too difficult for this man of faith.

Jesus admired Abraham's great faith and praised his ancestor saying, "Abraham rejoiced that he was to see the time of my coming; he saw it and was glad," Jn 8:56. Jesus told the religious leaders of His time that they were not like their ancestor, Abraham! God could do nothing for them because they did not believe.

**REFLECTION:**

To have faith in God means to be sure that God will keep his promises. Ref Heb 11:1

**PREPARE:**

**A Story:** Make up a story about a family who left their own province and went to live in another province.

**Flash cards:** "Canaan" / "Abraham"

**Story:** ABRAHAM TRUSTED GOD (ref Gen 12:1-9)

One day God spoke to Jesus' ancestor, Abraham and said, "Leave your country and go to a land that I am going to show you. I will give you many children ..." Gen 12:1-2. So he got ready to leave his home and go to the land that God told him about. His workmen helped him to pack up his things. He had lots of sheep and goats and cattle and, of course he didn't want to leave them behind. His wife, Sara washed the clothes and cleaned the saucepans and put them all in a big bilum. When Abraham saw that everything was ready, he said, "Okay, we're ready now! I'm not sure where we're going, but God will be with us." Abraham and Sara and a few other people went along, too. They walked and walked and after a long time they came to a new country called Canaan. Abraham thanked God for looking after them all the way to Canaan.

## OUTLINE LESSON 73

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share stories: Families who left home and went to live in another place.

They realize that it is very hard to make a long journey and to live with strangers.

**Story:** A Family Who Went Away

Children realize that, when families go to live in a new place they worry about many things.

**Flash Cards:** Abraham / Canaan

Children are introduced to Abraham, Jesus' ancestor who left his home and went to a new country called Canaan.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Abraham Trusted God, Ref Gen 12:1-4

Children are happy that Abraham trusted that God would keep him safe on his long journey and show him where to go with his family.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who looked after Abraham and his family?

**Consider:** Jesus liked this story about His ancestor, Abraham. He was very proud of Abraham because he trusted in God.

Jesus is proud of you, too, when you trust in God. He knows that God will keep you safe and help you always.

**Prayer:** God my Father, I trust in You.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often say the prayer, God my Father, I trust in You.

Children mime the story.

Children pronounce the names "Abraham" / "Canaan".

Children retell the story.

Children pray



## GOD MADE A PROMISE

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- hear another story about Jesus' ancestor, Abraham
- trust in God

### BACKGROUND:

When a person makes a promise, he puts himself on trial because now people wait to see if the promise will be carried out. If it comes true, their trust grows. If it fails to come true, their trust dies. God used promises to reveal Himself. Gradually, people learned that God is trustworthy; He never made empty promises. Through trust in God's promises, the Bible people achieved peace and salvation.

**REFLECTION:**

Am I faithful to my promises.

**PREPARE:**

**\*\* Make a promise to the children**

**Drawing:** Abraham Counts the Stars, page 243

**Song:** Father Abraham

*Father Abraham (2x), Father Abraham has many children.*

*I am one of them, and so are you, so let us praise the Lord.*

*Right hand....Father Abraham (repeat)*

*Right hand, left hand, ...Father Abraham (repeat*

Add: .....*Right foot*.....*etc.*

**Story:** GOD MAKES A PROMISE (Ref Gen 15:1-5)

One day Abraham was feeling very sad. He didn't want to talk to anyone; he just sat in his house with his head on his knees. When God saw him like that, He felt sorry for him. "What's wrong, Abraham?" He asked. Then Abraham told his story. "I left my home because you told me to, and I've walked all the way here to Canaan. You told me that you would give me many children. Just look how old I am and still I have no children. It's too late now: I'll soon be dead!"

poor Abraham was nearly crying. God put His arm around him and said, "Abraham, you're silly to be upset like this. You know I wouldn't trick you. We're friends. Then God took him outside. It was a lovely night and the sky was full of stars. "Now look up at the sky," God said, "and try to count the stars; you will have as many children as that." Abraham felt happy again because he knew that God hadn't forgotten His promise.

treble

Fath-er Abraham, Father Abraham, Father Abraham has many children I am  
Pa-pa Abraham Pa-pa Abraham, i gar planti pikinini bilong Abraham. Mi wanpe-  
one of them and so are you so let us praise the Lord. Right hand left hand.  
la-----yu wangepela na yumi pres--im God. Han sut han kais.

## OUTLINE LESSON 74

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Teacher makes a promise to the children. This afternoon/tomorrow I will ... Children experience looking forward to a promise.

**Review:** Story, Abraham Trusted God

Why did Abraham walk all the way to Canaan?

Children are able to say that God made a promise to Abraham and Abraham trusted in God. God promised to give him a new land and children.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God Makes a Promise, Ref Gen 15:1-5

Children wonder about God's promise. When will it come true?

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Why was Abraham upset?

**Consider:** God keeps His promises, but you have to wait. He makes His promises come true at the right time. You can't tell God when to make His promises come true. You might have to wait a long time, but you can be sure God won't forget. He has promised to take us to Heaven.

Promises are important. Whenever you make a promise, you should make it come true.

**Prayer:** God our Father, you have promised to give us a new home in heaven. We trust in your promise; we look forward to seeing you in heaven.

**Song:** *Father Abraham*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will tell the story, God Makes a Promise, to my family.

Children write:  
"Abraham" / "Canaan"

Using the **drawing**,  
Abraham Counts the  
Stars, children discuss  
the story.

Draw the sky full of  
stars.

Teacher and children  
pray.

Children sing.



## GOD KEPT HIS PROMISE

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- learn that God makes His promises come true
  - trust in God

**PREPARE:**

**Poster:** God keeps His promises

**Flash Cards:** Canaan / Isaac

**Story: Part A:** Revision: God Made a Promise

**Part B:** THE BABY ISAAC (Ref Gen 21:1-8)

**Part A:** Can you still remember Abraham's long walk to **Canaan**? It was a very long walk! Sometimes Abraham and Sarah felt very tired. Sarah's legs pained a lot and her bilum was so heavy to carry. Abraham felt sorry for her. He'd say, "Come on, Sarah. Keep going! You know that God wants us to go to Canaan. And remember He's **promised** to give us a new home and children."

**Part B:** At last Abraham and Sarah reached Canaan and built a house for themselves. They spent a lot of time working in their garden. Sarah often talked to Abraham about **God's promise**. She'd say, "I wonder when God's promise will come true! Why is He taking so long to give us children? Do you think He has forgotten? I'm getting very old. I'll look funny carrying a new baby?" And Abraham would say: "Well Sarah, I don't know. We'll just have to wait. God won't forget His promise."

One day some visitors came to Abraham's house. They said, "You and Sarah had better start getting ready now for a new baby. God is going to give it to you very soon."

So Abraham and Sarah got everything ready and one night Sarah had a lovely little baby boy! Abraham said, "Let's call him Isaac! He's made us so happy." And Sarah said: "True, nothing is too hard for God!"



## OUTLINE LESSON 75

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share their experience: Getting ready for a new baby for their family.  
What did you do? Did you have to wait a long time? Did you get tired of waiting? .....

They understand that waiting is not easy.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Revision:** Story - God Made a Promise Ref Gen 12:1-4

Children realize that Abraham had to wait for God's promise to come true. God's promise did not come true all at once.

**Story:** (Part B) Ref Gen 21:1-8

Children realize that Abraham and Sarah felt strong when they remembered God's promise. God made it come true at last.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Poster:** God keeps His promises

Children feel happy about the message on the poster. They feel that they can trust God.

**Prayer:** God our Father, we thank you for your promises. We know that you always keep your promises.

**Song:** *Father Abraham*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often say, God I trust in You.

#### **Flash cards:**

Children read the names: Canaan / Isaac.

Children retell the story / draw Sarah with Isaac.

Children draw Abraham with a big smile.

Teacher and children pray.

Children sing.





## GOD SAVED MOSES

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- be able to say that God saved Moses
  - trust in God to keep them safe

**REFLECTION:**

"Lord, protect us day by day and save us in times of trouble." Is 33:2

**PREPARE:**

**Drawing:** Baby Moses in the Basket. Page 255

**Flash Cards:** Egypt / Moses / Miriam

**Story:** GOD SAVED MOSES (Ref Ex 1:1-2:11)

**Part A:** After Abraham died, his children left their own country and went to live in Egypt. But the King of Egypt didn't want to share his country with them. He said, "These children of Abraham are taking over my country. I'm going to stop this." And so he told the nurses, "Don't let the little boys live. Throw them in the river as soon as they are born."

**Part B:** The mothers tried very hard to save their baby boys. One clever mother made a strong basket and covered it with coal-tar and floated it on the river among the reeds. Then she put her baby in it and closed the lid. The baby's sister, stayed nearby all day to see that her little brother was all right.

**Part C:** One day when the king's daughter came to wash in the river, she heard a little baby crying. Then she noticed a basket floating on the river. When she opened it, she saw a beautiful, strong baby lying on his back kicking his legs. She said, "That must be one of those babies... but he's a fine baby! I'd like to have him myself." As she turned around, she saw a young girl coming towards her who came up and asked, "Would you like me to find a woman to give it milk?" (The king's daughter did not know that this girl was Moses' sister.) She ran off quickly and brought back the baby's own mother! The king's daughter named the baby, Moses, and took him to her own house. And everyday Moses' mother came to give him milk!

## OUTLINE LESSON 76

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children show how they gather round a story-teller to listen to traditional stories. Today, you will hear stories about one of Jesus' great ancestors called Moses.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

#### **Story: Part A (Flash Card, "Egypt")**

Children hear that God kept His promise to Abraham. Abraham did have many children and they were very "special" to God.

#### **Story: Part B**

Children feel sorry for the mothers and babies. They understand that God felt sorry for them and helped them.

#### **Story: Part C (Flash Card, "Moses")**

Children are happy that Baby Moses was saved.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who do you think was watching over the baby Moses as he floated on the river?

**Consider:** God was watching over the baby Moses and God is always watching over you. He wants you to grow up and to be His friend. Special people (your mother, your sisters) look after you for God.

**Prayer:** God our Father, we ask you to watch over us and over all the little children in the world. Keep us safe from harm. We trust in You because You are our Father.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often ask God to keep me safe.

Children sing: Father Abraham

Children look at the drawing and discuss it.

The King's daughter finds the baby in the basket.

Teacher and children pray.





## GOD HELPED DAVID

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- be able to tell the story, David and Goliath
  - trust in God's help

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible praises King David and calls him the greatest king Israel ever had. He ruled God's People from about 1010 - 970 B.C. The most notable thing about King David was his fidelity to the covenant God made with the Chosen People in the time of Moses.

King David had the idea of building a house (Temple) for God where He could live and be worshipped by His people. The Prophet Nathan told David that God was pleased with this idea and that his son, Solomon would carry it out. Then he told David of God's promise: "I will make your kingdom last forever. Your dynasty will never end." Ref 2 Sam 7:1-17.

At the Annunciation of the Lord's birth, the Angel Gabriel quoted this promise to Mary. Ref Lk 1:26-38.

**PREPARE:**

**Picture:** David and Goliath. Page 256

**Poster:** God helps me

**Story:** GOD HELPED DAVID ( Ref 1 Sm 17:12f)

God's people were very afraid of the Philistines who lived near them. At night they'd come around and steal from their gardens and carry away their sheep. Goliath, one of their soldiers, knew that every one was afraid of him because he was such a big strong soldier. He used to make fun of them calling out all the time, 'Come out and fight me.'

One day David, who was a young shepherd boy, heard Goliath and said, 'I'm not frightened. I'll go out and fight him. God will help me and I'll win.' He put a few flat stones in his pouch, prepared his catapult, picked up his stick and went to fight Goliath.

When Goliath saw him coming, he called out, "What's that stick for? Am I a dog?" But David said nothing. He put a stone in his catapult and shot it straight at Goliath. It struck him right on the forehead... and he dropped down dead!

## OUTLINE LESSON 77

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

**Pictures:** David and Goliath

Children compare the shepherd boy and the soldier.

What is the soldier wearing? What is he holding? etc.

They see that the soldier is strong and ready to fight while the shepherd boy is ready to look after his sheep

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** David and Goliath, Ref 1 Sm 17:12f.

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

Why was David able to beat Goliath?

Children understand that even though David was no match for Goliath, he was unafraid. He trusted in God. He knew that God would help him and that he would win.

**Consider:** God knows you and He is always ready to help you. When God is with you, there is no need to be afraid. He will keep you safe.

**Poster:** God helps me

Children realize that the message fits with the story, David and Goliath. It also tells them to trust in God.

**Prayer:** God our Father, stay with us always and help us. We trust in You.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often ask God to help me.

Children re-tell the story.

What are you afraid of? Teacher, make a list on the 'board.

Children read the message.

Class prays.





## UNIT 10: SOME STORIES ABOUT JESUS

### FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 10:78

## THE BOY JESUS IN THE TEMPLE

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- be able to tell the story, The Boy Jesus in the Temple
  - want to go to God's House (Church)

**BACKGROUND:**

Jerusalem, which was the main city in Jesus' country, Palestine, was often called the Holy City. About 1,000 years before Jesus was born, King Solomon built a big temple there for God. This temple was known as God's House and the Jewish people believed that God lived there. They had great respect for it. It was their custom to go there to celebrate religious feasts. Like all good Jews, Jesus loved God's house and was happy to go there to celebrate the feasts. It would take Him several days to walk from Nazareth to Jerusalem.

**REFLECTION:**

Is it important to me to go to my church to celebrate religious feasts?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** The Boy Jesus in the Temple, Lk 2:41-52  
(Tell this story in your own words)

**Picture:** Jesus in the Temple. Page 257

**Flash cards:** JERUSALEM / TEMPLE



## OUTLINE LESSON 78

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

**Teacher:** Make a revision of stories that Jesus heard at home.... Abraham, Moses, and David (Unit 9) .

Now (Unit 10) the children will hear stories about Jesus Himself.

### **Introduction to the Living Word:**

**Flash cards:** Jerusalem / Temple

Children are prepared for the story, The Boy Jesus in the Temple.

When Jesus was a small boy, He always went with His parents to God's House to celebrate special days. God's house was in big town called **Jerusalem** which was a long way from His village ... (continue)

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** The Boy Jesus in the Temple, Lk 2:41-52.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who did Jesus go with to the Temple?  
Why did He go?

**Consider:** Jesus always listened carefully to His parents when they talked about God. He loved God and so He liked to go to the Temple to pray and sing to God and to make an offering to Him. Jesus liked to talk about God because He is so good.

**Prayer:** Jesus, I want to know God better. Help me to listen to my parents and teachers when they talk to me about God.

**FOR MY LIFE:** When anyone talks to me about God, I will listen carefully.

Children draw themselves going to church with their parents.

Children become familiar with the words on the flash cards.

Children look at the picture, Jesus in the Temple.

Children retell the story.

Teacher and children pray.



## JESUS HAD SPECIAL HELPERS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- hear that Jesus had 12 helpers called apostles
- want to be one of Jesus' helpers

**BACKGROUND:**

Many of the great industries of the world began in a little workshop somewhere. When the workman became known for his work, he was able to invite others to come and learn from him and share his work. Jesus began His work of building the Kingdom of God in His little home in Nazareth. From there, He set out on His mission of teaching and healing. As people began coming to Him to hear His message and to be healed, Jesus realized that He needed helpers. He began calling men to come and learn from Him and to share His work. The twelve men who were specially chosen by Jesus are called the Twelve Apostles. The story, Jesus Chooses the Twelve Apostles can be found in three of the Gospels. See Mt 10:1-4; Mk 3:13-19; Lk 6:12-16.

**REFLECTION:**

In Baptism, I was called to be one of Jesus' special helpers.

**PREPARE:**

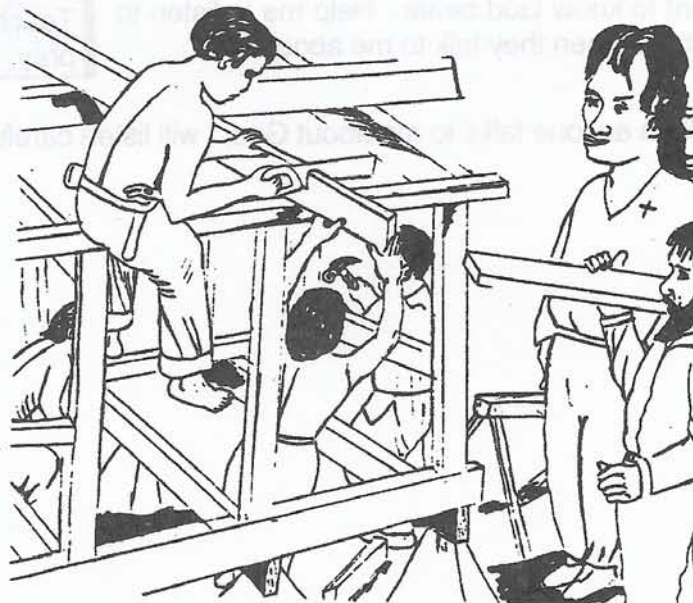
**Scripture:** Jesus Chooses the Twelve Apostles, Lk 6:12-16

**Picture:** Jesus with His Apostles. Page 258

**Name-cards:** The names of the Twelve Apostles

**Story: BUILDING A HOUSE**

Make up a simple story about Building a House. Stress that many people were needed for this big work.



## OUTLINE LESSON 79

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

**Story:** Building a House

Children realize that the builder needed many helpers. His helpers learn from him and are happy to see the building grow.

### **Introduction to the Living Word:**

Children are prepared for the story, Jesus Chooses the Twelve Apostles.

Jesus came into this world to do God's work. He came as a little baby and grew up with His parents, Mary and Joseph in a village called Nazareth. As a little boy, Jesus learned many things about God; His parents taught Him to pray and He looked forward to doing God's work. He often wondered who would help Him and at last He decided to have helpers whom He called the **Twelve Apostles**.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** Jesus Chooses the Twelve Apostles, Lk 6:12-16

Children hear the story and feel that the apostles must have been very happy to go with Jesus and work with Him.

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

How many apostles can you name?

**Consider:** Jesus needed helpers and so He invited people to follow Him and be His helpers. They followed Jesus and shared His work.

**Prayer:** Jesus, thank you for calling the Apostles and sharing Your work with them. Please call many of us to be your helpers.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will pray for people who help Jesus.

Children mime:  
Building a house.

Children learn the  
expression:  
**The Twelve Apostles**

Display **Name Cards**.  
Children become  
familiar with Jesus and  
His apostles.

Children draw  
themselves with Jesus.

Teacher and children  
pray.



## JESUS VISITED HIS FRIENDS

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- realize that Jesus' friends were happy whenever He visited them
  - welcome visitors

**BACKGROUND:**

Bethany was a small town about 3 kilometres from Jerusalem. Jesus had special friends in this town ... Martha, Mary and their brother Lazarus. The Gospels seem to say that Jesus often visited this family and stayed at their house. Probably He slept there during the last week of His life.

St Luke tells about one of Jesus' visits to Martha's home. (Lk 10:38-42). Both Martha and Mary were very happy to see Jesus and made Him very welcome. Jesus appreciated the welcome they gave Him and enjoyed the food and rest He received at their house. On this visit, Jesus took the opportunity to teach the same lesson He had taught so many times before, namely that it is important for us all to be busy about the things of heaven.

**REFLECTION:**

What would I do if Jesus came to my house?

**PREPARE:**

**Introduction to Scripture:** Study the Background notes above.

**Scripture:** Jesus Visits Martha and Mary, Lk 10:38-42 p.251  
(Tell in your own words)

**Story:** Make up a simple story about a visit to a friend's place stressing the welcome, the friendship and happiness of the visit.



## OUTLINE LESSON 80

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children describe how they feel when friends come to visit them.

How do you welcome friends and make them feel happy?

#### **Story: A Visit**

Children share in the happiness of the visit. They notice how the visitor was welcomed.

#### **Introduction to the Living Word:**

The children are prepared for the story, Jesus Visits Martha and Mary.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Jesus visits Martha and Mary,  
Lk 10:38-42

Children appreciate the welcome Jesus was given and how He must have enjoyed everything that Martha and Mary did for Him.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What did Martha do for Jesus?

What did Mary do to make Jesus happy?

**Consider:** Jesus is happy when you welcome your friends and make them feel happy. He remembers how Martha and Mary welcomed Him and He wants you to do the same for your friends.

**Prayer:** Jesus, please help us to be kind and friendly to visitors. Help us to make them welcome and show them that we love them.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will invite a friend to visit me and prepare a nice welcome.

Mime or Drama:  
Welcoming a friend.

Children become familiar  
with the names: Martha,  
Mary, Bethany,  
Jerusalem.

Children act the story.

Draw Jesus eating food  
at Martha's house.

Teacher and children  
pray.



## JESUS BLESSED LITTLE CHILDREN

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- be able to tell the story, Jesus blesses little children
- ask Jesus to bless them and their little brothers and sisters

**BACKGROUND:**

God is the only one who can bless. He is the only one who can make our lives better and give us peace of mind. When we say: "May God bless you" we are really wishing or praying that God will do good things for the person ... make his/her life successful and happy. In the Bible there are many references to God blessing a person, his children, his house, his animals etc. Some good always comes from the blessing.

To say: "Blessed be God" is a way of thanking God and expressing admiration for something He has done.

Many Catholics have the custom of saying: "May God bless you" when they meet each other and when they say Goodbye.

When Jesus blessed the little children, He did something good for them, something that only God could do.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I ever use the expression: "May God bless you"?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Jesus Blesses Little Children, Lk 18:15-16

**Picture:** Jesus Blesses Little Children. Page 259

**Song:** A blessing song

*May the blessing of God be upon you!  
The blessing of the Father and the Son!  
And may the Spirit of God, the Spirit of love  
be with you all your days.*

treble

May the blessing of God be upon you, the blessing of the Father and

Son. And may the Spirit of God, the Spirit of love be with you all your days.

## OUTLINE LESSON 81

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Teacher gathers the children around and makes the Sign of the Cross on each child's forehead saying "May God bless you, ...".

Children realize that their teacher has prayed for them in the blessing prayer. They feel that this blessing ceremony was very nice.

**Consider:** When we ask God to bless someone, He always does something good for that person.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Jesus Blesses Little Children, Lk 18:15-16

Children feel happy that Jesus put His hand on the little children and blessed them. They realize that children are special to Jesus.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Picture:** Jesus Blesses Little Children

What did Jesus do for the little children?

Children become aware of Jesus love for little children.

**Consider:** Jesus loves little children and He wants them to be good and happy. He enjoys blessing them and He blesses them anytime and anywhere.

**Prayer:** Jesus, please bless us today and bless our little brothers and sisters.

**Song:** May the blessing of God..

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often ask Jesus to bless me and my family.

Children share:  
What would they  
like God to do for  
them?

Children act what  
Jesus did.

Children draw  
Jesus blessing  
them.

Children pray with  
the teacher.

Children sing



## UNIT 11: JESUS TEACHES US MANY THINGS

FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 11.82

### JESUS TEACHES US TO THINK ABOUT GOD

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- learn to think of God
  - talk to each other about God

**BACKGROUND:**

The Old Testament covers the span of time stretching from the Creation of the World to the Birth of Christ. The New Testament covers the time span from the Birth of Christ to His Second Coming. From first to last, Christ is the central figure in all the books of the Bible. "When the right time finally came, God sent his own Son. He came as the son of a human mother and lived under the Jewish Law to redeem those who were under the Law so that we might become God's sons," Gal 4:4-5. The Mystery of God's coming into the world is called the Mystery of the Incarnation which means the mystery of God-in-the-flesh. The Bible writers all focused on this Mystery and explained it in terms of God's love for the human family, in terms of freedom from sin. "Freedom is what you have - Christ has set us free! Stand, then as free people, and do not allow yourselves to become slaves again," Gal 5:1. Through prayerful reading of the Bible, people grow in appreciation of the Mystery of the Incarnation and in the knowledge of God's love until, as St Paul says, they become "completely filled with the very nature of God," Eph 3:19b.

**REFLECTION:** Do I try to appreciate God's love for me?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** "Look at the birds ... your Father in heaven takes care of them! ... Look how the wild flowers grow ... it is God who makes them beautiful." Mt 6:25-34.

**Drawings:** Birds / Flowers

## OUTLINE LESSON 82

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children name birds and flowers they see on their way to school.

Do you stop to look at them? Do you talk about them to each other?

Shut your eyes now: can you "see" these birds and flowers in your mind?

**Consider:** Jesus often walked from one place to another. As He walked along, He saw many different kinds of birds and flowers. He looked at them and thought how beautiful they were and He talked about them to others.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** "Look at the birds ... your Father in heaven takes care of them! Look how the wild flowers grow ... it is God who makes them beautiful," Mt 6:25-34.

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

What did Jesus say about the birds and flowers?

Who was He thinking about?

**Consider:** The lovely things you see help you to think of God. He made them and He looks after them. When you see how good and caring God is, it is easy for you to trust in Him.

**Prayer:** God our Father, open our eyes to see the lovely things around us. Help us to think of you and trust you.

**Sharing:** Children experience talking together about God.

**FOR MY LIFE:** Sometimes, I will talk about God to my friends.

Children draw a bird or flower they saw on the way to school.

Teacher: Display the **Drawings** of birds etc. Children admire them.

Teacher and children pray.

Children go out in twos to look at the birds and flowers. Talk about God.



## JESUS TEACHES US TO PRAY TO GOD

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that it is important to pray
- b. develop the practice of saying morning prayer

**BACKGROUND:**

Today, we have many educated people in our country and, with radio and television, we have many opportunities to hear what they have to say. It is good to listen to such people and to reflect on their ideas. But still, it is much more important for us to listen to what Jesus has to say and to reflect on His ideas. By reading the New Testament, we can become familiar with these. In his Gospel, St Matthew has set out Jesus' ideas about prayer. Jesus says that prayer is nothing to make a show about. "... go to your room, close the door, and pray to your Father, who is unseen. And your Father, who sees what you do in private, will reward you." Mt 6:6

**REFLECTION:**

Do I spend time, in private, with God my Father?

**PREPARE:**

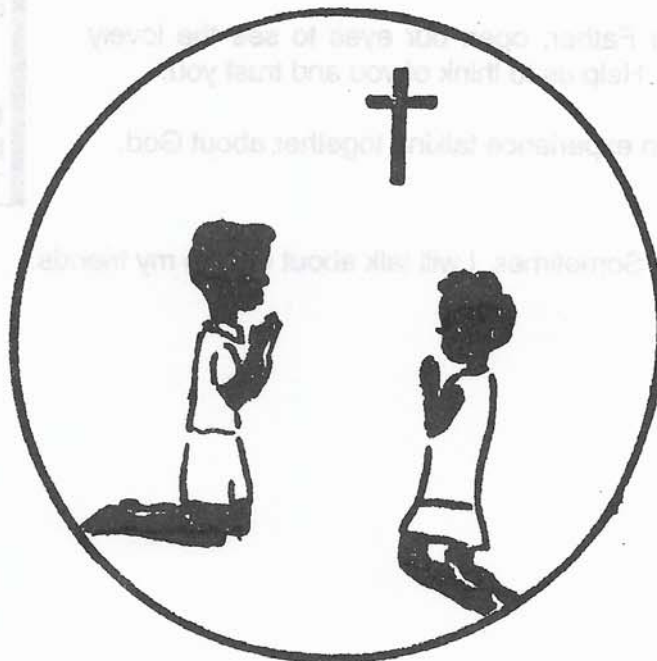
**The Bible :** Place on classroom altar

**Scripture:** Pray to God by yourself because He is your Father.

Ref Mt 6:6

**Picture:** Jesus teaching, page 260

**Drawing:** A child praying alone



## OUTLINE LESSON 83

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share "What I talk to my father about."

They appreciate that it is nice to talk to their fathers; that they have many things to talk about and that their fathers listen carefully when they talk to them.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Picture:** Jesus teaching

What do you think Jesus might be saying to the people?

Now we will hear what Jesus wants to tell us today.

**Scripture:** Pray to God by yourself because He is your Father. Ref Mt 6:6.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What did Jesus say to you just now?

**Consider:** You are very special to God; you are God's children. God wants you to talk to Him. He wants you to talk to Him in the same way as you talk to your father. When you talk to God, He listens to you.

**Picture:** A child praying alone

What is this child doing?  
Who is he talking to?

Children are encouraged to pray to God when they get up in the morning.

**Prayer:** Children experience private prayer

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will say Morning Prayers every morning.

Children look at the picture and wonder what Jesus is saying.

A child brings the Bible to the teacher who reads Mt 6:6

Children draw themselves praying.

Children make suggestions for Morning Prayers.

Children pray silently.



## JESUS TEACHES US TO BE OBEDIENT

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- understand the meaning of being obedient
  - want to be obedient at home and at school

**BACKGROUND:**

An obedient person does what he/she is told to do, willingly. Many people find it hard to obey because they like to assert themselves. They think they know better than others. It is "beneath" them to take orders. It is very touching to reflect on what St Paul said in praise of Jesus: "He was humble and walked the path of obedience all the way to death - his death on the cross," Phil 2:8. As a young boy in his home village of Nazareth, Jesus was recognized as an obedient child. He was obedient to his parents. Ref Lk 2:51. It was this special quality of obedience that enabled Jesus to carry out the Work of Salvation.

**REFLECTION:**

Am I an obedient person?

**PREPARE:**

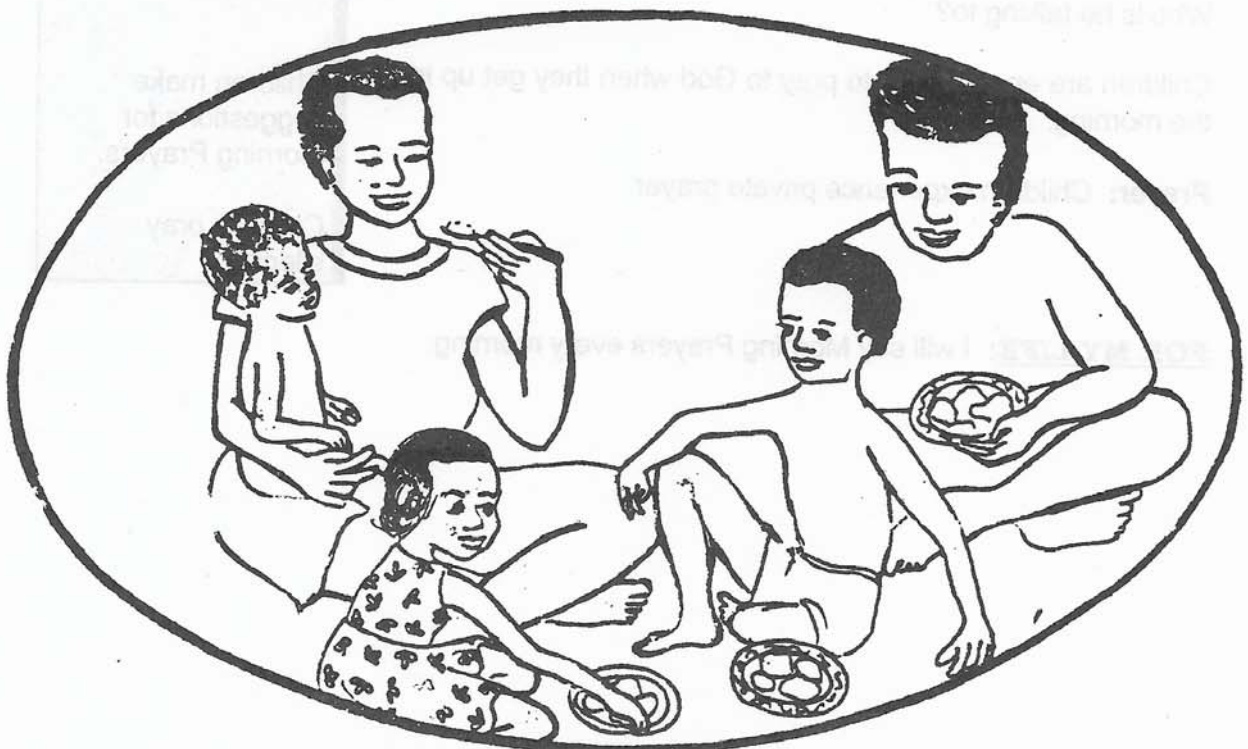
**Scripture:** Jesus was obedient to his parents. Ref Lk 2:51

**Picture:** A family / A Class (or school)

**Poster:** I will be obedient

**Stories:** (examples) of obedience / disobedience

(Note: Teacher should not add anything about punishment for disobedience. The aim is to help the children to identify and admire obedient behaviour.)



## OUTLINE LESSON 84

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: Things my parents tell me to do. Things my teacher tells me to do.

Children realize that it is important to do as they are told.

**Stories:** Obedient / disobedient children

Children understand the meaning of "obedience" and "disobedience".

**Pictures:** A family / A class (school)

Who is the leader in the family?

Who is the leader in the class?

Children realize that it is important for them to obey their parents and teachers.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Jesus was obedient to his parents. Ref Lk 2:51.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What did everyone notice about Jesus?

**Consider:** Jesus was God's Son. He came down from heaven and lived in a family. Mary and Joseph were his parents. He always obeyed them. The village people noticed that Jesus was an obedient boy.

**Poster:** I will be obedient

Children will want to be obedient like Jesus was. They understand that God wants obedient children.

**Prayer:** Jesus, thank you for teaching me that God wants me to be obedient. Help me to obey my parents and teachers.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will do whatever my parents and teachers tell me.

Children think of times when they were obedient / disobedient.

Draw Jesus doing something His mother told Him to do.

Children read the words on the poster.

Teacher and children pray



## JESUS TEACHES US TO BE KIND

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- understand what it means to be kind
- want to practice kindness at home and at school

**BACKGROUND:**

A kind person is someone who is gentle and considerate in dealing with other people. Starting with the example of Jesus Himself, the New Testament promotes kindness. The early Christians were taught to be kind and tender-hearted towards each other. The story of The Good Samaritan (Lk 10:30-35) is ranked as one of the greatest stories ever written. The Good Samaritan is the perfect model of kindness. His heart prompted him to do all he could to help someone in difficulties. He never counted the cost to himself in terms of risk or time or money.

**REFLECTION:** Am I kind to the children I teach?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Many people came to Jesus because He was kind to everyone. Ref Lk 4:40

**Scripture:** The Story of the Good Samaritan, Lk 10:30-35 (Tell the Story in your words)

**Story:** A KIND SISTER

One morning as Maggie and Nick were getting ready for school, Maggie noticed that her brother Nick was crying. He seemed to be very upset and worried. Suddenly, Maggie realized that Nick had lost his pencils! "Nick, I've got three pencils. You can have one of mine today and, after school, we'll look for yours." Nick felt much better now. They went off to school together and had a very nice day.

**Picture:** The Story of the Good Samaritan page 247



## OUTLINE LESSON 85

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

**Story:** A Kind Sister

The children will be able to say that Maggie was kind to her brother, Nick.

**Discussion:** How can we be kind in class?

Children realize that they can be kind to the children in their class.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Many people came to Jesus because He was kind to everyone. Ref Lk 4:40.

**Scripture:** The Good Samaritan, Lk 10:30-35

Children hear Jesus teaching them to be kind to others.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who was the kind man in the story?  
Who was unkind?

Children understand that Jesus is teaching them to be kind.

**Consider:** You belong to God's family and Jesus is your brother. Jesus understood that God wants everyone in His family to be kind. He does not want His children to be selfish.

**Prayer:** Jesus, thank you for teaching me to be kind to everyone. Please help me to be kind to others at home and at school.

**FOR MY LIFE:** When someone needs help, I will help.

Children think:  
Times when I was  
kind at home.

Blackboard list:  
I am kind when I

**Picture:** The Good Samaritan  
Children look at the picture. Re-tell the story.

Teacher and children pray.



## UNIT 12: GOD'S CHILDREN PRAY

FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 12

### WHEN WE PRAY WE TALK TO GOD

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that when they pray, they speak to God
- b. want to pray often

**BACKGROUND:**

When we pray, we speak to God. Many of the Old Testament prayers help us to appreciate this. Even in his anger, Jonah knew that he was speaking to God. "Lord, didn't I say before I left home that this is just what you would do? That's why I did my best to run away to Spain! I knew that you are a loving and merciful God, always patient, always kind, and always ready to change your mind and not punish." Ref Jonah 4.

Many of Job's prayers are quite shocking! In his prayer, he blamed God for his sufferings and told Him that He was most unfair. "Are you harmed by my sin? Why use me for target practice? Am I so great a burden to you? Can't you ever forgive my sin? Can't you pardon the wrong I do? Soon I'll be in the grave, and I'll be gone when you look for me." Job 7:20-21.

The prayer Jesus taught us is not a stormy one like Job's, but still it is addressed to God. "This then is how you should pray: Our Father...", Mt 6:9-13.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** "...pray to your Father in heaven." Mt 6:6b

**Picture:** Jesus praying. Page 261

**Poster:** *Father in Heaven, I give you today  
All that I think and do and say. (say / sing)*

**Song:** *Father in Heaven...* page 142

**Story: ESTHER TALKS TO HER FATHER**

Esther is very fond of her father and likes to sit close to him at night. She talks to him about everything that happened during the day. He listens carefully to her and she feels that she is very special to him. When he notices her getting sleepy, he says, "Esther, we've had a nice talk now so let's talk to God our Father before we go to bed. They say thank you to God for looking after them and making them happy... then they go to bed.

## OUTLINE LESSON 86

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share:  
What I talk to my father about.  
When I talk to my father.

**Story:** Esther Talks to Her Father

Children experience the happiness Esther felt when talking to her father.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Picture:** Jesus praying

What is Jesus doing?  
Who is He talking to?  
What might He be talking about?

Children realize that Jesus is talking to His Father in Heaven.  
They see how He prays; they wonder what He talks about.

**Scripture:** "Pray to your Father in heaven,"  
Mt 6:6b

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What did Jesus say to do?

**Consider:** Your Father in heaven knows you and loves you.  
You are His children and He wants you to talk to Him often. He  
is always ready to listen to you.

**Poster:** Father in Heaven...

Children become familiar with this short morning offering.

**Prayer experience:** Teacher leads the children in prayer

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will say the Morning Offering every day.

Draw Esther talking  
to her father.

Silent prayer.  
Children sit quietly in  
the presence of God.

Children discuss:  
What I can talk to  
God about.

Read / sing the  
prayer on the poster.

Children pray quietly.



## WE PRAY EVERYDAY

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that prayer is part of daily life
- b. say Morning Prayers (Morning Offering, Lesson 86)

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible has many examples of God's people trying to control their lives by their own efforts. In the Garden of Eden, our First Parents expressed their desire to be independent of God. On a plain in Babylonia, the people of the whole world gathered to demonstrate their independence of God. They intended to build a tower reaching to the sky; they wanted to go up and be on God's level.

In the hope of getting what they wanted, without having to depend on God, many in Israel worshipped the gods of neighboring peoples. Most of Israel's kings put their trust in political skill and bribery. For all their trouble, they ended as slaves of the Babylonians.

It is easy for us to see ourselves in the people of the Bible. We have this same tendency to try to get along without God. We put our trust in such things as money, science, education, magic, etc. How much better it would be, if we were to put our trust in God.

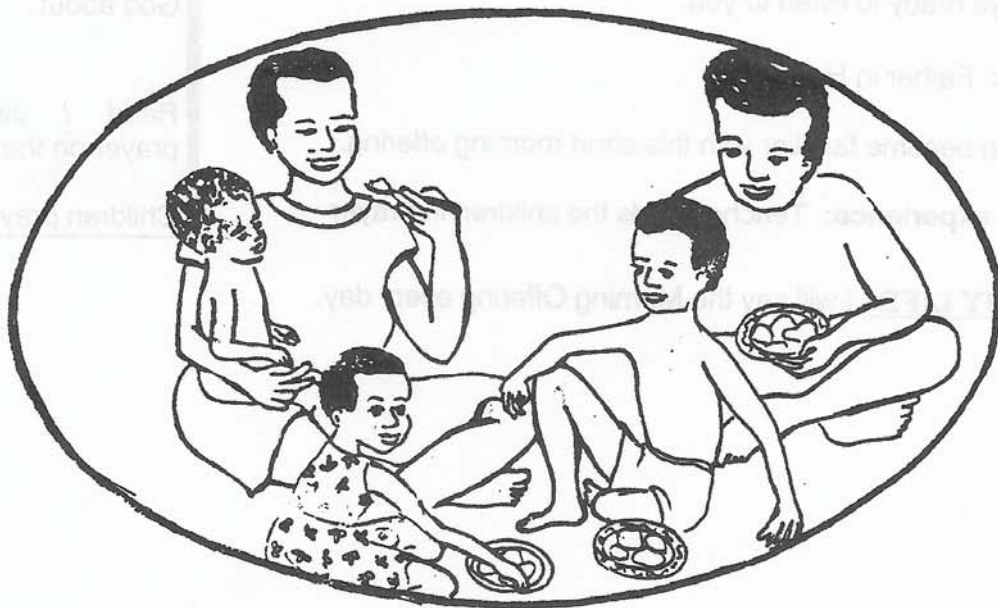
**REFLECTION:** "Your Father in heaven will give good things to those who ask him," Mt 7:11b.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God's people prayed everyday. Ref Acts 2:46-47

**Flash cards:** Morning / Night / Meal-time

**Song:** Morning Offering song page 142



## **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children share: When do we talk to our parents.

They discover that they talk to them anytime, (e.g. while they are working; walking etc) but they also have special times when they talk to them. They identify the special times.

## **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** God's people prayed everyday.  
Ref Ac 2:46-47.

## **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

At what special times in the day, do you think God's people prayed?

**Consider:** God's people loved God and liked to pray. They gathered at special times for prayer, but they prayed any time, whenever they could.

**Flash cards:** Morning / Night / Meal-time

Children understand that there are special times for praying e.g. morning, evening, meal-time.

**Prayer:** God our Father, You are with us always. Look after us and teach us to pray.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will pray in the morning, in the evening and at meal-time.

List 'special' times  
e.g. morning, night,  
at meal-time

Children draw  
themselves praying.

Children suggest  
special times for  
praying.

Mime: Getting up /  
Going to bed.

Children pray.





## OUR PARENTS AND TEACHERS PRAY

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that their parents and teachers pray
- b. be happy to pray with their parents and teachers

**BACKGROUND:**

On the night he was arrested and brought to trial, Jesus was praying in the Garden of Olives. Judas knew exactly where to find him because he knew that Jesus usually went there to pray; he must have seen him praying there; he knew that Jesus prayed.

A "disciple" is a person who follows the teaching and way of life of someone he/she accepts as a leader. The Apostles, who had accepted Jesus as their leader, had the experience of watching him at prayer. On one occasion, they were prompted to ask him to teach them how to pray. The instruction He gave is set out in St Matthew's Gospel, Chapter 6:5-14.

**REFLECTION:** Do the children ever see me praying?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** "When Jesus had finished, one of his (friends) said to him, "teach us to pray ..." Lk 11:1

**Picture:** Jesus praying. Page 261

**Story: THE LUCKY TWINS**

Imelda and Antonia are lucky twins. They live with their mother and father in Tasau village near a beautiful river. Every morning and evening, Imelda and Antonia see their mother and father praying. Their mother says, "Let's say our prayers, now". And they all kneel down together to pray. They make the Sign of the Cross and then speak to God about many things. They often say "Thank you" to God for being so good to their family.

**Story: MRS MESASA**

Mrs Mesasa teaches in Prep. The children like her very much; they called her Mrs Mes for short. Every morning they come early to help Mrs Mes to get ready for school. She likes them to bring flowers for the altar and to keep it clean. Before class, Mrs Mes always stands near the altar to pray. She joins her hands and closes her eyes. The children are happy to see her praying!

## OUTLINE LESSON 88

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children show how they pray ... join their hands, kneel or sit quietly, close their eyes ...

**Story:** The Lucky Twins

Children appreciate that the twins are lucky because they see their parents praying.

**Story:** Mrs Mesasa

Children appreciate that the Prep children are lucky because they see their teacher praying every morning.

Have you ever watched your parents praying?  
How did you feel when you saw them praying?

**Pictures:** Parents / teacher praying.

Children feel that it is good to watch their parents / teacher praying.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Picture:** Jesus praying

Jesus' friends were very happy to watch him praying. They saw that He looked different.

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

When Jesus' friends saw Him praying, they wanted to pray, too. They asked Jesus to teach them to pray.

**Consider:** Would you like to pray as Jesus as His friends did? You can ask Jesus to teach you to pray.

**Prayer:** Teacher, gather the children around the altar, prepare them for prayer and lead them in prayer.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often say the prayer, Jesus teach me to pray.

Dramatize the story.

Decorate the  
classroom altar.

Children learn the  
prayer, Jesus teach  
me to pray.

Children pray.



## OUR COMMUNITY PRAYS

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- become aware that it is important to pray with others
  - join in community prayer

**BACKGROUND:**

Good example prompts us to try to do better. "Example is better than preaching" and "Practise what you preach" are two common sayings. It is easy to remember someone who helped you by good example. Parents and community leaders are concerned about the young people. They hope that they will learn good community values and hand them on to the next generation. Everyone knows that young people respond well to good example. In the matter of community prayer, it is not enough to send children to church. In the Holy Family, the parents took the Divine Child with them to the Temple to take part in community prayer. Ref Lk 2:41-52.

**REFLECTION:**

In the matter of community prayer, do I teach by example?

**PREPARE:**

- Scripture:** Lk 2:41-52 (Tell in your own words. Stress: Jesus prayed with others.)
- Picture:** A Church Scene. Page 246
- Poster:** Let us pray

**Story: RUTH GOES TO CHURCH**

Ruth is a very lucky little girl because her parents take her with them wherever they go. When she was a small baby, her mother would dress her nicely for Mass, put her in a bilum and carry her to the church. Soon, she learned to peep out through the holes in the bilum. She liked looking at the people in the church and listening to them singing. When she was older, she walked to church with her family. She loved looking at all the people in the church and she often joined in when they sang and prayed. Ruth always felt very happy in the church praying and singing with others.

## OUTLINE LESSON 89

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children talk about going to Mass.  
How do you prepare for Mass?  
Who do they meet on the way?  
What do the people do in the church?

**Story:** Ruth goes to Church

Children notice that Ruth's parents took her to church; she was happy to be in the church listening to people praying and singing.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** The Boy Jesus in the Temple,  
Lk 2:41-52 (in your own words)

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

Why did Jesus go to the Temple?

From the example of Jesus, children understand that it is important to pray with others.

**Picture:** A Church Scene

Children see that there are many people praying together. They feel that it is good to pray with their community.

**Consider:** The words on the **Poster:** Let us pray.

God wants us to pray with our community, just as Jesus did.

**Praying together:**

Gather the children around the altar. Invite them to pray (sing) together.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will go to Mass on Sundays.

Children draw themselves ready for Mass.

Children discuss the story.

Children discuss the picture.

Children read the words on the poster.

Children join hands and say: Our Father



## THINGS IN THE CHURCH HELP US TO PRAY

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become familiar with things in the Church that help them to pray
- b. feel that these are sacred things

**BACKGROUND:**

The Book of Leviticus, the third book in the Bible, contains rules for worship and religious ceremonies. Perhaps it is not such an interesting book to read, but it is important, none-the-less, because it stresses the holiness of God and the importance of having rules for public worship. When public worship is carried out in a fitting way, it unites and strengthens the faith of the community.

**REFLECTION:**

'You, Lord, have placed the sun in the sky, yet we build places for you to live in.' Ref 1 Kg 8:12

**PREPARE:**

A Visit to the Church or the Story, Anne Visits the Church

**Chart** with simple drawings (use this with the story):- altar, lectern, crucifix, tabernacle

**Song:** Teacher's choice.

### Story: ANNE VISITS THE CHURCH

One afternoon, Anne asked her father to come for a walk to the Church. He was very happy to go along and off they went. As they came near the church, Anne was surprised to see how big it looked. "It has to be big," said her father. "It's God's house and His family come here to pray together, especially on Sundays.

Then they went inside. First, they knelt down to pray. When they had finished their prayer, they walked around to look at the things in the church. Anne went and stood near the **altar**.

"That's the altar," her father said, "it's a very holy thing. You see it is like a table. People come to this table for special Food." And what's this?

Anne asked, standing near the **lectern**. "That's for the Bible. God, our Father speaks to His Family from the Bible." Anne thought, what a nice way for God to speak to us!

Anne saw her father bow his head as He came near the big **Crucifix**.

"Look at that, Anne? I think you know what it is! he said. "Yes, Papa.

That's a **crucifix**. It tells us that God loves us." Anne's father said, "Let's go now and kneel in front of the **Tabernacle**. Let's go close to where Jesus is. We can say Good Night to Him before we go home."

## OUTLINE LESSON 90

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

If possible, make a visit to the church. Children tidy themselves. Pray / sing as they go to the church. They are happy to be going to God's house.

OR

Children close their eyes and picture their Parish Church ..... continue with the **story**, Anne Visits the Church.

Children understand that a visit to the church is a special kind of visit.

They become familiar with things in the church that help them to pray.

They realize that these are holy things.

### **Sharing the Visit:**

Children become more familiar with the things in the church. They are able to name them; they realize that they are important because they help them to pray.

**Prayer / Song:** Teacher's choice

Children pray and sing as they would, if they were visiting the church.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will look at the "special" things in the church.

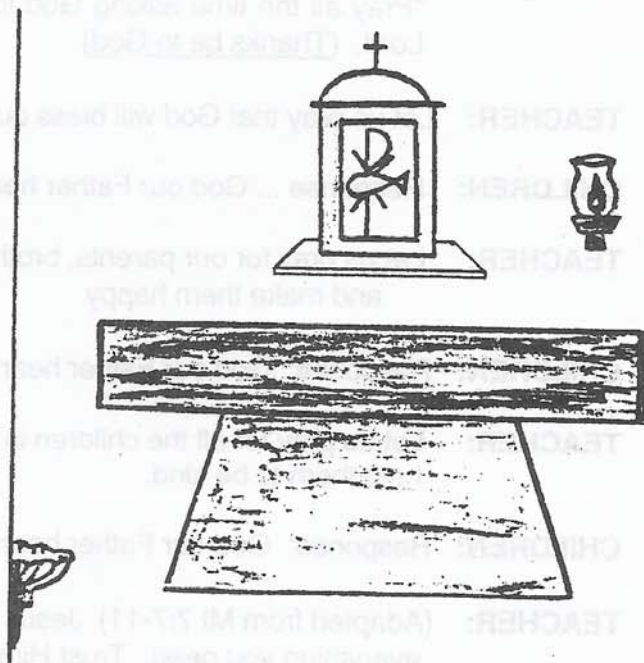
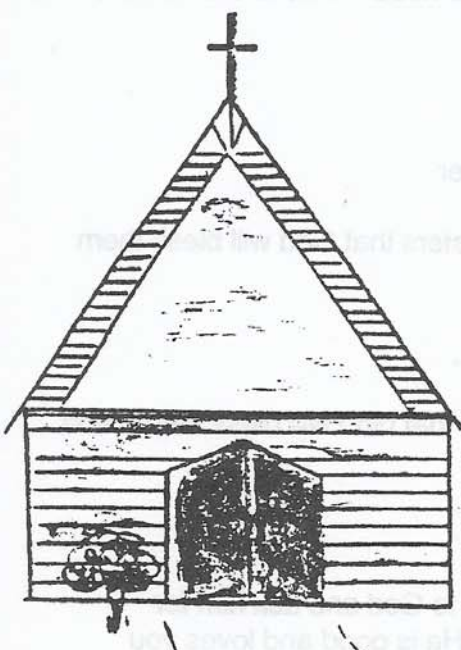
Children sing as they go to the church

OR

draw the parish church.

Children look at the chart. Draw the things that Anne saw in the church.

Children pray and sing.





## A PRAYER SERVICE

### PREPARE:

A suitable place for prayer e.g. church / class-room

Children help to prepare and decorate an altar

**Scripture:** 1 Ti 2:8-9; Eph 6:18; Mt 7:7-11

**Songs:** Any suitable-songs

**Food:** peanuts / twisties (a sign of celebration)

\*\*\*\*\*

**TEACHER:** Gather the children around the altar and settle them quietly for prayer.

We are gathered here today to pray to God our Father. The Bible tells us to lift up our hearts to God at all times and to speak to Him in prayer.

**CHILDREN:** Sing: (Song chosen by the teacher)

**TEACHER:** When we love someone, we like to spend time with that person and talk to him/her. That is what prayer is: it is spending time with God and talking to Him because we love Him. Today, let us show God that we love Him and want to spend time with Him and talk to Him about many things.

Pray at times; never get tired of praying to God. Ref 1 Ti 2:8-9.

**CHILDREN:** Sing: (Song chosen by the teacher)

**TEACHER:** First Reading is from the New Testament, Eph 6:18.

"Pray all the time asking God for what you need." This is the Word of the Lord. (Thanks be to God)

**TEACHER:** Let us pray that God will bless our class:

**CHILDREN:** Response ... God our Father hear our prayer

**TEACHER:** Let us pray for our parents, brothers and sisters that God will bless them and make them happy

**CHILDREN:** Response: God our Father hear our prayer.

**TEACHER:** Let us pray for all the children in our school that God will bless them and help them to be kind.

**CHILDREN:** Response: God our Father hear our prayer.

**TEACHER:** (Adapted from Mt 7:7-11) Jesus says, pray to God and ask him for everything you need. Trust Him because He is good and loves you very much.

This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

**INSTRUCTION:** Teacher gives the children a short instruction.

Invite the children to show that they are happy when they pray to God.

Let us pray to God our Father:

**TOGETHER:** (Children repeat after the teacher)

God our Father we thank you for looking after us.

God our Father, we ask you to give us everything we need.

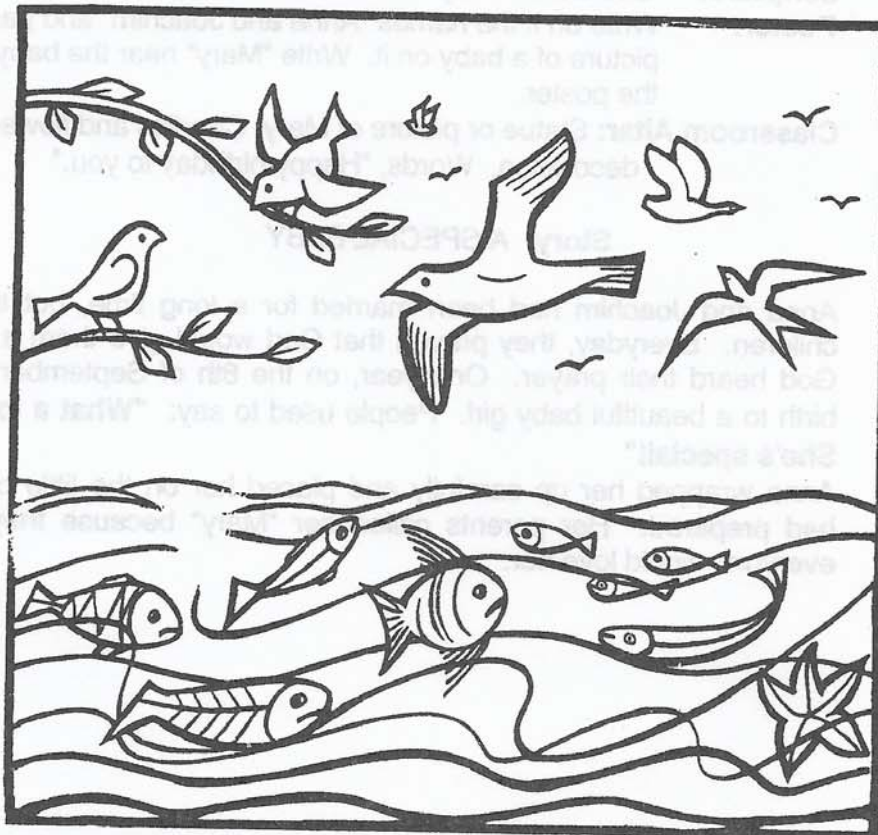
God our Father help us to be Your good children always.

**TEACHER:** Let us say our special prayer to God: Our Father ....

To finish our prayer, let us sing (Teacher's own choice) .....

### The Sign of the Cross

Children sit down. Some help with serving the food.





## UNIT 13: THE LITURGICAL YEAR

### FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 13.92

### MARY'S BIRTHDAY

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that Mary's birthday is celebrated on the 8th September
- b. celebrate Mary's birthday

**BACKGROUND:**

In Hebrew, the name Mary (Miriam) probably meant "beloved". Moses' sister, who was named Mary, was with Moses when God set the people of Israel free from slavery in Egypt. In the New Testament, Mary, 'beloved of God' was with Jesus, the new Moses, at the moment God set the human family free from slavery to sin. Mary is necessary in Salvation. Welcome her. Celebrate Salvation with her today.

**REFLECTION:**

What place does Mary have in my life?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God chose Mary to be the mother of His Son. (Ref Lk 1:26)

**Poster:** Write on it the names "Anne and Joachim" and paste a picture of a baby on it. Write "Mary" near the baby. Decorate the poster.

**Classroom Altar:** Statue or picture of Mary. Candles and flowers for decoration. Words, "Happy birthday to you."

**Story: A SPECIAL BABY**

Anna and Joachim had been married for a long time, but they had no children. Everyday, they prayed that God would give them a baby. And God heard their prayer. One year, on the 8th of September Anna gave birth to a beautiful baby girl. People used to say: **"What a lovely baby. She's special!"**

Anna wrapped her up carefully and placed her on the little bed Joachim had prepared. Her parents called her "Mary" because they knew that everyone would love her.

## OUTLINE LESSON 92

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children talk about their birthdays.  
Do they celebrate their birthday?  
Why are birthdays important?

Consider how new babies are welcomed by their families.

#### **Story: A Special Baby**

Children appreciate that the baby, Mary was a special gift from God.

#### **Poster:**

Children share the happiness that the new baby, Mary brought to her parents.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God chose Mary to be the mother of His Son.  
Ref Lk 1:26.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What special work did God have for Mary?

**Consider:** God knows every baby in the world. He hopes that they will always be good and happy. He has special work for them to do, just as He had for Mary. When Mary grew up, she became the mother of God's Son, Jesus.

#### **Prayer to welcome Mary:**

Children gather around the altar to express their happiness at the birth of Mary and to welcome this "special" baby.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will ask my family to celebrate Mary's birthday on 8th September.

Children share their memories of new babies.

Who were Mary's parents?

When is Mary's birthday?

Celebrate it.

Display the poster.

Talk about it.

Draw Baby Mary asleep on her little bed.

Children say: Hail Mary ...

Sing: *Happy Birthday*



## MARY VISITS ELIZABETH

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. be able to tell the story, Mary Visits Elizabeth
- b. be happy to help others as Mary did

**BACKGROUND:**

Sometimes people express their joy and gladness through dancing. When King David brought the Ark of the Covenant to Jerusalem, he danced for joy because he knew that God was coming into His Holy City, 2 Sm 6.16. In the story, Mary Visits Elizabeth, Lk 1:39-45, the unborn baby John 'danced' for joy at the sound of Mary's voice. Mary was like the holy Ark of God carrying the Redeemer of the World. The baby's 'dance' is a sign that a time of joy and gladness has come: God is present in the world in a new way, for a new work!

**REFLECTION:** Do I recognize God's presence in my life?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** MARY VISITS ELIZABETH (Ref Lk 1:39-56)

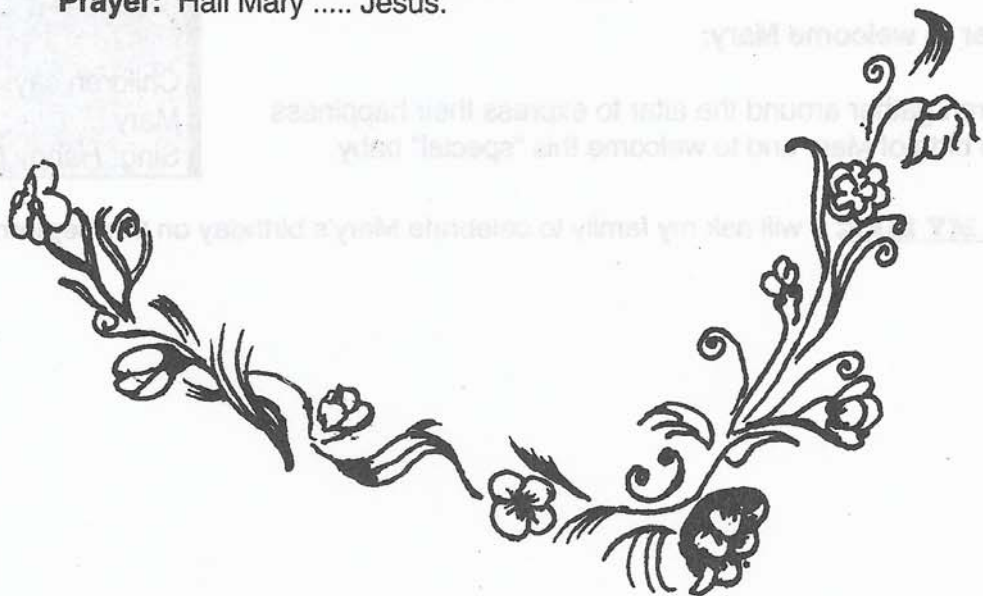
When Mary heard the news that her cousin, Elizabeth was going to have a baby, she decided to go and stay with her to help her with the washing and cooking. It was quite a long way from Mary's place, but off she went and at last she came to Elizabeth's house.

Elizabeth was so happy to see Mary. She gave her a big welcome and thanked her for coming. Mary helped Elizabeth and after her little baby John was born, Mary went back home.

**Picture:** Mary visits Elizabeth. Page 262

**Altar:** in honour of Mary (picture / flowers / candle)

**Prayer:** Hail Mary ..... Jesus.



## OUTLINE LESSON 93

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share their experience of visiting someone they like. Who do you like to visit? Why do you visit .....? How do your friends welcome you?

Children realize that it is important to visit their friends and to help them.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Mary Visits Elizabeth, Ref Lk 1:39-56.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Why did Mary visit Elizabeth?

Children realize that Mary thought about Elizabeth and wanted to help her. Her visit made Elizabeth very happy.

**Picture:** Mary Visits Elizabeth

**Consider:** Children admire Mary for going to visit Elizabeth to help her. They realize that they can help others just as Mary did.

**Prayer:** Hail Mary

Children share the happiness of Mary's visit and ask her to help them to think of others.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will visit ..... and take ..... for him / her.

Children draw themselves going to their friend's house.

Retell / dramatize the Story

Children suggest what Mary did for Elizabeth.

Children draw (use plasticine) letters "M"/"E"

Children say the Hail Mary



## MARY HELPED JESUS

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- hear that Mary helped Jesus because she loved him
  - want Mary to love and help them

**BACKGROUND:**

Naturally, Mary has an important place in the childhood of Jesus, but the Gospel also tells us that she had an important place in His public life, e.g. at the Wedding in Cana, Jn 2:1-11. She travelled around Galilee with women who provided for Jesus and His apostles. Once, Jesus praised her in public; He called her "blessed" because she always did what God wanted her to do. And at the end of Jesus' life, Mary was at the foot of the Cross still taking part in His saving work and comforting Him.

**REFLECTION:** Do I want to share in Mary's love?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** MARY HELPED JESUS (adapted from Lk 2)

It was very cold in Bethlehem on the night Jesus was born and so Mary wrapped him up very carefully in a little blanket to keep him warm. Whenever he was hungry, she fed him and, when he was tired, she put him to sleep on his little bed. All day long, Mary looked after him; she always talked nicely to him and helped him.

Mary taught Jesus to walk and to talk. He loved to hear stories 'from before' so Mary told him many stories.

She was such a good mother; she never got tired of looking after Jesus and he knew that she really loved him.

**Picture:** Family picture. Page 246

**Poster:** Mary helped Jesus: Mary helps me

**Song:** Hail Mary

Hail Ma - ry, full of grace, the Lord is with  
you. Bless - ed are you a - mong wo - men, and blest is the fruit of your womb.  
Je - sus, Ho - ly Ma - ry, Mo - ther of God,  
pray for us sin - ners now and at the hour of death. A - men.

## OUTLINE LESSON 94

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: How my mother helps me.

Children appreciate how much their mothers do to help them.

**Picture:** Family picture

Children discover that good mothers help their children in many ways.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Mary Helped Jesus (adapted Lk 2)

Children realize that Mary was a good mother; she helped Jesus because she loved him.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What do you think Mary did for Jesus when he was a child? When he was grown-up?

**Consider:** Mary was a good mother. She always know what to do for Jesus and she never got tired of helping him.

**Poster:** Mary helped Jesus: Mary helps me

Children appreciate that Mary is a mother; she is always ready to help them, just as she helped Jesus.

**Song:** *Hail Mary*

Children will want to be loved and helped by Mary.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will ask Mary to help me.

Draw Mama  
cooking / washing

Children discuss  
the picture.

Children name  
things that Mary  
did for Jesus.

Children write  
their names and  
paste them on the  
poster.

Children sing.



## MARY HELPS EVERYONE

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. be able to tell the Story the Wedding in Cana
- b. feel that they can always ask Mary to help them

**BACKGROUND:**

Mary shared in Jesus' work of bringing new life to the human family. Now, in Heaven, she continues to bring salvation by her prayers. Because she is our Mother, she has a mother's love for us. She knows that we are still on earth, still hoping to reach our home in heaven. She is sorry for us when we are worried or lost and she will not leave us until we are safely in heaven.

**REFLECTION:**

How kind Mary was to the young couple on their wedding day! (Ref Jn 2:1-11)

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** The Wedding at Cana. Ref Jn 2:1-11

**Classroom altar:** in honour of Mary

**Song:** *Hail Mary*, page 273

**Story:** MARY GOES TO A WEDDING (Ref Jn 2:1-11)

One day, Mary and her friends went to a wedding feast at a little town called Cana. Jesus and many of his friends went along, too. Everyone was having a good time and then, suddenly, Mary noticed something. She noticed that there was nothing left to drink. How sad it would be, she thought, if this young couple was ashamed on their wedding day. So she went quietly to Jesus and whispered, 'There is nothing left to drink. Everything is finished.' When Jesus heard this, he did something very special for the young couple. He changed water into wine and the feast went on happily again!

## OUTLINE LESSON 95

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share their experience of weddings.

What happened at the wedding?

How did the families do?

Children realize that a wedding is a special celebration and everyone wants to be happy. God likes us to dance and sing and celebrate weddings with nice food and drink.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Mary Goes to a Wedding

(Based on Jn 2:1-11)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who did Mary think of at the wedding?

Children realize that Mary wanted to help the young couple on their wedding day. She wanted them to be happy and enjoy their feast.

**Consider:** Mary cares about everyone. She thinks about you and wants you to be happy always. When she sees that you need something, she goes to Jesus for you. You can share everything you do with Mary.

**Prayer:** Children experience that it is good to pray and sing to Mary.

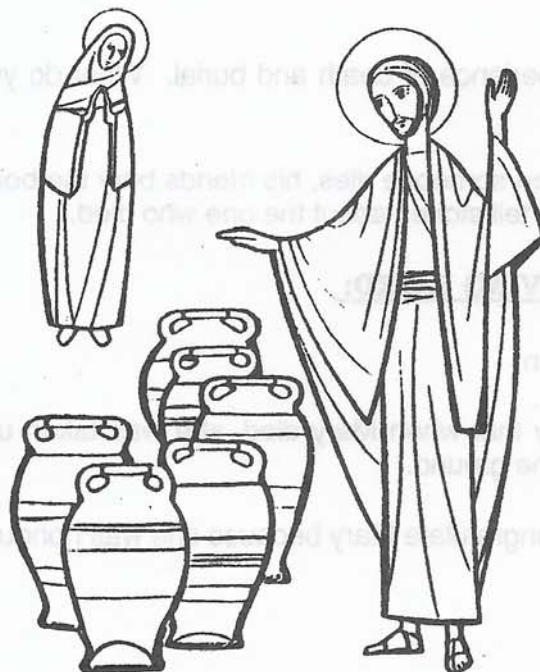
**FOR MY LIFE:** I will often ask Mary to help me.

Children draw something they use at celebrations.

Re-tell the story.

Write: Mary helps us.

Gather round the altar. Pray / sing to Mary.





## MARY WAS TAKEN INTO HEAVEN

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- be able to say that Mary was taken up into Heaven
  - want to go to Heaven when they die

**BACKGROUND:**

Mary our Mother shared in all the mysteries of Jesus' life and death. Her Assumption into Heaven is a sign of her special share in the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus. God honoured Mary by taking her into Heaven after her death. In Heaven, she enjoys special honour and, from her place in Heaven, she intercedes for us and waits for us to finish our lives here on earth. She loves us and helps us to live in God's love. She is attentive to our prayers.

**REFLECTION:** Do I ever think of Heaven? Do I desire to go there?

**PREPARE:**

**Pictures:** Mary and the child Jesus / Mary at the Cross.  
Pages, 263

**Song:** Any suitable song to Mary

**Flash card:** Congratulations, Mary

**Classroom Altar:** Decorate

**Life Story:** Mary's life-story (see Outline)

**Class Activity: Picture sequence:** Mary's life story (see Outline)

### OUTLINE LESSON 96

**LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children share their experience of death and burial. What do you do when someone dies? How do you feel?

Children realize that when someone dies, his friends bury the body carefully because it belongs to God and they tell stories about the one who died.

**LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

Mary is taken into heaven

Children are able to say that when Mary died, she was taken up to Heaven. Her body was not buried in the ground.

**Flash card:** Children congratulate Mary because she was honoured by God.

**MARY'S LIFE STORY:** Children listen to Mary's life-story.

Mary's birthday is celebrated on the 8th Sept-ember. Her parents were Joachim and Anna. She grew up in a small village called Nazareth. Everybody loved Mary and God had a special love for her. He wanted her to be the mother of His Son, Jesus.

Mary gave birth to God's Son at Bethlehem and looked after him and taught Him many things.

When Jesus was grown-up, Mary helped Him with His work of teaching and she went with Him to His death on the Cross. She stood near Him to comfort Him.

(Picture: Mary at the Cross)

After Jesus died, Mary went to live with St John who looked after her until she died. God took Mary straight to Heaven where she was welcomed. In Heaven, Mary prays for us and helps us and waits for us.

**Prayer:** Children honour Mary and think of her in Heaven.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will pray to Mary everyday.

Re-tell Mary's life-story.

Class activity: A picture sequence:

1. Baby Mary
2. Mary visits Elizabeth
3. Mary and Baby Jesus
4. Mary at the Cross
5. Mary is taken to Heaven.

Children pray and sing to Mary





## PALM SUNDAY

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. be able to tell the story of Palm Sunday
- b. want to take part in the Palm Sunday celebration

**BACKGROUND:**

About 1,000 years before Jesus was born, King Solomon rode on a donkey to his coronation ceremony which took place on the eastern slope of Mt Zion, the hill on which Jerusalem is built. Riding on a donkey was the sign that Jesus chose to tell the people of Jerusalem that now their King and Saviour is coming to them. They responded with the cry "Hosanna" which, in Jesus' language (Aramaic) means "save us."

**REFLECTION:**

The mysteries of Salvation are made present in the Liturgy. Am I aware of participating in them?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** The Story of Palm Sunday (See Mk 11:1-11)

### Story: JESUS RIDES ON A DONKEY

One morning, the people of Jerusalem saw Jesus dressed in his very best clothes, riding on a donkey and coming towards their city. Everyone hurried to meet him. As he came towards the city, the crowd got bigger and bigger. The people, and the children, too, were all very excited. Some started breaking branches off the trees and waving them and calling out a lovely word, "Hosanna". Some spread their clothes on the road in front of Jesus. And the little donkey stepped on them very carefully. He was not a bit frightened with all the noise and excitement; he enjoyed carrying Jesus into Jerusalem!

**Picture:** The Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem. Page 264

**Flash card:** Palm Sunday

**Palm Branches** (or something similar)

**Song:** A Palm Sunday song used in the Parish

## OUTLINE LESSON 97

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: How we welcome leaders. How we feel when an important leader visits our town or village.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Jesus Rides on a Donkey, Mk 11:1-11

The children hear the story of Jesus' Entry into Jerusalem and share in the excitement of this event.

**Picture:** The Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem

Children become more familiar with the Story and take notice of the welcome given to Jesus.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Flash card:** Palm Sunday

Children become familiar with the name Palm Sunday and realize that they welcome Jesus on Palm Sunday.

**Consider:** Palm Sunday is an exciting day for you. Prepare to welcome Jesus just as the people did in Jerusalem when He came to them. (Wash, dress nicely, get your palm ready and go to your church in time to welcome Jesus.)

**Song:** A Palm Sunday song used in the Parish

### FOR MY LIFE:

I will remind my family about Palm Sunday and help to prepare our palms.

Re-tell the Story.

Children discuss the picture.

Children make plans for taking part in the procession.

Children sing



## EASTER SUNDAY

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that Jesus was dead and came back to life on Easter Sunday
- b. celebrate Easter Sunday at their parish church

**BACKGROUND:**

The four Gospel writers have written about the Resurrection of Jesus from the dead and they have told many stories about it. In 1 Corinthians, St Paul has written a whole chapter, Chapter 15 on the importance of the Mystery of the Resurrection. This is verse 14, "If Christ has not been raised from death, then we have nothing to preach and you have nothing to believe."

**REFLECTION:**

In his great mercy, God gave us new life by raising Jesus Christ from death. This fills us with hope and so we can look forward to possessing the rich blessings of heaven. Alleluia! (Missal.)

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** The Resurrection, Lk 24:1-11

**Story:** EASTER SUNDAY MORNING (adapted, Lk 24:1-11)

Very early on Easter Sunday morning, some women went to the cave in which Jesus' friends had buried His body (on Good Friday) after they had taken it down from the Cross. They were carrying some nice perfume for Jesus' body. When they reached the cave, they got a very big surprise. The heavy stone at the door of the cave had been rolled away and Jesus was gone! Then they heard the good news that He was alive.

**Picture:** The Risen Christ / The Empty Tomb. Page 264

**Poster:** Write "Alleluia" and decorate

**Song:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!



## OUTLINE LESSON 98

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share their experience of death and burial.

Can you think of someone who has died?

What did the people do?

Children realize that death brings sadness.

Why was the day Jesus died a sad day for His friends?

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Easter Sunday Morning, (Adapted Lk 24:1-11.)

Children feel that this is a very special, happy story. Jesus has come back to life!

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Flash card:** Easter Sunday

Children become familiar with the name Easter Sunday and realize that Easter Sunday is a very happy day for them.

### **The Alleluia Poster:**

Children are introduced to the happy Easter word, Alleluia.

**Song:** Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Children experience the happiness of Easter. They realize that Jesus is risen from the dead.

**Picture:** The Risen Jesus / The Empty Tomb

Children enjoy hearing again that Jesus rose from the dead and that He is alive.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will take home my Alleluia card and ask my family to sing Alleluia before our evening meal.

Children re-tell the story.

Children practice saying: Easter Sunday.

Children sing, Alleluia

Children write 'ALLELUIA' and decorate



## MICHAEL, THE ARCHANGEL

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- become aware that the Angel Michael guards P.N.G.
  - ask the Angel Michael to watch over P.N.G.

**BACKGROUND:**

Angels are part of God's creation. They are spiritual beings who glorify God and help human beings on their way to Heaven.

Michael is one of the great angels known to the people of the Bible. His name means "who is like God". When Satan challenged God and refused to serve Him, Michael was loyal. In the Book of Daniel, Michael is called the "great prince who stands over your (God's) people," Dn 12.1.

In the New Testament, there are two references to the Angel Michael, Jude 9 and Rev 12:7. Rev 12:7 depicts Michael as the leader of the angelic army in the battle between the dragon (Satan) and his angels (evil spirits).

In Christian worship, Michael is the protector of the Church and the angel who leads the souls of the departed into heaven. The Church in P.N.G. has appointed him Patron of this country.

**REFLECTION:** Do I trust God's angels to take care of me?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** MICHAEL, THE GOOD SPIRIT (Ref Dan 10:1f)

Long ago, God gave His people a good spirit called Michael to protect them. They were very happy then because they knew that Michael was good and strong, and that bad spirits were afraid of him.

The good spirit Michael is our special angel. He looks after our country, P.N.G. We can ask him to keep us safe from harm.

**Sketch map:** P.N.G. (Write: Angel Michael pray for us)

**Pictures:** Scenes from P.N.G.  
St. Michael, page 267 b

### OUTLINE LESSON 99

**LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children name good things they have in their country. Name things that they are afraid of (including bad spirits)

**Sketch Map:** Children become familiar with the map of P.N.G.

**Pictures:** Scenes from P.N.G.

Children admire beautiful things their country offers them.

**LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** Michael, the Good Spirit, Ref Dan 10:1f

**Picture** of St. Michael

**DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

What did Michael do for God's people?

**Consider:** We are God's people and God loves us. He wants us to be safe from all harm and to live happily together. He has given us a special angel to watch over us, St Michael. We ask our Angel Michael to stay with us and keep us safe from harm.

**Sketch Map:** Children recognize their country and the words, Angel Michael pray for us.

**Prayer:** God our Father, we thank you for our beautiful country. Please send us your good friend, Michael to watch over P.N.G. and to keep us safe from harm.

**Song:** Our National Song

Write: P.N.G. on B'board.

Children name things that they like. Say: Thank God for.....

Discuss picture

Draw a heart. Write P.N.G. in it.

Teacher and children pray.

Children sing

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will tell my family about the Angel Michael





**ADVENT - GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS**

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- be able to say that Advent is the time for getting ready to welcome Jesus at Christmas
  - take part in their class preparation for Christmas

**BACKGROUND:**

In the O.T. the title "Lord" is given to God. It is a title of honour and suggests kingship and the power to command. This title "Lord" is given to Jesus also because He comes to rule over the hearts of all people. He is God; He existed before the world was created and now He comes as the source of life bringing light to the whole human family. He is born of the Virgin Mary at Bethlehem.

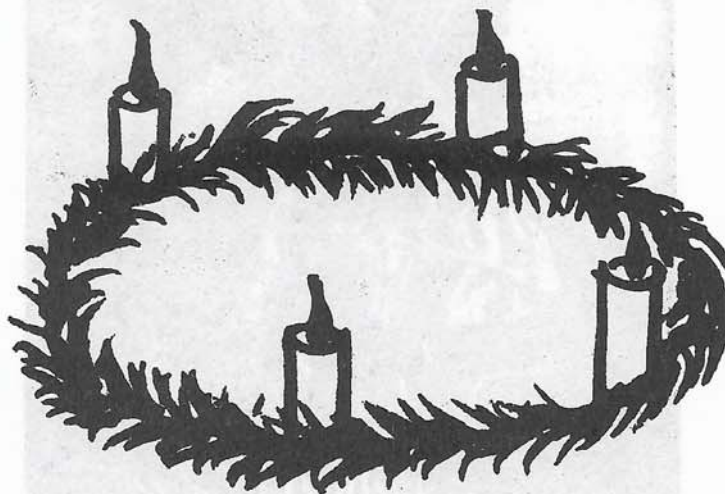
The name Emmanuel which means "God is with us" was first used by the Prophet Isaiah, Is 7:10-17. The child who receives this title is given by God as a sign of peace for Israel. St Matthew has this text in mind when he tells the story of the Birth of Jesus. The title "Immanuel" is entirely appropriate for Jesus because He is God and the Sign of Peace for the human family.

**REFLECTION:** Is Jesus both Lord and Immanuel in my life?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Get ready for Jesus to come (Ref Jn 1:23)

**Song:** An Advent song used in the Parish  
**Calendar or Advent Wreath**



## OUTLINE LESSON 100

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share their experience of waiting for someone to come, perhaps a brother or sister to come home.  
How did you feel? How did you prepare?

#### **Poster:** Advent

Children learn the word Advent and become aware that Advent is a time of waiting; it is a time for getting ready to welcome the Baby Jesus at Christmas.

#### **Calendar or Wreath**

Children form an idea of how much time they have to get ready for Jesus to come.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Get ready for Jesus to come. Ref Jn 1:23

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Why is Advent an important time?

**Consider:** God is ready to send His Son into the world, soon. He wants you to get ready to welcome Him. If you welcome Him, He will be happy here and He will make you God's child.

**Song:** An Advent song used in the Parish

Children realize that this song helps them to get ready to welcome God's Son.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will ask my family to sing the Advent song.

Children write:  
Advent.

Teacher and  
children mark off the  
days of Advent.

Children draw an  
Advent wreath.

**Prayer:** God our  
Father send your  
Son to us.  
**Response:** Come  
Lord Jesus.

Children sing.

**Note:** During  
Advent, use this  
prayer and song.



## WE CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 13.101

### **EVERYONE HAS A BIRTHDAY**

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- realize that birthdays are important
  - thank God for the gift of life

**BACKGROUND:**

Two great moments in the life of every person are the moments of conception and birth. And the third great moment is the moment of death. No one escapes these moments!

Just as God breathed life into the first man, Adam (Gen 2:7) so too, at the moment of conception, He breathes life, **an immortal soul**, into every human being making it "like himself". For nine months, before coming to birth, this new life is protected and nourished in its mother's womb. After birth, as life unfolds, each person is actually preparing for that other great moment when God will call him/her out of life in this world and into the fullness of life forever in Heaven.

**REFLECTION:**

Lord, you created every part of me;  
You put me together in my mother's womb ... when I was growing there in secret  
You knew that I was there, you saw me before I was born." Ps 139: 13-16.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** God made everyone; He gives everyone life.  
(See Ps.139:13-16)

**Picture:** Family Picture. Page 244

**Poster:** God gives life

**Story:** The teacher tells his/her own story. My mother's name is ....  
continue your story and include your date of birth.

## OUTLINE LESSON 101

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share stories about new babies in their families. Who has a baby at home? Can you remember when it was born?

Children become aware that their parents wrote down the baby's birthday because this is important.

#### **Story:** The Teacher's Own Story

The children feel that their teacher's birthday is something very important.

**Picture:** Family Picture or a Mother and baby the children know.

Children realize that the baby is beautiful and that its parents are happy admiring it. They know its birthday.

**Sharing Stories:** Through sharing stories about new babies in their village or in their extended families, children appreciate the importance of new babies.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God made everyone; He gives everyone life. Ref Ps 139:13-16.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who gives life to new babies?

**Consider:** New babies are very important to God. He looks forward to their birthdays. He watches them grow and He hopes that they will always be good and happy.

**Poster:** God gives life.

Children look at a calendar. Some children were born in Jan, some in Feb etc.

Sing Happy Birthday for the new baby.

Children tell stories about new babies.

**Prayer:** Teacher and children pray for all the new babies in the world.

**Write:** God gives life.

**FOR MY LIFE:** When I see a new baby, I will remember that God gave it life.



## MY BIRTHDAY

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- become aware that God gave them life
  - celebrate their birthday each year

**BACKGROUND:**

In the Creation Stories (Gen 1 & 2) there are very important verses about human beings. These verses tell us that human beings are like God; that they share in His work of creation; that they are able to take responsibility.

The life of human beings is protected by God's law: You shall not kill. (5th Commandment)

Parents, who welcome their children and show love for them, help them to grow up with feelings of self-worth and self-respect. Teachers develop these good feelings through education, tolerance and Christian discipline.

**REFLECTION:** God knew me before I was born. Ref Ps 139:13-16.

**PREPARE**

**Scripture::** God made me; He gave me life. (Ref Ps 139:13-16)

**Picture:** Family Picture. Page 244

**Chart:** A Birthday Chart for the class (if possible)

**Sentence strips:**

GOD MADE ME. HE GAVE ME LIFE.

**Story: THE NEW BABY**

One day Joanna said to her family, "I'm going to stay at my sister's house soon; she's going to help me with our new baby. When I come back, you'll see our new baby and hold it. We'll dress it in those nice clothes I've made and sleep it in the new bilum." Joanna said "Goodbye" and Papa took her to her sister's house.

Next day, on the 26th of May, the new baby was born! Papa and Mama were so happy to see their new baby. They thanked God for the little girl and prayed that she would always be good and healthy.

When they were ready, Papa and Mama brought the new baby home and everyone wanted to hold their baby sister.

## OUTLINE LESSON 102

### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children talk about how families prepare for a new baby.

**Story:** The New Baby

Children see that the family prepared for the new baby and was happy when it was born.

They note the date of birth, **26th of May**.

**Picture:** Family Picture

Children experience the happiness that new babies bring to families. They know their birthdays.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** God made me; He gave me life.

Ref Ps 139:13-16.

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

Who made you and gave you life?

#### **Consider:**

God made you and gave you life and so you are very important to Him. He hopes that you will be good and happy always.

**Birthday List:** As the children find out their date of birth, add it to the birthday list. If possible celebrate each child's birthday.

**Sentence strips:** The children should be able to say that God made them; they are important to Him.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will always celebrate my birthday.

Pray: God bless  
all the new babies  
in P.N.G.

Children draw  
themselves as  
new babies.

Teacher and  
children enter  
birthdays on the  
chart.

Children read the  
sentences.



## THE STORY OF JESUS' BIRTH

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. be able to tell the story of Jesus' birth
- b. experience happiness at the birth of Jesus

**BACKGROUND:**

In St Luke's Gospel, there are many stories about the early life of Jesus. Many learned people think that St Luke heard these stories from Mary herself. Lk 2:1-7.

**REFLECTION:**

Do I consider the birth of Jesus to be the most important event in the history of the world?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** The Birth of Jesus (See Lk 2:1-7)

Mary had many things to do to get ready for the birth of her baby. She had little clothes to make and fold and the house to clean and things to put away. And Joseph was busy, too. One day, when he was busy making a little wooden bed, a man came to him and said, 'You have to take your wife and go to Bethlehem to put your names in the government book.' So they had to leave their nice home where everything was ready for the new baby and set out on a long walk to Bethlehem.

When they came to Bethlehem, Joseph tried very hard to find a room for Mary, but every place was taken up. He looked and looked and at last he found a little space in a stable. And that is where the new baby was born. Mary wrapped him up very gently and put him to sleep in the animals' food box. Joseph called the new baby "Jesus."

Mary and Joseph were very happy that night. They welcomed the baby Jesus and kept him warm because it was such a cold night... (tomorrow we'll continue our story)

**Picture:** The Birth of Jesus. Page 211

**Song:** A Christmas Song used in the Parish

## OUTLINE LESSON 103

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Soon, we will be having long holidays from school. What are these holidays called? Children learn that during the Christmas holidays we will be celebrating Jesus' Birthday.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** The Birth of Jesus, (See Lk 2:1-7)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Where was Jesus born?

Children appreciate that Mary and Joseph prepared for their new baby and welcomed him. He was very important to them.

**Picture:** The Birth of Jesus

Children become more familiar with the story of the birth of Jesus.

**Consider:** Christmas is a happy time because of the Baby Jesus.

**Prayer:** Children express thanks to God for the baby Jesus and thank Mary and Joseph for making Him so welcome.

**Song:** A Christmas song used in the Parish

Children welcome Jesus and express their happiness at his birth.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will celebrate Jesus' Birthday on the 25th December

Re-tell the story.

Draw (or use plasticine): The place where Jesus was born.

Teacher and children pray.

Children sing.





## THE ANGELS PRAISE GOD

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- be able to tell about the Angels at Jesus' birth
  - experience happiness at Jesus' birth

**BACKGROUND:**

The Bible often speaks about angels. In the older Books of the Bible, they are called messengers of God; they are not "other gods" and so they are not to be adored.

In the later Books, those written after the Exile, angels appear in splendour and some are given names. The Books of Daniel and Tobit contain many references to angels.

The New Testament also gives angels a place in the story of Salvation. In the stories about the conception and birth of Jesus, there are several references to them. The Angel Gabriel brings God's message to Mary announcing the Birth of Jesus. An angel tells Joseph about the mystery of the Child's conception and warns him about King Herod's evil plan. An angel of the Lord brings God's message of peace to the Shepherds and a great army of Heaven's angels sing "Glory to God" on the night of Jesus' birth.

Modern Christians believe that angels are heavenly spirits. By studying all that has been said about them in the Bible and in the Tradition of the Church, they try to discover more about these wonderful beings.

**REFLECTION:**

"The Lord's angel guards those who have reverence for him and rescues them from danger." Ps 34:7

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** The Shepherds and the Angels, Lk 2:8-20 (Tell this story in your own words)

**Song:** *Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plain.  
And the mountains in reply echoing the ir joyous strain.  
Gloria...in excelsis Deo....*

**Picture :** Shepherds minding their sheep page 252

**Poster:** Good News: ... Jesus is born

### OUTLINE LESSON 104

**LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children share news.

Can you think of any news that you heard today?

What was it? Who told you?

How do you feel when they hear good news?

Children realize that good news brings happiness.

**Picture: or drawing:** Shepherds minding their sheep

Children are prepared to hear the story of the Shepherds and the Angels; they understand the work of shepherds.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** The Shepherds and the Angels,  
Lk 2:8-20

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

What did the angels tell the shepherds?

Children hear the Good News of Jesus' birth and imagine the joyful singing of the Angels.

**Song:** *Angels we have heard...*

Children share in the happiness of the shepherds and angels.

**Poster:** Good News ... **Jesus is born.**

Children realize that Jesus brings happiness.

Children read the poster.

**FOR MY LIFE:** On Christmas night, I will join in singing the Christmas songs.

Children look at the picture and imagine the scene.

Children retell the story.

Children sing.

Children read the poster.

**ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH**

treble

Angels we have heard on high. Sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,  
Ol i har-im en-sel nau. Ol i sing-sing a-ma-mas.

and the mountains in re-ply kam: e-cho-ing their joy-ous strain.  
Ol i bring-im tok i kam: Ji-sas i kam-ap tu-de.

Glo-ri-a

in ex-cel-sis De-o Glo-o o-ri-a in ex-cel-sis De-o



## THE SHEPHERDS VISIT JESUS

### OBJECTIVES:

The children will -

- be able to tell the story of the Shepherds' visit to the new-born baby, Jesus
- experience the excitement of the shepherds

### BACKGROUND:

The shepherds of the Bible Lands lived very hard lives. They were always on the move with their sheep looking for grassland, shade and water. The farmers, who thought they were cunning thieves, disliked them. And the shepherds didn't like the farmers, either. They believed they are mean people who couldn't even spare a bit of grass! Many people could tell stories about brave and devoted shepherds.

No matter what the farmers said about the shepherds, Jesus had his own, very deep thoughts about them. He had watched them carefully at their work. Ref Jn 10:1-18. Jesus explained His work and mission very beautifully when He called Himself the Good Shepherd.

**REFLECTION:** Is the birth of Jesus, the Saviour, good news for me?

### PREPARE:

**Scripture:** The Shepherds Visit Jesus,  
Lk 2:15-20. (Tell in your own words)  
**Picture:** The Birth of Jesus. 211  
**Song:** A Christmas song.

## OUTLINE LESSON 105

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

**Revision:** (See Lesson 104)  
Shepherds in Jesus' country

Children understand that shepherds stay with their sheep all the time to mind them and even sleep out in the open with them.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** The Shepherds and the Angels, Lk 2:15-20.

Children become familiar with the story of the shepherds going to Bethlehem to see the baby Jesus.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Discuss the picture.

Children retell the story.

Why did the shepherds go to Bethlehem?

**Consider:** The Shepherds believed what the Angels told them. They wanted to go and see the Baby Jesus for themselves and welcome Him.

Draw the Baby Jesus as the shepherds saw Him.

Children sing.

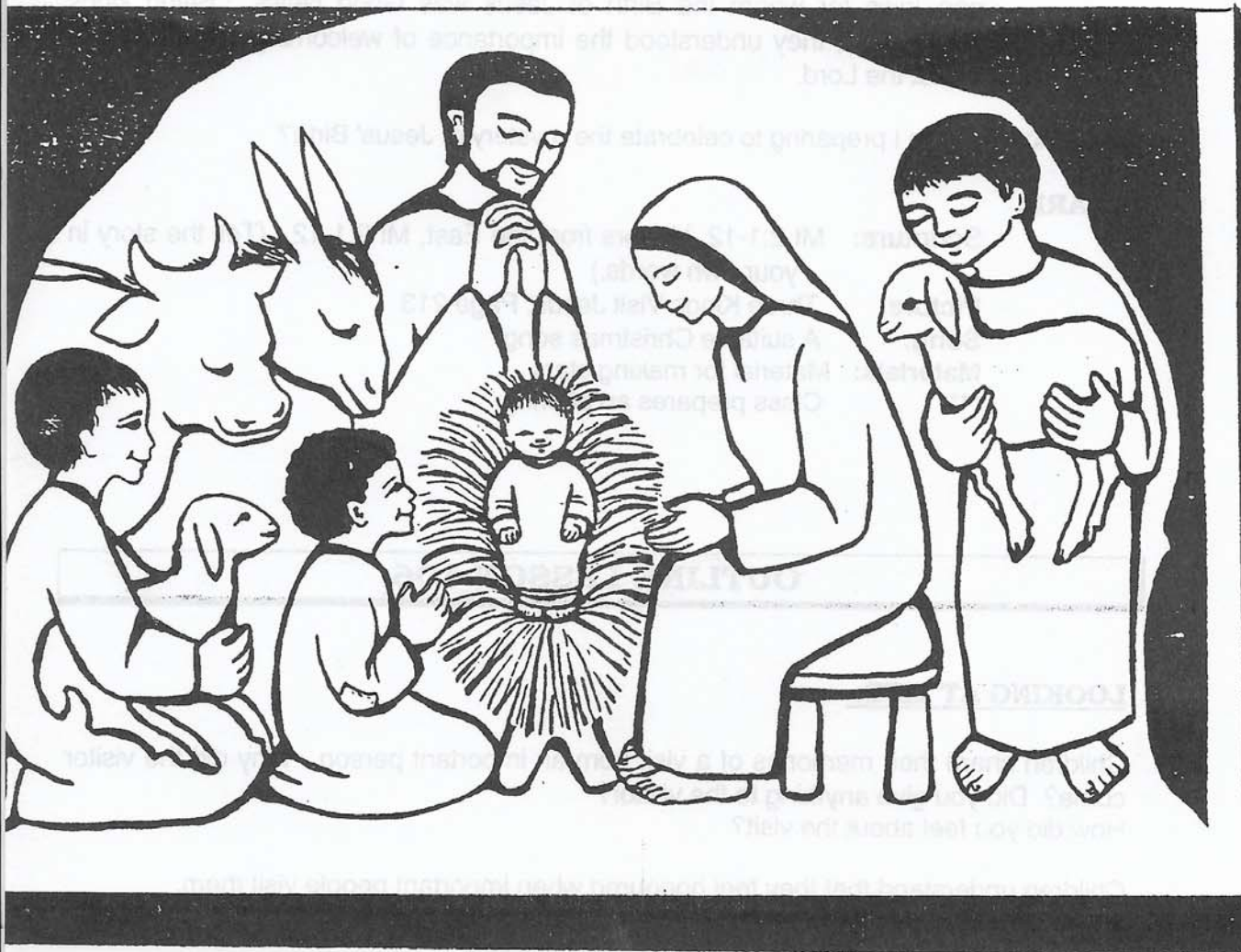
**Song:** A Christmas song

Children welcome the baby Jesus as the shepherds did and sing thanks to God for sending Him to us.

**Picture:** The Birth of Jesus

Children deepen their appreciation of the of the shepherds part in the Story of Jesus' Birth.

**FOR MY LIFE:** At Christmas, I will visit Jesus in our church.





## THREE KINGS VISIT THE BABY JESUS

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- be able to tell the story: The Kings Visit the Baby Jesus.
- visit Jesus at the Crib and make an offering

**BACKGROUND:**

In every society, there are "special" people who watch for signs that might tell them what is going to happen in the future. Some have a real gift for reading "the signs of the times"; others claim that they have it, but actually they only confuse and frighten people with the messages they give.

St Matthew tells about three "special" people who believed that a new star was telling them about a new and important event. They followed that star until they came to the place where Jesus was.

These "special" people called the Magi or the Three Wise Men or the Visitors from the East are important in the story of Jesus' Birth and Mission.

They were not Jews; they were foreigners and they represent all of us non-Jews for whom the Birth of Jesus was Good News. Being kings themselves, they understood the importance of welcoming the new King, Christ the Lord.

**REFLECTION:** Am I preparing to celebrate the mystery of Jesus' Birth?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Mt 2:1-12, Visitors from the East, Mt 2:1-12. (Tell the story in your own words.)

**Picture:** Three Kings Visit Jesus. Page 213

**Song:** A suitable Christmas song

**Materials:** Material for making stars  
\*\*\*  
Class prepares an offering

### OUTLINE LESSON 106

**LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Children share their memories of a visit from an important person. Why did the visitor come? Did you give anything to the visitor?  
How did you feel about the visit?

Children understand that they feel honoured when important people visit them.

**LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** Visitors from the East, Mt 2:1-12

Children become familiar with this story. They realize that the Holy Family felt happy about the visit.

**DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

Why did the visitors come?

**Consider:** The Visitors realized that Jesus was a very important Baby and so they travelled a long, long way to visit Him and welcome Him.

**Picture:** The Visitors offering their gifts.

Children appreciate that the Visitors wanted to show Jesus that they were happy to see Him.

**Song:** A Christmas Song

Children honour the Baby Jesus.

Children re-tell the story.

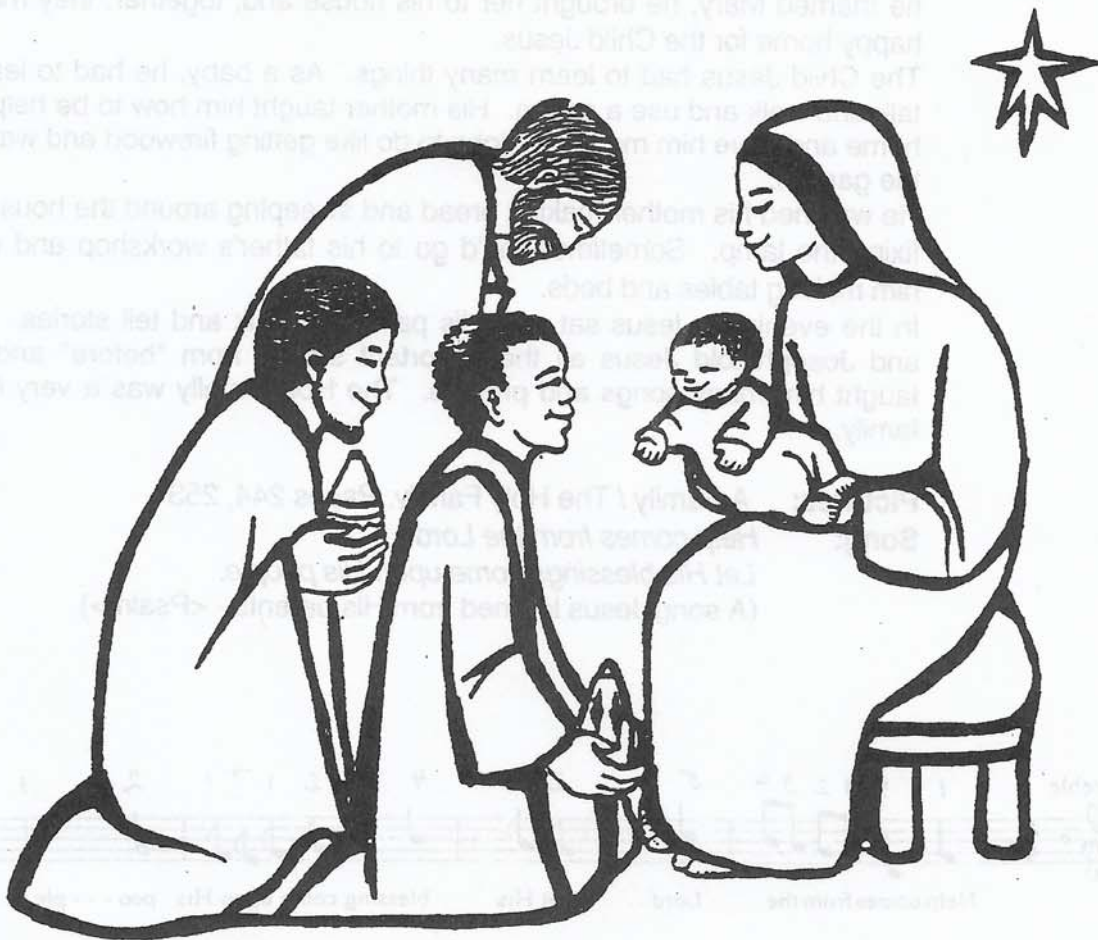
Draw or make a star.

Children look at the picture.

Children bring their offering.

Children sing.

**FOR MY LIFE:** At Christmas time, I will visit Jesus at the Crib and make an offering.





## THE HOLY FAMILY

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- come to know the Holy Family better
  - ask the Holy Family to bless their families

**BACKGROUND:**

As parents, Mary and Jōseph understood their part in preparing Jesus for his life's work. From His earliest years, they taught Him to be attentive to God and to think beyond His own family. Life at Nazareth was a kind of apprenticeship for Jesus' saving work.

**REFLECTION:**

Although Jesus was God, He obeyed Mary and Joseph.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** The Holy Family (See Mt 1:18-21)

Joseph built a nice house for his family in a village called Nazareth. When he married Mary, he brought her to his house and, together, they made a happy home for the Child Jesus.

The Child Jesus had to learn many things. As a baby, he had to learn to talk and walk and use a spoon. His mother taught him how to be helpful at home and gave him many little jobs to do like getting firewood and watering the garden.

He watched his mother making bread and sweeping around the house and fixing the lamp. Sometimes, he'd go to his father's workshop and watch him making tables and beds.

In the evenings, Jesus sat with His parents to talk and tell stories. Mary and Joseph told Jesus all the important stories from "before" and they taught him many songs and prayers. The Holy Family was a very happy family.

**Pictures:** A Family / The Holy Family. Pages 244, 253

**Song:** *Help comes from the Lord*  
*Let His blessings come upon His people.*  
 (A song Jesus learned from His parents.- <Psalm>)



## OUTLINE LESSON 107

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: Who belongs in you family?  
What special jobs does each one do?

Children realize that they belong to a family and that, in families, everyone helps.

**Picture:** A Family

Children realize that everyone belongs in this family and helps the others.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** The Holy Family, Ref Mt 1:18-21

Children feel 'at home' with the Holy Family.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

**Picture:** The Holy Family

Children admire the Holy Family and feel close to this special family.

**Consider:**

How nice it would be to have a family like the Holy Family!  
How we can make our family happy?

**Song:** *Help comes from the Lord*

Children feel the presence of the Holy Family as they pray and sing to entertain this Family.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will make my family happy.

Children draw their family.

Children give a name to each one in this family (picture).  
Suggest what each one might do.

Retell the story, the Holy Family.

Children suggest what each one in the Holy Family does.

Children say: In my family, I can .....

Children pray and sing



## A CHRISTMAS PLAY

### PREPARE:

Towels, laplaps for dressing up / Christmas Songs / A Song of Greeting to Mary

A simple text for Mary, Angel Gabriel, Messenger, Joseph, Innkeepers (3), The Angel. (Use the words suggested below or make your own.) Arrange for practice time.

### PLAY: THE BIRTH OF JESUS

#### INTRODUCTION:

Soon it will be time for the Birth of Jesus. Let us think about how much God loves us and how He showed His love by sending His Son into this world to make us happy.

Jesus came to show us how to love God and our brothers and sisters. Let us welcome Jesus and tell Him that we want Him to stay with us always.

Mary is a very important person in the Christmas Story. Let us greet Mary with a song: .....

**Teacher:** When God was ready to send His Son, Jesus into the world, He chose someone special to be His Mother. Her name was Mary. The Angel Gabriel came to tell her the Good News.  
(Mary is busy sweeping.)

**Angel:** Hail Mary, do not be afraid. God has sent me to you. He would like you to be the mother of His Son.

**Mary:** I will do whatever God wants.

**Children:** Say / sing the "Hail Mary .... Jesus."

**Teacher:** Mary always did what God wanted. The angel took her message back to God and God made Mary the mother of His Son. Soon after, Mary went to visit her cousin, Elizabeth and an angel told Joseph the Good News about Mary's baby. Mary and Joseph prepared for the Birth of Jesus ...  
Just when everything was ready and Mary was waiting for her baby, a messenger came to tell Joseph that he had to go to Bethlehem because the king wanted to count all the people. Joseph had to take Mary with him and it was such a long way to Bethlehem.

**Messenger:** Joseph, you must go to Bethlehem with your wife and put your names in the Government Book.

**Teacher:** Mary and Joseph set off for Bethlehem. Many people had already arrived there and the little town was soon overcrowded. Joseph went around looking for a place to stay, but every room was taken up.

**Joseph:** (knocking on a door) Please, have you any room for us? My wife is going to have a baby soon.

**Inn-keeper:** O sorry! We have no room here.

**Joseph:** (knocking on another door) Please, could we stay here just for tonight. Mary is going to have her baby, soon. It's very cold outside.

**Inn-keeper:** O Sorry. We have no room.

**Joseph:** (tries another house) O please, could we stay here at your house just for tonight. My wife needs a place to have her baby. It's so cold outside.

**Inn-keeper:** O sorry! I have no room, but I know a place where you could stay, if you don't mind. See that old shed down there. You can go there.

**Teacher:** Joseph cleaned the shed and lit a fire to keep Mary warm. And that's where Baby Jesus was born. She wrapped him up nicely in a blanket and put him to sleep in the animals' food box.

**Procession to the Crib:**

Children come to visit the new Baby and to thank him for coming to stay with them. (Sing Christmas songs.)



## UNIT 14: LESSONS FOR SPECIAL DAYS

### FOR THE TEACHER

UNIT 14.109

## ***WE LOVE OUR MOTHERS (Mothers' Day)***

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- realize that they should help their mothers
  - show their mothers that they are thankful to them

**BACKGROUND:**

Mothers need time and help to grow in understanding their vocation. They have dark moments, times when they find it hard to catch a glimpse of God in the events of their lives. It is their fidelity that means so much to God.

Without getting caught up in the commercial aspects of Mother's Day, each person can surely find a suitable way to honouring his/her mother. God is pleased when mothers are respected and appreciated.

**REFLECTION:**

Why should I honour my mother?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Sir 3:1-16 (adapted)

God has told us many things to help us to be happy together. One thing that He told us long ago is, 'If you honour your mother and never do anything to make her sad, you will be happy.' He said that He is pleased when we are good to our mothers and that He will give us a special blessing. He loves our mothers very much; they remind Him of Mary, the mother of His Son.

**Picture:** A Family Picture. Page 244

**Altar:** Clean and decorate the classroom altar

**Activity card for each child:** Trace, in big letters ...

**THANK YOU, MOTHER.**

**Song:** *Where o where is mother?* Page 18

## OUTLINE LESSON 109

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share:

What my mother does for me. What I do for my mother.

**Picture:** A Family Picture

Children appreciate how important mothers are to their families.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** adapted from Sir 3:1-16

Children hear about God's special concern for mothers.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What did God tell you to do?

What could you do to make your mother happy?

**Consider:** God wants us to be good to our mothers and to show them that they are important to us.

**Mothers' Day:**

Children become aware of **Mothers' Day** as a special day for showing their mothers how thankful they are to them for looking after them.

**Song:** *Where o where is mother*

**Prayer for Mothers** (See opposite)

Activity cards:

Trace "Thank you mother" and decorate cards.

**Prayer for Mothers**

(Gather around the altar)

Teacher: Let us ask God to bless our mothers

Response: God, please bless our mothers.

T: Let us ask God to give our mothers good health.

R: God, please give our mothers good health.  
... continue.

Children sing.

Children pray

### FOR MY LIFE:

Children take home their Activity cards and present them to their mothers. Say,  
**THANK YOU, MAMA FOR LOOKING AFTER ME. HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**



## WE THANK OUR FATHERS (*Fathers' Day*)

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that fathers are very important in families
- b. thank their fathers and pray for them

**BACKGROUND:**

Thanks to special studies done over the last 10-20 years, there is evidence that fathers and mothers do the work of "parenting" in complementary ways. The most important time for the father begins when his child starts to interact with the world. A father makes his special contribution to a child's development by helping it to explore the world outside the family, by helping it to discipline itself and by teaching it skills for life. This is how a father helps his child to grow in self-respect.

**REFLECTION:**

"When you are in trouble, the Lord will remember your kindness (to your father) and will help you; your sins will melt away like frost in warm sunshine," Sir 3:14-15.

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** LOVE YOUR FATHERS (Ex 20:12)

In a country far away, there is a mountain called Sinai. God came down on this mountain to speak to His people and tell them how to live happily together. He said: 'You must respect your fathers and be good to them always and especially when they are old and sick.' And God promised that He would bless children who are good to their fathers.

**Picture:** A Family Picture. Page 244

**Activity card for each child:** Trace in big letters, **Thank you, Papa.**

**Altar:** Clean and decorate the classroom altar

## OUTLINE LESSON 110

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: What my father does for me. What I do for my father.

Children realize that their fathers are very important to them. They show their love by doing things for their families.

### **Picture: A Family**

Children talk about what their fathers do; they realize that fathers do many things for their families because they love them.

**Consider:** God has given fathers the special work of looking after their families. He helps them to take care of their families.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Love your father, Ex 20:12.

Children become aware that God wants them to love and help their fathers.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What does God want you to do?

How do you show love for your father?

**Consider:** God has given fathers very important work in families. Their work is hard and so God wants children to be good to their fathers and help them.

**Fathers' Day:** The children hear about Fathers' Day and look forward to honouring their fathers on this day.

**Prayer for Fathers** (See opposite)

### FOR MY LIFE:

I will take home my Card and give it to my father and wish him a happy day.

Activity cards:  
Trace and  
decorate.

Prayer for  
Fathers (Gather  
around the altar)

Teacher: Let us  
ask God to bless  
our fathers...

Response:  
God, please  
bless my father.

T. Let us ask  
God to make our  
fathers strong  
and healthy ..

R. God, please  
bless my father.

... continue.



## WE LOVE OUR COUNTRY

- OBJECTIVES:** The children will -
- realize that God has blessed them with a beautiful country
  - want to look after their country, P.N.G.

**BACKGROUND:**

The first Catholic missionaries arrived in 1882. They landed at Matupit Island in New Britain and realized that God had brought them to a very beautiful country. He had already prepared many people to welcome them and to accept their message. Soon, they began to hear that God loved them and wanted them to have the gift of eternal life. Then they began to live in a new way ... the way of love and forgiveness. "Be kind and tender-hearted to one another, and forgive one another ...." Eph 4:32.

**REFLECTION:**

My country is a gift to me. How does God expect me to act in this beautiful country?

**PREPARE:**

National Flag / National Emblem

**Pictures:** Birds / flowers / etc

**Story: OUR COUNTRY**

God has given us a very beautiful country. And, He has put many different kinds of people in it, too. Each tribe is "special"; it has its own customs and language.

In our country, there are big forests full of lovely trees and birds and animals. And there are rivers and lakes and mountains where wonderful things are hidden away.

Our people know how to do many things. They can paint pictures, make music, teach, and nurse the sick. Some can drive trucks and even fly aeroplanes.

There are lots of things to be done in our country.

## OUTLINE LESSON 111

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children talk about the national flag.

What are its colours?

How do you show that your flag is important?

Children realize that the Flag is **our** flag; it stands for **our** country, P.N.G.

**Story:** Our Country

Children hear about our country and realize that it is a very beautiful country.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who gave us this beautiful country?

**Consider:** God knows our country and loves it. He gave us our country and wants us to be healthy and happy here in P.N.G. He wants us to work together and help one another in every way we can.

**Prayer:** Let us pray for our country:

Children express their love for their country through prayer and song

**Ceremony:** Honour the flag and sing the National Song.

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will be a good child of my country.

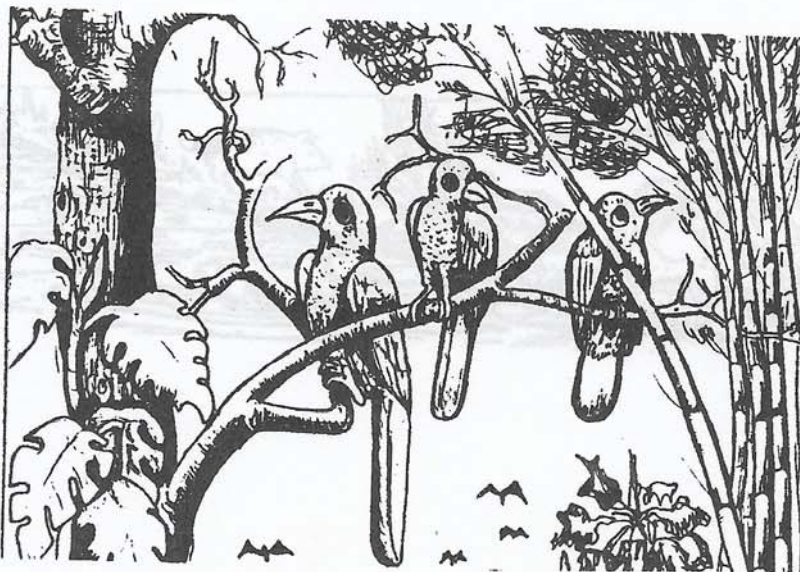
Children draw the Flag of P.N.G.

Children look at the **pictures**. Name other things in P.N.G. that they like.

**Share:** How can we show that we love our country?

Teacher and children pray.

Children salute the flag and sing.





**WE RESPECT GOD'S WORK (World Environment Day)**

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. become aware that all of nature is a gift from God
- b. respect God's work in nature

**BACKGROUND:**

Only after they have thought carefully about the works of the Lord, (Creation and Salvation), do the people of the Bible use the expression "Praise the Lord". This is their expression of admiration and wonder and gratitude. Used properly, it is a truly beautiful prayer of the heart.

God is praised as Creator: Here are some readings from the Bible where God is praised for His work of Creation: Ps 8; 19; 24; 33; 95; 104; Pr 8.22f; Sir 42.15f; Job 38.4f; Is 40.12f).

**REFLECTION:**

"God's splendour covers the heavens and the earth is full of his praise,"  
Hab 3,4

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** The Story of Creation (adapted from Gen 1)

In the beginning, there was no earth and no sky, no sun, no stars... nothing at all. There was nothing to look at and no-one to talk to. Then God started to make the earth and the sky. He made light first because He loves light. Little by little, God made everything... land and sea and sky. Then He made plants and birds and fish and all kinds of animals. When everything was finished, God made the first man and woman. He told them that everything was for them and that they were to look after the world that He had made.

**Poster:** I will respect God's work

**Song:** Thank you God for giving us...(flowers, birds, trees...) page 36



## OUTLINE LESSON 112

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children go and check the playground. Is the garden clean and tidy? Has anyone been walking on the flowers? Are there any broken trees? Has the grass been cut?

Children become aware that sometimes God's work is not respected.

Children understand that many people respect their place. They work hard to keep it looking nice.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** God Made the World (Ref Gen 1)

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

Who made the world?

Children become aware that the trees, flowers, birds etc were made by God; they are His work and should never be spoiled.

**Consider:** People get upset when someone spoils their work. And God, too, does not like to see His work spoiled. He wants you to look after everything He made.

**Poster:** I will respect God's work.

Children feel that it is important for them to respect God's work and never spoil anything.

**Song:** *Thank you God for...*

Children express their appreciation of God's work and thank Him for making so many beautiful things

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will never spoil trees and flowers.

Group work.  
Children go and check on the playground.  
Give a report on what they saw.

Draw a nice garden or use plasticine or clay to make a tree.

Children retell the story.

Children discuss the poster.

Children sing.



## CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN (1)

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- become aware that there are many children in the world who do not have the things that they need
- be moved to help these children

**BACKGROUND:**

It is a strange thing that some people seem to regard children as enemies! Long ago, when the King of Egypt wanted to be rid of the people of Israel, he ordered that their babies be thrown into the Nile River. That's how he solved his problem!

Children in Bethlehem and its neighbourhood suffered and died at the time Jesus was born. This happened because of the jealousy of King Herod. Even God's Son became a refugee in the land of Egypt. His parents fled with Him by night, in order to save His life. Read Mt 2:13-23.

In the world today, many children are suffering because they are unwanted and/or lack the things they need to be healthy and happy.

**REFLECTION:**

What is my attitude to babies and little children?

**PREPARE:**

**Scripture:** Children are very important. Jesus wants them to have the things they need to be healthy and happy. (Ref Mt 18:1-5)

**Poster:** with the words: **PRAYING / GIVING.** Decorate it.

**Song:**

- God's got the whole world in His Hands (4x)
- He's got mum and Dad in His hand (3x).  
He's got the whole world in His hand.
- He's got you and me, brother, in His hand, (3x).  
He's got the whole world ..
- He's got all the little children in His hand (3x),  
He's got the whole world ....

**GOD'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD**

treble

God's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole world in his hand, He's got the whole world in His hands, He's got the whole world in His hands.

God i hol - im graun - - - long hand blong Em, Em hol - im

whole world in his hand, He's got the whole world in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hands.

graun - - - long hand blong Em, Em holim graun - - - long han blong

hands, He's got the whole world in His hands. Em. - Em i hol - - - im long in han blong Em.

## OUTLINE LESSON 113

### LOOKING AT LIFE:

Children share: Things that I need to be happy.  
They discover that they are happy when they have food, good health, a home, a school etc.

Children understand that there are many countries in the world. Some are rich and some are very poor. There are many children who do not have the things they need. Some have no food; some are sick and there is no medicine for them; some have no schools; some are afraid etc.

Children feel sorry for children who do not have what they need.

### LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:

**Scripture:** Children are very important. Jesus wants them to have the things they need to be healthy and happy.  
Ref Mt 18:1-5.

### DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:

What would Jesus like all children to have?  
Can you remember a time when someone gave you something you needed?

**Consider:** It is easy for some people to send things to children in other countries and this is what Jesus wants them to do. He also wants everyone to pray for children in need.

**Poster:** Praying : Giving  
Children realize that children are helped by prayer and by giving.

**Prayer:** Children express their concern for other children by singing: *God's got the whole world...*

**FOR MY LIFE:** I will remember that I should help children in need.

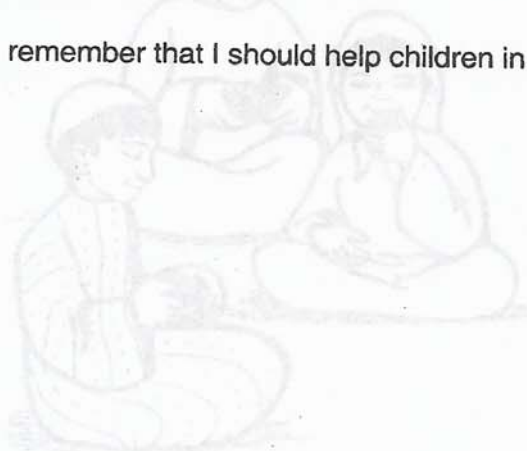
Children draw things that children need.

Teacher and children make a list: Countries we know ....

Children and teacher make a list: Children need .....

Children discuss the poster.

Children sing.





## CHILDREN HELPING CHILDREN (2)

**OBJECTIVES:** The children will -

- a. realize that Jesus wants them to help other children
- b. give to the Appeal, "Children Helping Children"

**BACKGROUND:**

"Children's Mission" is the Catholic Church's special agency for helping children. It is one of the Pope's own Mission Societies. It was established in France in 1843. It provides financial support for the urgent needs of children in 113 countries for shelter, food, clothing, spiritual, medical, pastoral and educational care.

"Children's Mission" aims at awakening in children a desire to reach out to others in need.

The Bishops in each country appoint a Promoter and Co-ordinator for Mission effort. Children's Offerings may be sent to the Religious Education Co-ordinator in your Diocese (who would send them to the Promoter) or given to your Parish Priest.

**REFLECTION:**

"What good is there in your saying to the poor, 'God bless you! Keep warm and eat well!' if you don't give them the necessities of life?"  
James 2:16.

**PREPARE:**

**Picture:** Jesus with children, Ref Mk 10:13-16. Page 251

**Money Box / Envelope for Offering:** stamped, addressed

**Song:** *God's got the whole world....*



### **LOOKING AT LIFE:**

Can you remember a time when they were asked to bring money / food to school? What was it for? Who looked after it for the children?

They realize that sometimes they help others by giving money / food.

Children feel that they would like to give something to neglected children.

### **LOOKING AT THE LIVING WORD:**

**Scripture:** Jesus with Children, Mk 10:13-16  
Children hear that Jesus loves children.

### **DISCOVERING THE MESSAGE:**

**"Children Helping Children"** (Ref Background notes)  
Children become aware of a way of giving to children who are short of the things they need.

#### **Money Box / Envelope for Offering:**

Children realize that they can send money to help to buy things for children who are short of such things as food, medicine etc.

#### **Picture:** Jesus with Children

Children appreciate Jesus' love for children and realize that Jesus would like them to be good to children everywhere.

**Offering:** Children are helped to prepare an offering for "Children Helping Children".

### **FOR MY LIFE:**

I will ask my family to help me with my offering for "Children Helping Children."

Draw something these children need.

Children place the money box and envelope on the altar.

Sing: God's got the whole world...

Children talk about their offering for the next lesson



## UNIT 15: WE PRAY TOGETHER

### PRAYER SERVICE

Unit 15:115

## WE PRAY FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

### PREPARE:

**Classroom altar:** Invite children to help with decorating the altar with flowers and candles. Put picture: Jesus with Children in place and the money box and envelope.

**Songs:** *God's got the whole world...* (with actions)

**Offerings:** Check on children's offerings (Be prepared to help children who have no offering e.g. by exchange.)

\*\*\*\*\*

Gather the children around the altar ...

### Teacher:

Today we are going to pray for children who have special needs, and make an offering to help to buy some of the things they need to be happy.

**Sign of the Cross:** The teacher makes the Sign of the Cross on each child's forehead (depending on the size of the class).

**Opening Prayer:** Jesus, you love little children. You love all the children of the world. They are special to you. Bless them all.

**Song:** *God's got the whole world...*

### **Scripture Reading, (adapted from Mt 6; Mk 10:13-16.)**

In the Bible, Jesus tells us what He wants us to do. He wants us to pray to Him and ask Him for everything we need for ourselves and others. He also wants us to give good things to people who are in need, especially children whom He loves very much.

### **Introduction to prayer for children in need:**

Many children in the world do not have the things they really need. Some have no food, some are sick and there is no medicine for them. There are many children in the world who have no homes and no parents. Jesus asks us to think of these children and pray for them.

**Let us pray:** Jesus, bless all the children of the world. We ask you to give them the food they need to be happy and healthy.

**Response:** Jesus hear our prayer.

Jesus you love all the children of the world and are sorry for those who are sick. Help people to send medicine to them.

**Response:** Jesus hear our prayer.

Jesus, many children in the world have no homes. They are frightened and have no one to comfort them. Help people to find new homes for them.

**Response:** Jesus hear our prayer.

Jesus, many children in the world are sad because they have no schools. Help people to think of these children and build schools for them.

**Response:** Jesus hear our prayer.

**Teacher:** Jesus, we want to make an offering now to help all those we have prayed for today.

***Children come forward and put their offering in the money box.  
Sing during the procession.***

**Final prayer:** Jesus we thank you for being so good to us. Help us to be kind and helpful to children who do not have the things they need to be healthy and happy.

**Song:**..... *God's got the whole world..*

### **Sign of the Cross**



## PRAYER SERVICE

UNIT 15.116

# WE PRAY FOR PEOPLE WHO DO SPECIAL WORK FOR US

### **PREPARE:**

**Classroom altar:** Invite children to help with decorating the altar with flowers and candles.

Place a Map of P.N.G. near the altar and pictures of people who do special work for us e.g. nurses, teachers etc.

Select suitable **songs**, including our National Song

\*\*\*\*\*

Gather the children around the altar:

Today, we will pray for people in our country who do special work for others. (Refer to the map and pictures.)

## Sign of the Cross

**Opening Song:** Our National Song

### **Opening Prayer:**

God our Father, you want us to work well together and to be happy in our country. We come to ask you to bless all the people who work for us.

### **Scripture Reading:** (Adapted from Lk 11:9-10)

Jesus has told us to ask God for everything we need. He has told us that God our Father loves us and wants us to be happy. He has told us that God always listens to us when we ask Him for something we need.

### **Introduction to prayers for people who work for us:**

There are many people in our country who do very important work for us. Our Prime Minister has special work and so have his helpers. Our bishop and priests and all their helpers also do special work for us. All of these people need God's blessing and God is pleased when we pray for them.

**Let us pray:** ... for our Prime Minister that he will always do his best for our country and for the people who help him. May they always work well together

**Response:** God our Father bless the people who work for us.

**Let us pray:** ... for our bishop, our priests, our brothers and sisters who spread the Good News about Jesus and for our catechists and church leaders. May they always work well together

**Response:** God our Father bless the people who work for us.

**Let us pray:** ... for all the doctors and nurses and teachers in our country. May they always work well together

**Response:** God our Father bless the people who work for us.

**Let us pray to Mary our Mother:** We ask you, Mary to watch over all the people who work for us. We will say your special prayer for them ...

**Together:** Hail Mary ...

**Final Prayer:**

God our Father we thank you for the people who work for us. Watch over them and guide them. Help them to do what you want them to do. Amen.

**Final Song:** Teacher's choice

**Sign of the Cross**

## **PRAYER SERVICE**

Unit 15:117

# ***WE PRAY FOR FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS***

**PREPARE:**

**Classroom altar:** Invite children to help with decorating the altar. If possible, display a picture of the Holy Family. Display pictures of families.

**Songs:** Any suitable songs (2 or 3)

\*\*\*\*\*

Gather the children around the altar:

**Teacher:** Today, we are going to pray for families with special needs.

**Sign of the Cross:** The teacher makes the Sign of the Cross on each child's forehead.

**Opening Prayer:**



Jesus, you have taught us to ask God our Father for the things we need. We know that He loves and cares for all the families of the world and that He will help them if we ask Him. (Remind the children that there are many countries in the world where families are suffering.)

**Opening Song:** (Chosen by the Teacher)

**Scripture Reading:** Adapted from Lk 11:9-10

In the Bible, Jesus tells us that, if we ask God our Father for what we need, He will give it to us. He wants us to ask for whatever we need for ourselves and for others.

**Introduction to Prayer:**

There are many families in the world who do not have what they need. Many have no money to buy food, medicine or others things that they need. Many families are in danger because of fighting and many have run away from their homes. God wants us to pray for all these families.

**Let us pray** for all the families in the world who are hungry and sick.  
God our Father we ask you to send people to help these families

**Response:** God bless all families.

**Let us pray** for families that are sad because of fighting.  
God our Father give peace to all families and help them to work well together

**Response:** God bless all families.

**Let us pray** for all mothers and fathers in the world that they will take good care of their children.  
God our Father help all mothers and fathers to work together for their children

**Response:** God bless all mothers and fathers.

**Let us pray** for families who have no homes and who are afraid and families who have no money to buy the things they need.  
God our Father, send people to help all these families

**Response:** God bless all families.

**Final Prayer:** The Our Father (children join hands)

**Final Song:** Chosen by the teacher

**Sign of the Cross**

# **WE PRAY THAT WE WILL BE PEACE-MAKERS**

## **BACKGROUND:**

The people of Israel believed that peace is a gift from God. They greeted each other with the word, "Shalom". Gideon's altar had the title Yahweh-shalom (God is peace) carved into it, Jgs 6,24. A person in friendship with God is at peace.

## **PREPARE:**

A large strip of paper with the words:  
Jesus, I want to be a peace-maker.

**Poster:** A heart with "peace" / "peace-maker"

**Scripture:** (adapted from Mt 5:1-2,9. See next page.)

**Songs:** Chosen by the teacher

**Picture:** Damage done by fighting (if possible)

## **A suitable place to pray**

\*\*\*\*\*

Gather the children for prayer. Display the Strip:

**Jesus, I want to be a peace-maker.**

## **Introduction:**

Jesus, we are gathered here today because we want you to help us to be peace-makers. We hear that in many places people do not work well together, even in families, and there is much fighting and sadness.

## **Picture:**

Children look at the picture and see that fighting causes sadness.

**Reading:** One day a very large crowd of people gathered around Jesus so he went up a hill, where everyone could see and hear him, and sat down to teach. He told the people that they would always be very happy, if they worked for peace. He said that God blesses peace-makers and calls them "his children". (Ref: Mt 5:1-2,9)

**Consider:** Jesus was a peace-maker .....

Jesus made peace when He helped others

Jesus made peace when He taught people how to love God

Jesus made peace when He put His hand on sick people (continue)

Do I make peace in my family ?



Do I make peace in my class ?  
Do I help to spread peace ?

**Prayer:**

Jesus, I am sorry that sometimes I do not make peace in my family

**Response:** Jesus, I want to be a peace-maker.

Jesus, I am sorry that sometimes I do not make peace in my class

**Response:** Jesus, I want to be a peace-maker

**Sign of Peace:** Children give each other the Sign of Peace.  
..... (name), Peace be with you.

**Final Song:** Chosen by the teacher

**Sign of the Cross**

**PRAYER SERVICE**

UNIT 15:119

***WE PRAY TO THANK GOD FOR OUR  
FAMILIES***

**PREPARATION:** \*\*\* If possible ...**invite** some parents / the Head Master / another teacher and class to the Prayer Service.  
Parents might like to provide refreshment for the occasion.

Decorate the **altar** with flowers and candles

Altar cloth and **Bible**

**Holy Water**

Display **family picture**

**Song:** *God has made us a family and together we will grow in love.*

Page 17

Print in large letters on the **blackboard:** THANK YOU, GOD

Prepare **refreshments**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Opening Song:** *God has made us a family*

**Opening Prayer:** Loving Father, we are gathered here today to thank you for our families. Help us think about how good our mothers are to us and how good our fathers are and help us to know how good it is to have brothers and sisters.

**Together:** Sign of the Cross

**Teacher:** My mother loves me very much

**Children:** Thank you, God

**Teacher:** My father loves me very much

**Children:** Thank you, God

**Teacher:** My parents take good care of me

**Children:** Thank you, God

**Teacher:** My brothers and sisters love one another

**Children:** Thank you God

**Together:** Poem:

God bless my Daddy and Mummy, too.  
God bless my friends and God bless you.  
God bless my country and keep it free.  
God bless everyone who lives with me!

**The Word of God:** God Made a Family (Gen 1:27-28)

God made the first family on earth. He loved this family very much and often visited it. God knows all our families and cares about all of them. He wants families to help each other and to be happy together and to have everything they need.

**Song:** *Where o where is mother (2 to 3 verses) page 269*

**Story time:** Children share some of their favourite stories (Unit 1).

**Song:** *.Where o where is father..*

**Prayer-Poem:** Thank you, God for Mum and Dad

They help me and make me glad  
My brothers and my sisters too  
Are lovely gifts that came from you.

**Together :** Sign of the Cross

**Final Hymn:** *God is always loving me.*

**Teacher:** With Holy Water, the Teacher makes the Sign of the Cross on each child or blesses the whole class.

**Finish with Refreshments**



## **WE PRAY TO THANK GOD AND TO SAY WE ARE SORRY**

**PREPARATION:** Spread a mat on the floor and place **the Bible** on it. Children decorate it with flowers /leaves.  
Display pictures / review stories and songs used in Units 3 and 5.  
Children bring something to share, e.g. biscuits/ fruit

\*\*\*\*\*

**Gather the children around and have them sit quietly in God's presence.**

**Opening Song:** *We are one big happy family*

**Sign of the Cross:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

**Opening Prayer:** God our Father, we come now to thank you for the times we were happy and to tell you that we are sorry for the times when we made other people sad.

**Teacher:** We were happy when our parents and teachers spoke nicely to us.

**Response:** God our Father, we thank you

**Teacher:** We were happy when our parents and teachers told us what to do.

**Response:** God our Father, we thank you.

**Teacher:** We were happy when our parents and teachers gave us things to use.

**Response:** God our Father, we thank you.

**Teacher:** We were happy when other children played properly with us.

**Response:** God our Father, we thank you.

**Teacher:** We were happy when others shared with us

**Response:** God our Father, we thank you.

**INSTRUCTION:** Choose a story from Unit 3 that the children like. In this story, God is teaching us ..... Teacher tells the story. (Teacher and children discover the message.)

**Together:** *We are one big happy family.*

**Part 2: Response:** God our Father, we are sorry.

**Teacher:** We know when we make others sad, God is not pleased and so we say,

**Response:** God our Father, we are sorry.

**Teacher:** For the times we made our parents sad by not listening to them we say,

**Response:** God our Father, we are sorry.

**Teacher:** For the times we made others sad by not looking after our things we say,

**Response:** God our Father, we are sorry.

**Teacher:** For the times we made others sad by not helping them we say,

**Response:** God our Father, we are sorry

**INSTRUCTION:** Choose a story that the children like from Unit 5 God is teaching us  
..... Teacher tells the story. (Teacher and children discover the message  
in the story.)

**Prayer:** God our Father, thank you for teaching us so many things. Help us to be  
good children. Amen

**Final Song:** *We are one big happy family..*

**Sign of the Cross:** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen

**Sharing:** Children share their biscuits / fruit. After they have eaten, stand in a circle  
holding hands and sing, "*We are one big happy family*"



# PRAYERS

	P	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
The Sign of the Cross	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Our Father	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Hail Mary	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
The Apostles' Creed					x	x	x	x	x
Glory be to the Father..		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
I Confess to Almighty God					x	x	x	x	x
Act of Sorrow				x	x	x	x	x	x
Faith, Hope, Love					x	x	x	x	x
Before & After Eating		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Morning & Night Prayer			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Hail Holy Queen							x	x	x
Mysteries of the Rosary						x	x	x	x
The Angelus				x	x	x	x	x	x
Guardian Angel			x	x	x	x	x	x	x
MASS PRAYERS: Offertory					x	x	x	x	x
Holy				x	x	x	x	x	x
Lamb of God				x	x	x	x	x	x
Lord I am..				x	x	x	x	x	x
To the Holy Spirit						x	x	x	x
Fatima Prayer						x	x	x	x
Stations of the Cross							x	x	x
The Ten Commandments						x	x	x	x
The Main Laws of the Church							x	x	x

# **PRAYERS**

## **THE SIGN OF THE CROSS**

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

## **THE HAIL MARY**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried, He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again, He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## **GLORY BE...**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **I CONFESS**

I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned through my own fault, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin, all the angels and saints, and you my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

## **ACT OF SORROW**

O my God, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, because you are so good, and with your help I will try not to sin again. Amen.

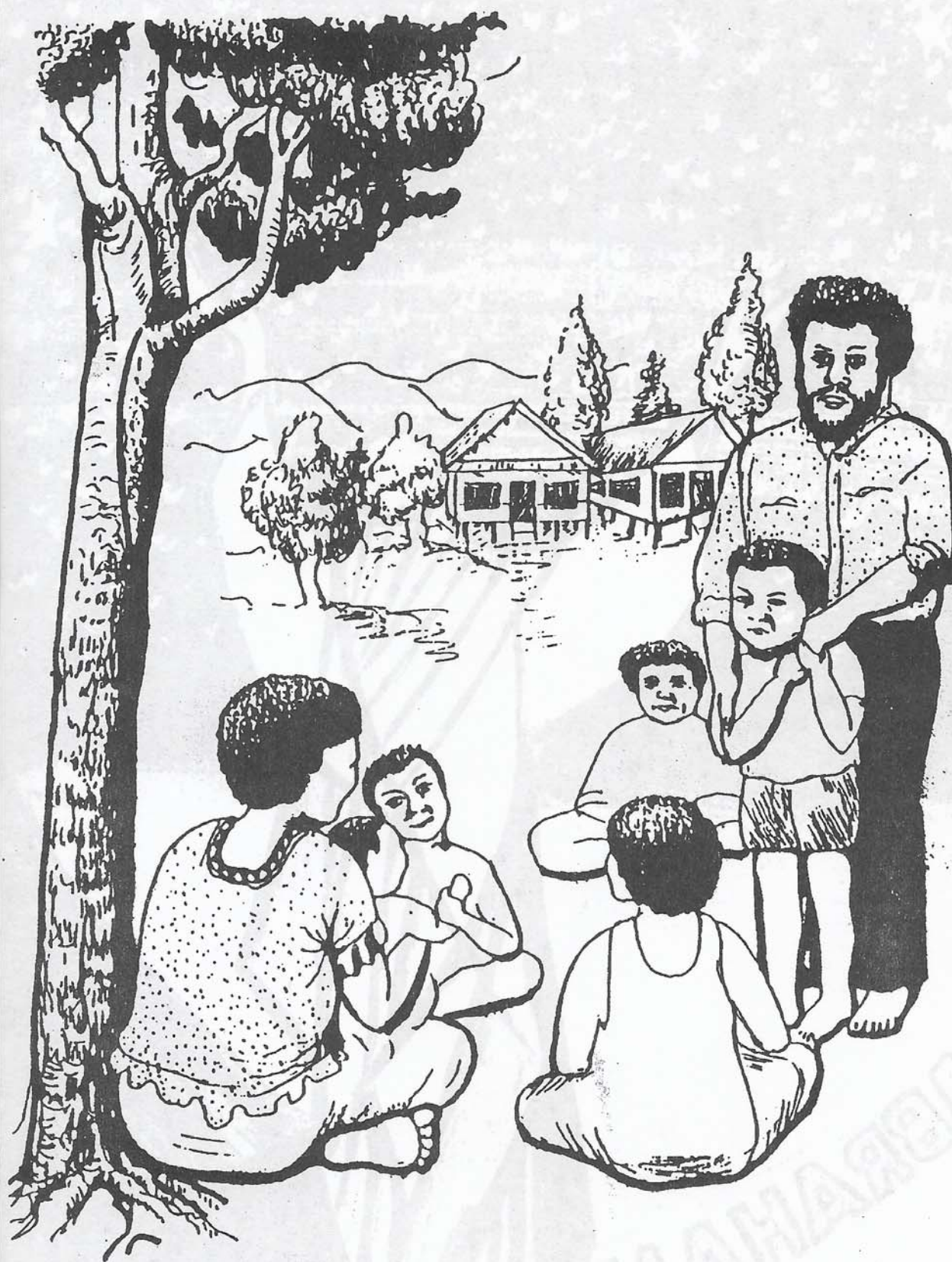








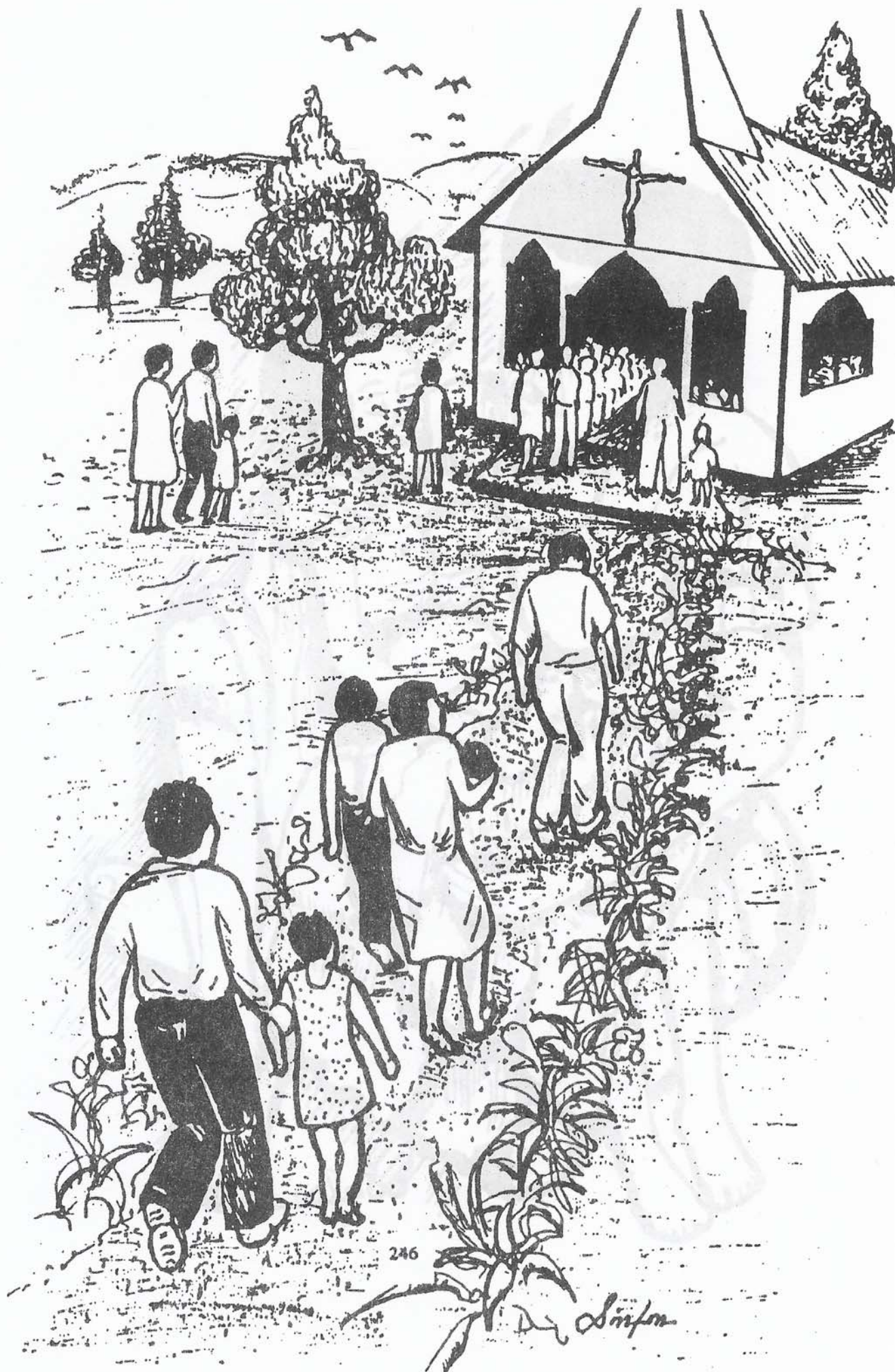




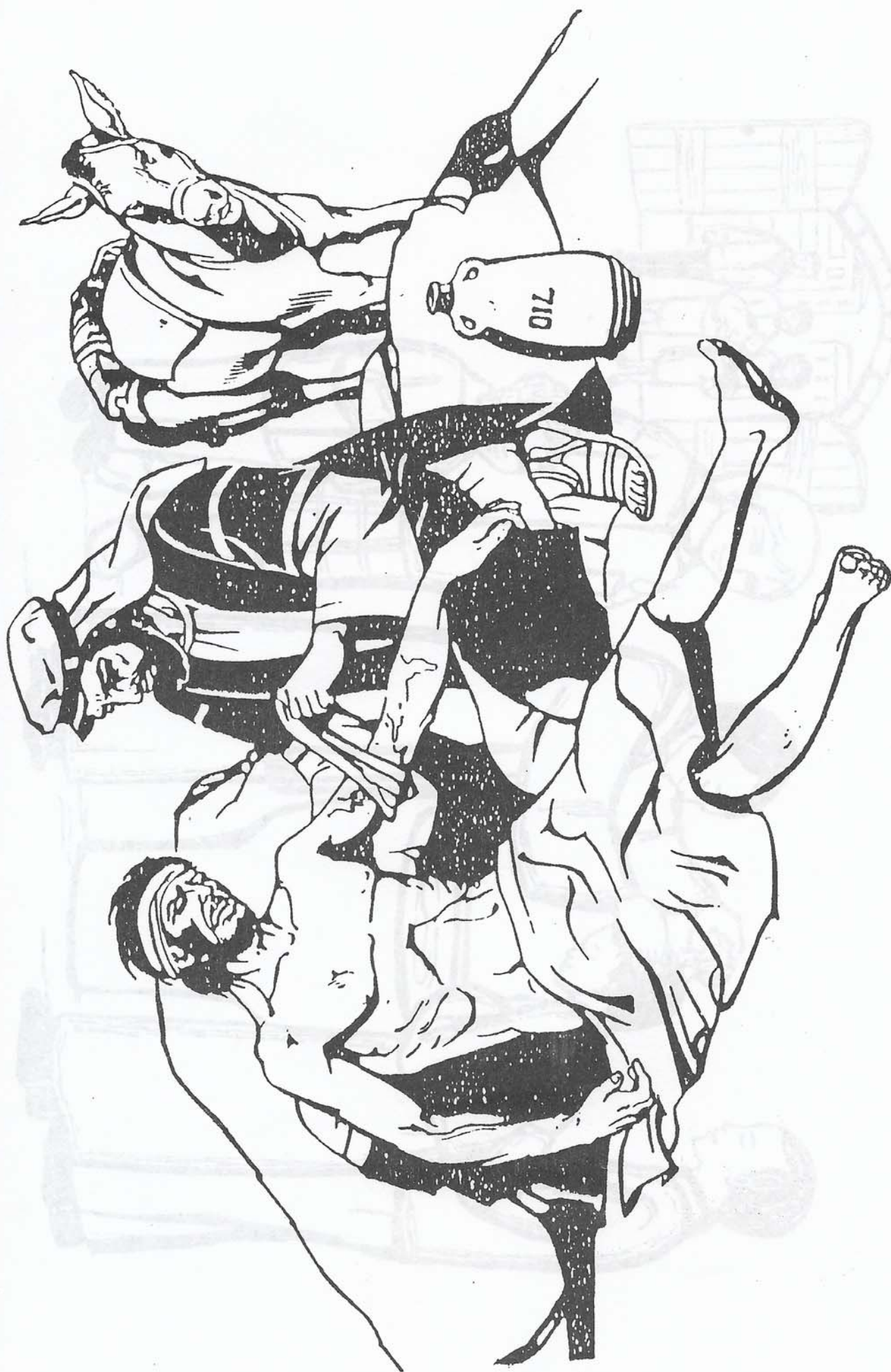




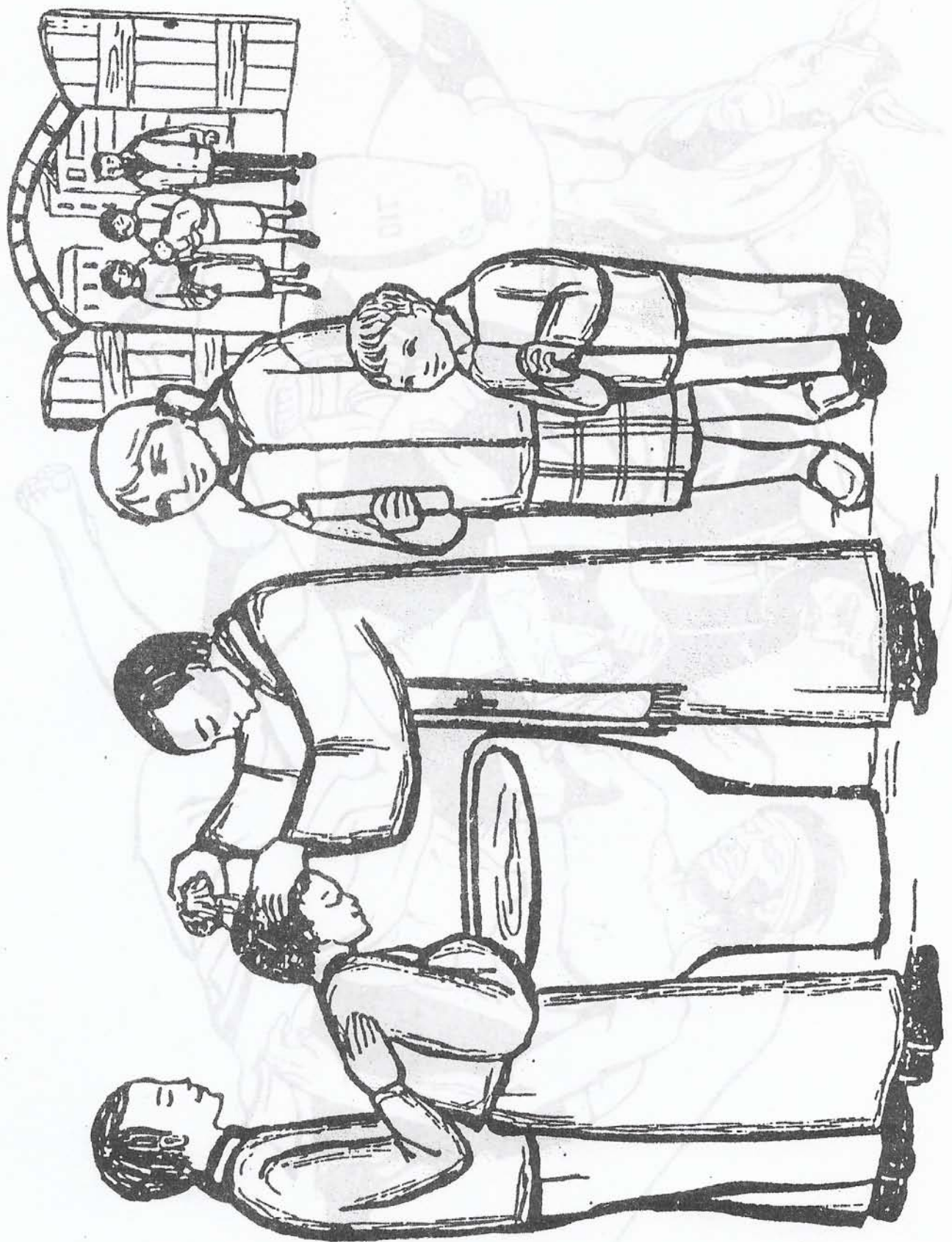
















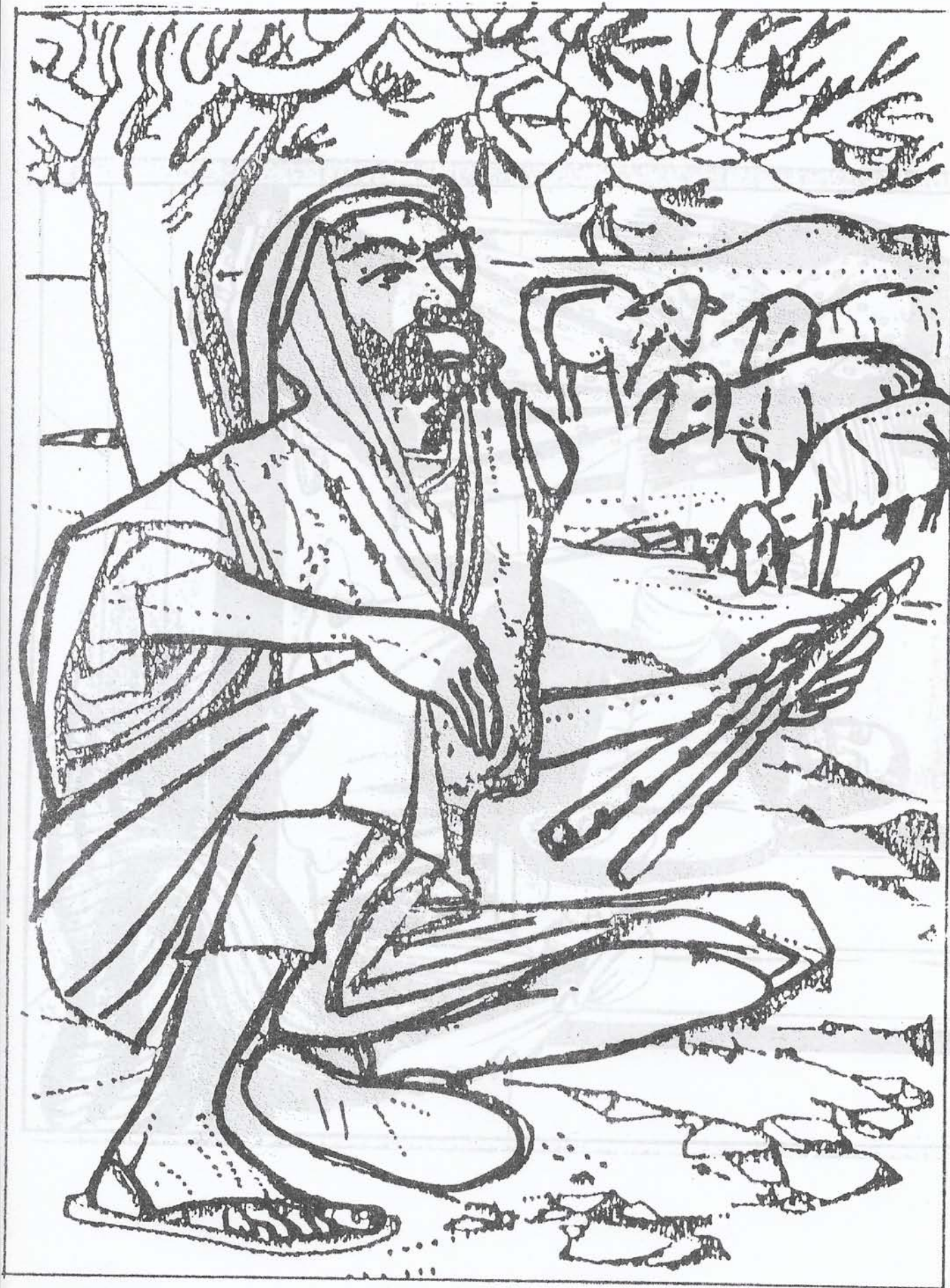








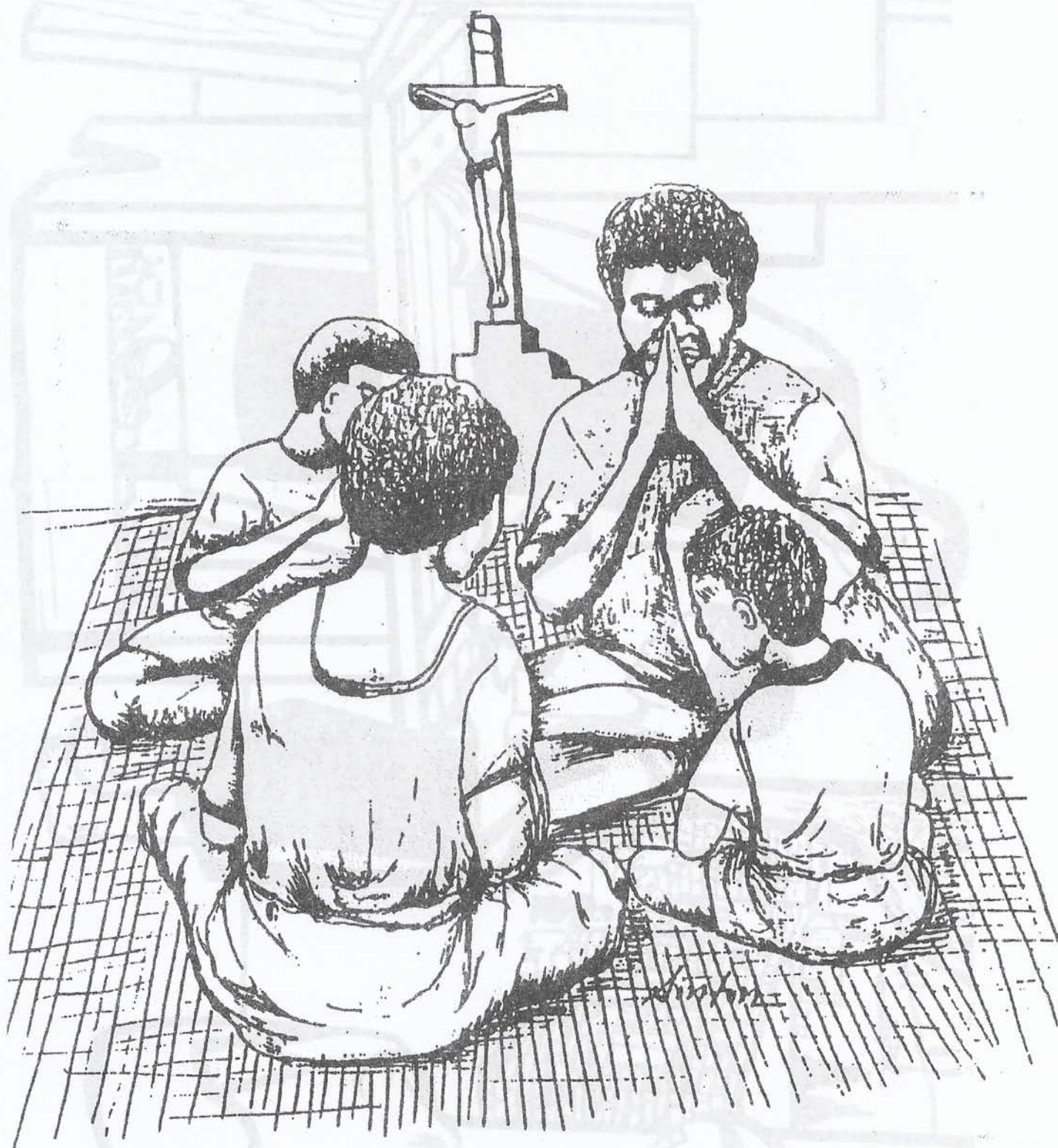








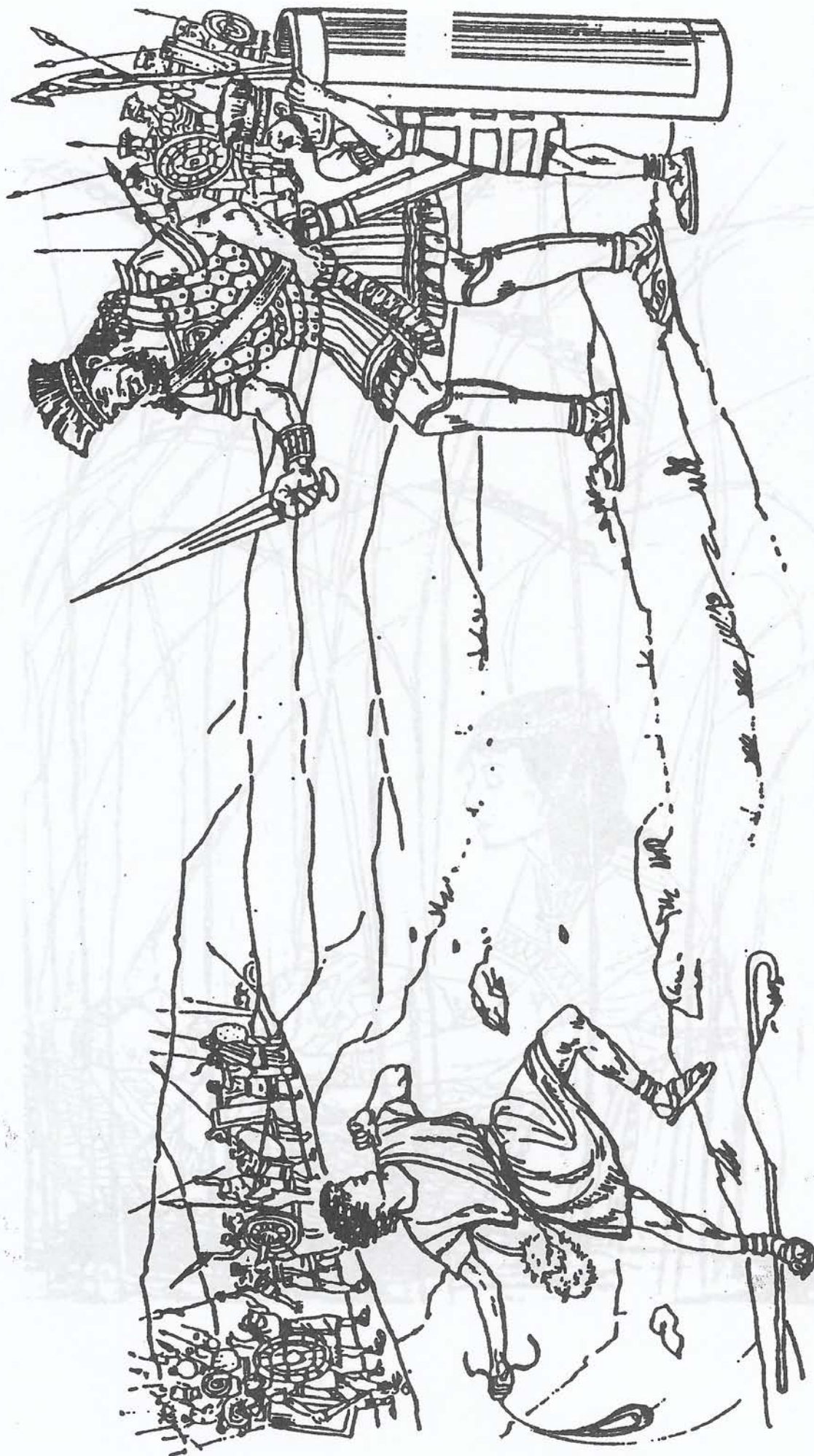








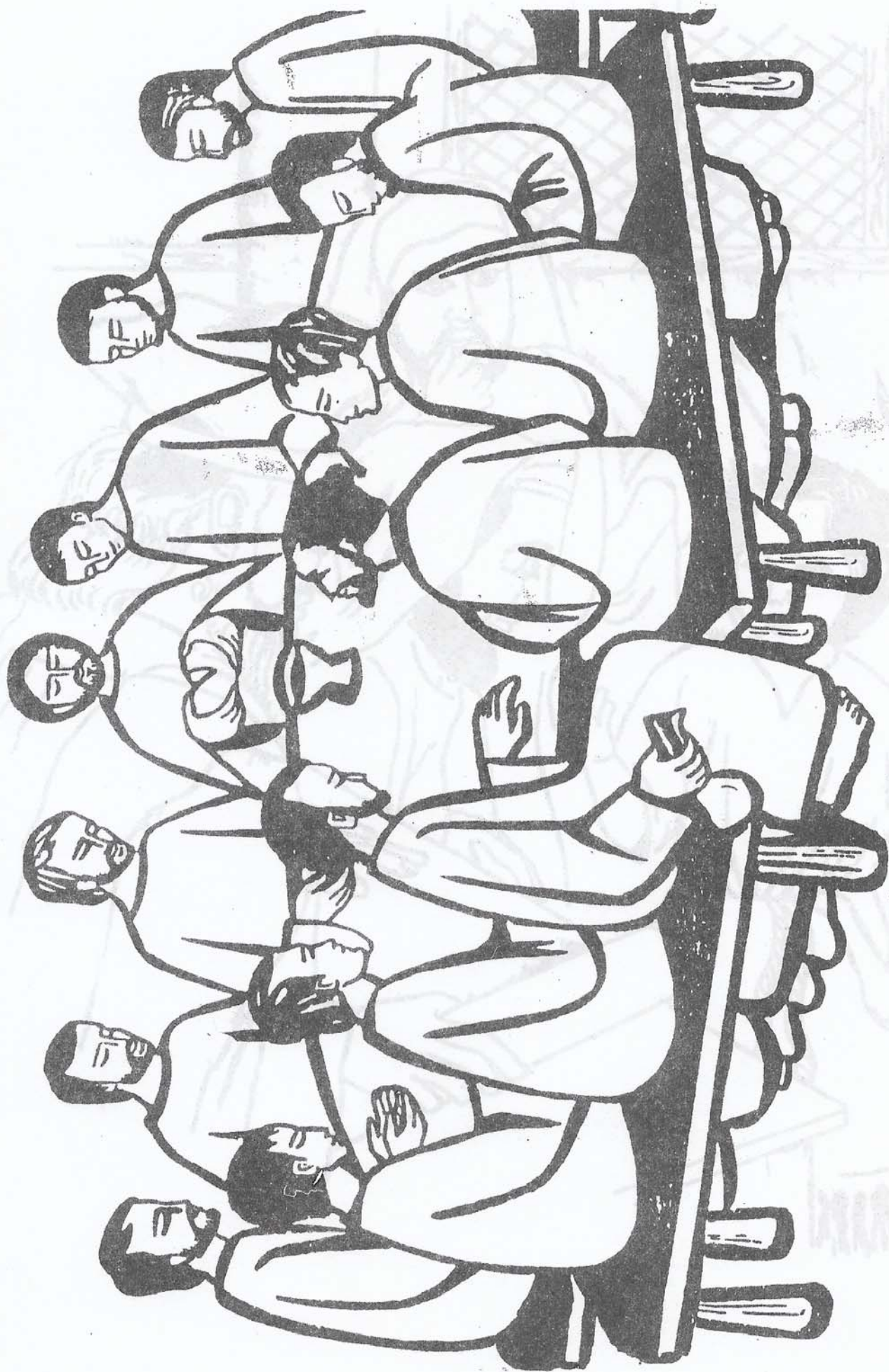




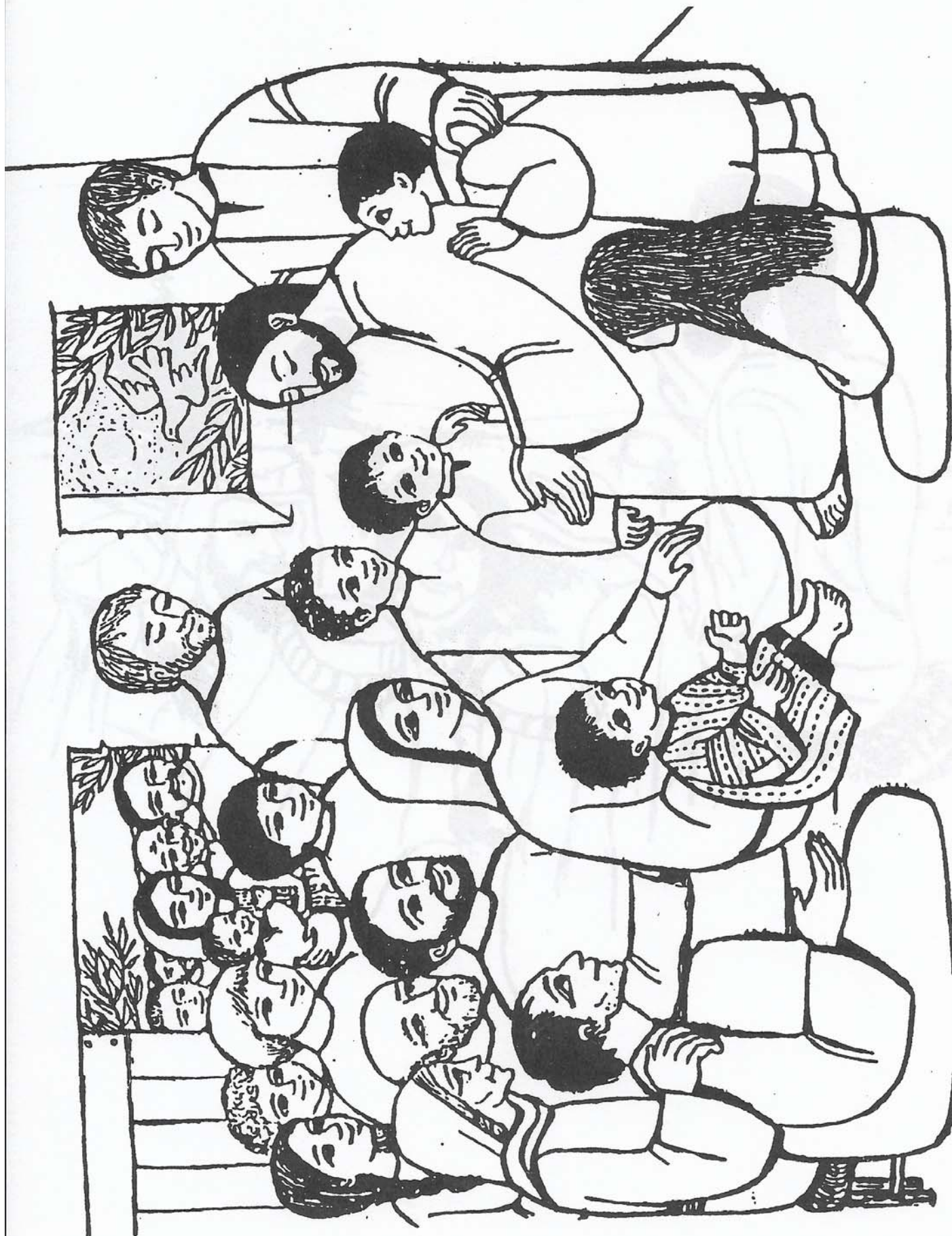




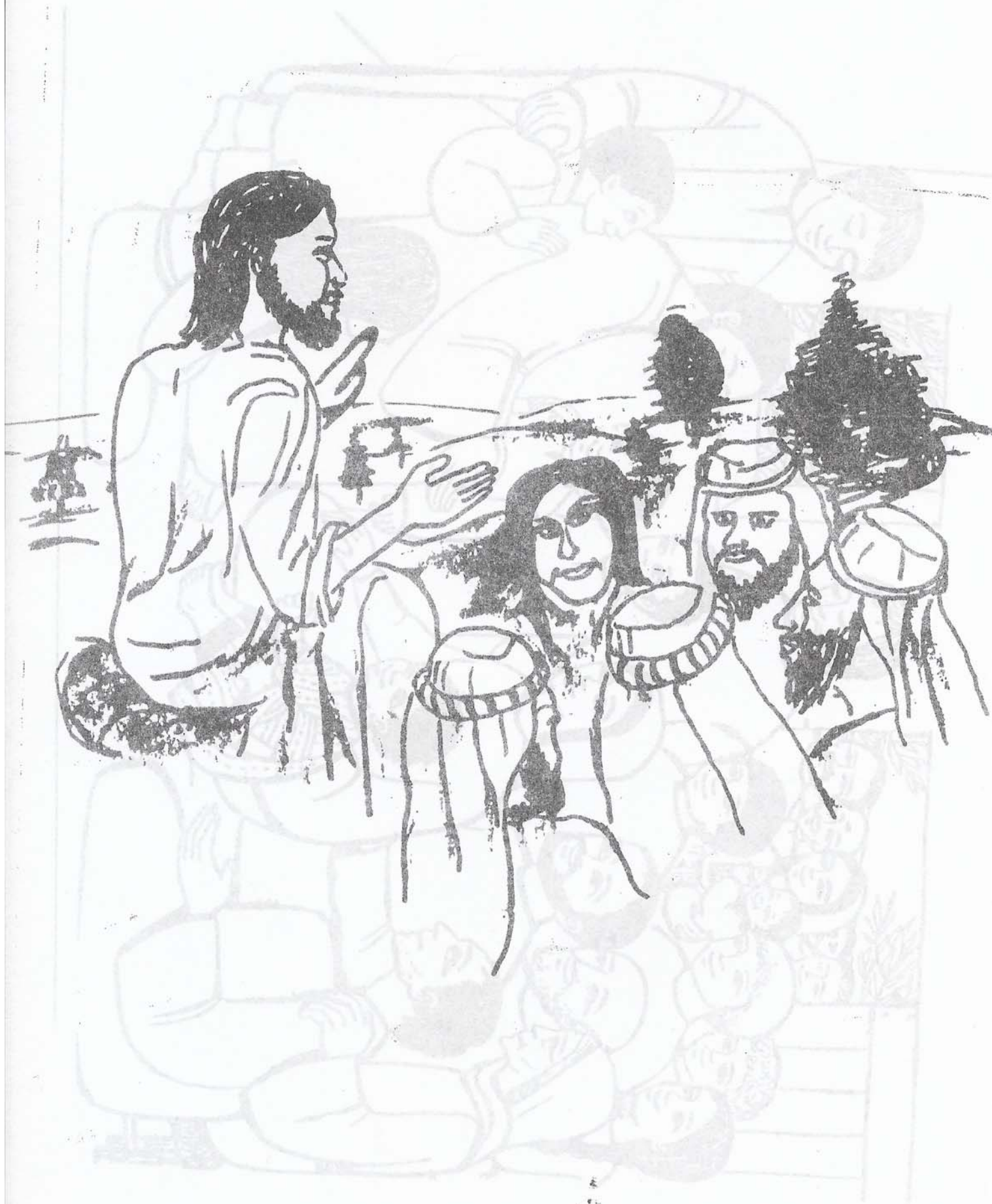






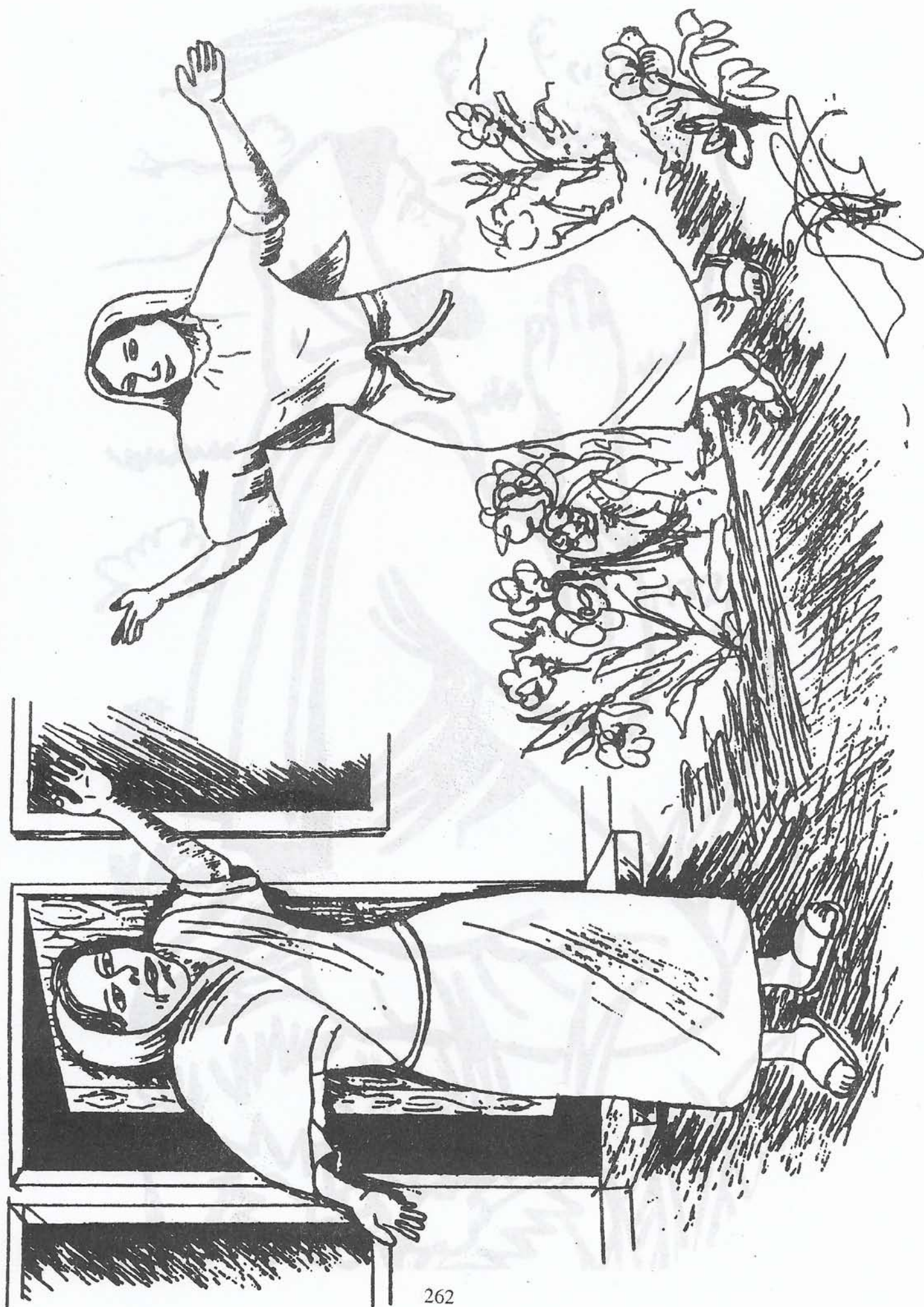




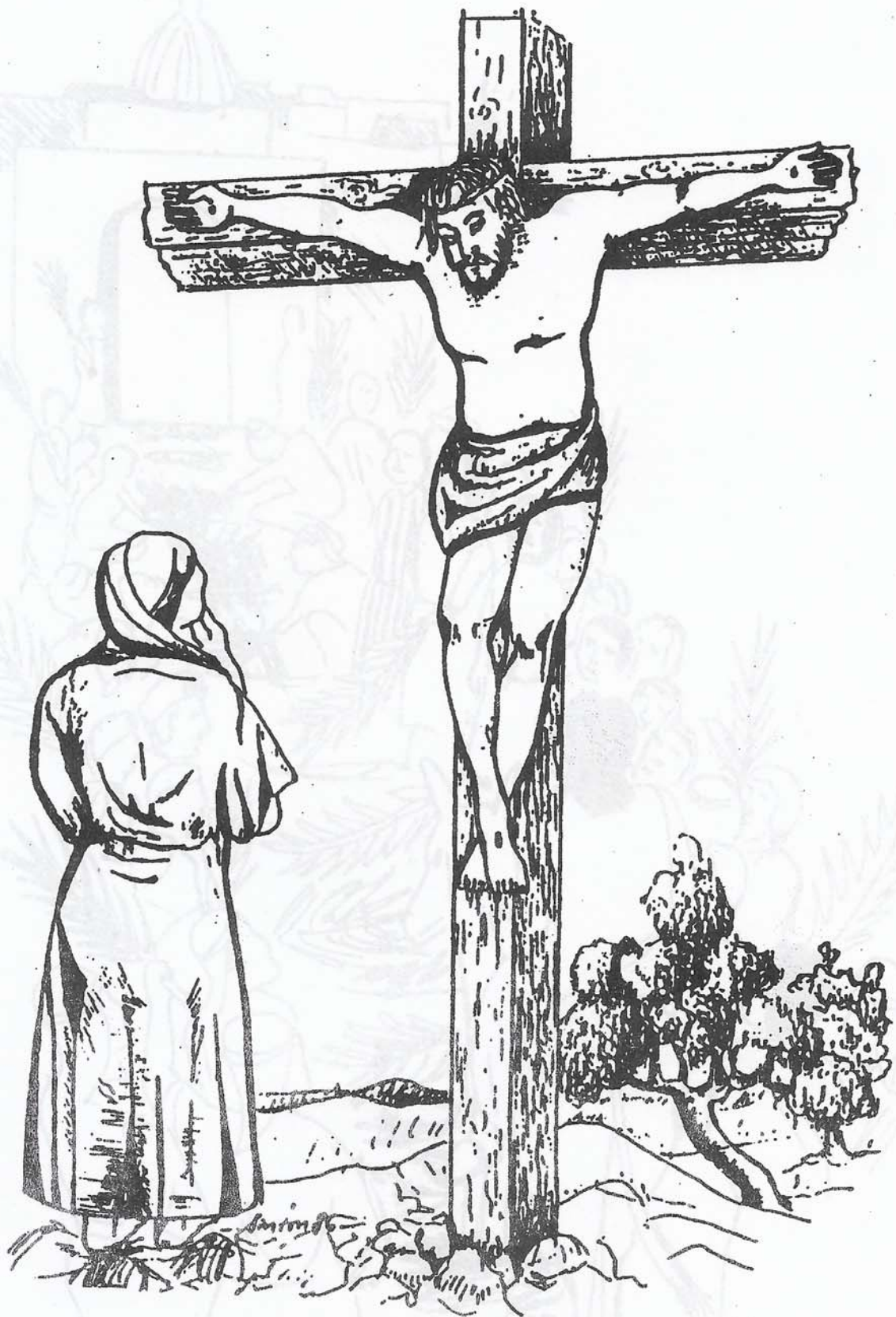




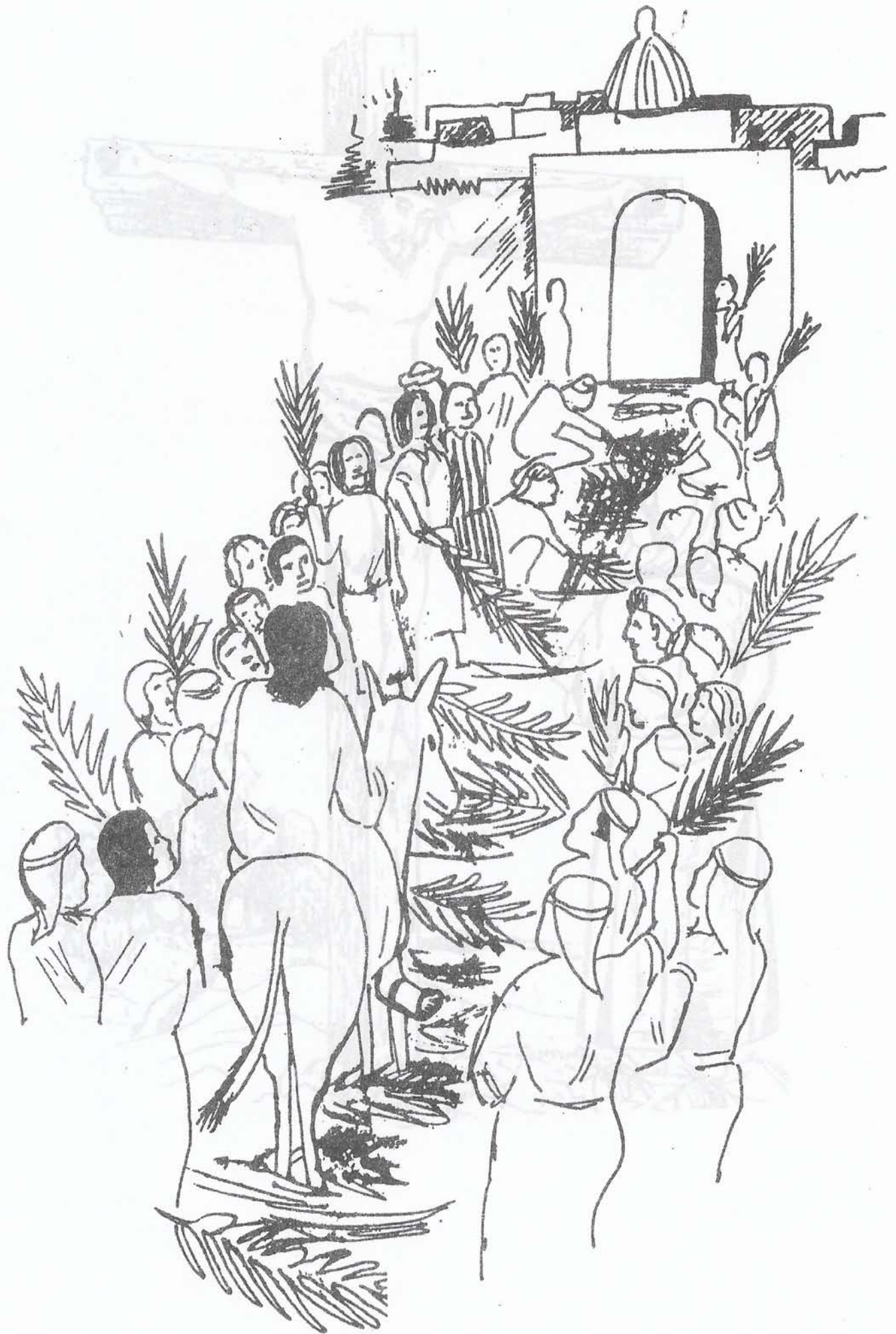


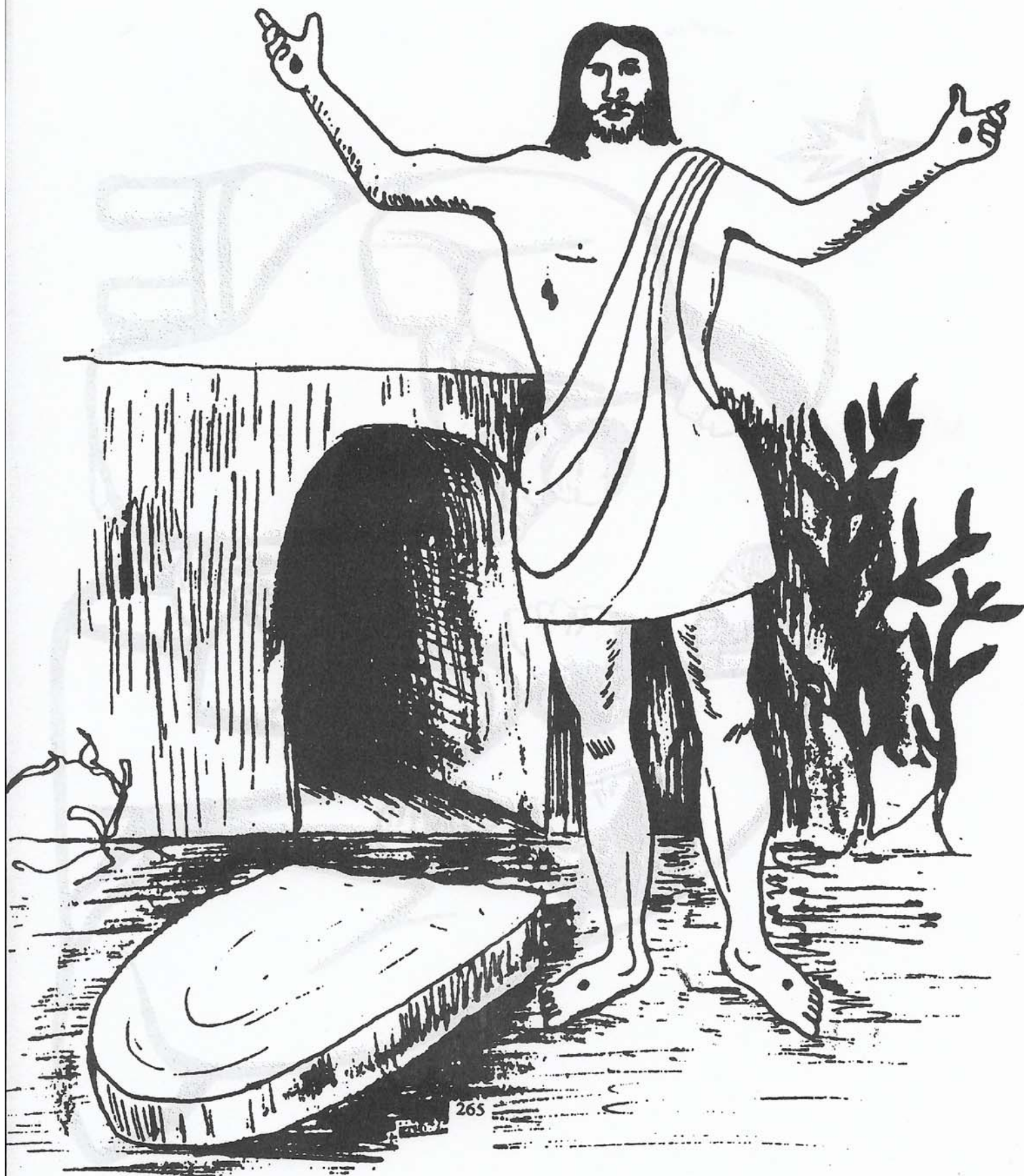












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