

Share the Good News

Lesson Scripture: I John 1:3, Acts 2:41-47

Bible Truth: I will share the good news about Jesus.

Bible Story: Acts 2:41-47

Bible Verse: “He said to them, ‘Go into all the world. Preach the good news to everyone.’” (Mark 16:15, NIV)

FOCUS

Learning Activity: “Good News”

Preparation

Write “Good News or Bad News” on the front of six envelopes. Write the six phrases listed below on separate sheets of paper. Put one paper in each envelope. Before class, hide the first five envelopes around the room. Put the sixth one containing the good news about Jesus in your Bible.

Materials
six envelopes
six sheets of paper
marker or pen
Bible

1. Your parents want to give you some money.
2. Your friend is sick and can't come over to your house to play.
3. Your grandparents are coming for a visit.
4. Your mom just made your favorite dinner.
5. Your dad has to work and can't take you on the trip you had planned.
6. Jesus loves us so much that He died for our sins.

Presentation

Say: **“Has anyone ever told you some good news or bad news?”** Allow children to respond. **I would always rather hear good news than bad news. One time,** (share a time when you received some good news)... **It was so exciting.**

Say: **Let's play a game called Good News or Bad News. Around the room, I have hidden five envelopes. Let's see if you can find them.** Give children time to find the envelopes. Once the envelopes have been found, allow children to open them and read the statements (or you can read them to the class). Say: **If the envelope contains good news, put your thumb up. If it has bad news, put your thumb down.**

Say: **There was one more envelope. Let me see if I can find it.** Pretend to look around and find it in your Bible. **Here it is! Let's see if this is good news or bad news.** Read the statement to the children. **Wow! I think this is the best news ever! Jesus loves you and died for you. When we believe this good news, we are forgiven of our sins. We become children of God. We know we will go to heaven. That is the "best" good news anyone could ever hear. Since we already know this good news, Jesus wants us to share it with everyone we know.**

SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION: Mark 16:15

Preparation

Write Mark 16:15 on a piece of poster board.

Divide the verse into four different phrases. Write each phrase on a piece of paper.

1. He said to them
2. Go into all the world
3. Preach the good news
4. to everyone.



Explanation

Read Mark 16:15 with the children.

Say: **In this verse, Jesus tells us to do two things. Can anyone tell me what Jesus wants us to do?** Once children have responded, ask two children to underline the words "go" and "preach." **Jesus wants us to go into all the world. That means everywhere. "Everywhere" can be someplace far away or to the house next door to yours. What does Jesus ask us to do everywhere? Allow children to respond. Yes, he wants us to preach the good news to everyone. Sometimes we think only a pastor can preach, but preaching is simply telling others the good news about Jesus. When you tell your friends about Jesus, you are doing what Jesus said. Do you have a friend with whom you want to share the good news about Jesus?**

Memorization Activity

Divide the children into four groups. Give a prepared piece of paper with a phrase from Mark 16:15 to each group. Ask each group to practice their phrase. Once the groups have learned their phrase, have them line up in correct verse order. Say the entire verse. Repeat this exercise giving each group a new phrase until children have had the opportunity learn the entire verse.

INSTRUCT

Bible Story: "Peter Shares the Good News," Acts 2:1-47

Preparation

Read and study Acts 2:1-47.

Prepare 3 sheets of paper with one the following phrases written on each piece of paper:

120

3000

Share the Good News with everyone

Materials
Bible
poster board
3 sheets of paper
marker

Presentation

As you narrate the story, lift up the signs that you have prepared at the appropriate times in the story. Ask the children to read the words aloud every time you show one of the signs.

Say: **Ten days had gone by since Jesus had left. Many people, 120 (sign) people to be exact, were gathered in a room to wait for a promise from Jesus. While they were waiting, the sound of something like the wind was heard. Tongues of fire rested on each of them. They all started to speak in a heavenly language; a language they didn't understand. The news about what was happening spread quickly throughout the city of Jerusalem. Soon, thousands of people gathered around the house with the 120 (sign) followers of Jesus.**

Peter and the others disciples went outside the house to talk to the people. They were also excited. God had done great things for them! And now they had to share the good news with everyone (sign).

Peter spoke to them about Jesus, who had been crucified on a cross. Then he told them that Jesus was no longer dead. He was alive! He had gone to heaven to be with God, his Father.

Many of the people had watched as Jesus was crucified. They had laughed at Him while He was hanging on the cross. Now, they felt a deep feeling full of sadness and worry. "What shall we do?" they asked Peter.

"Repent," Peter answered. "Your sins will be forgiven. And God will give you the marvelous gift of the Holy Spirit."

On that day, 3000 (sign) people heard the good news and asked Jesus to forgive them of their sins. Can you imagine how excited they must have felt! They desired to share this good news with everyone (sign).

APPLICATION

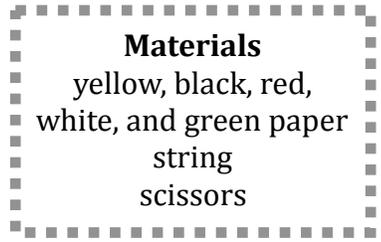
Learning Activity: Preaching Tool, "The Wordless Book"

Preparation

Cut paper into 10 cm by 12 cm rectangles (4" by 5"). Each child will need one rectangle of each color.

Make three holes on the left side of each piece of paper.

Cut the string into 10 cm (4in) lengths. Each child will need three.



Presentation

Pass out the paper to the children. Help them put the book together by placing the colored paper in the following order: yellow, black, red, white, and green. Help them tie the book together by putting strings through the holes.

After making this wordless book, teach the children how to use it as a preaching tool. This will help them share the good news about Jesus with their friends.

Say: **Ask your friends if they've ever seen a book without words. Show them this wordless book. Tell them that even though this book doesn't have any words, it tells us a wonderful story.** Teach children the meaning of each page, and have them practice reading it to each other.

Yellow page: This page is the most beautiful in this book. This color reminds us about God. God made the earth and all things. He created you. He loves you and is preparing a place in heaven for all of His children. Heaven is a wonderful place but there is one thing that will never enter heaven. That something is sin.

Black page: The black page reminds us of the darkness caused by sin. Sin is anything that we do that doesn't please God. The Bible, the Word of God, tells us that all have sinned. Sin separates us from God and from all the wonderful things He has for us.

Red page: Even though we are lost in the darkness caused by sin, God loves us. He doesn't want us to be lost. He prepared a way for us to get close to Him. He sent his Son Jesus to live on earth. Jesus never did anything wrong. But he was punished and died on the cross. Jesus died for our sins. But He didn't stay dead. He rose again.

White page: This page reminds me about what happens when I admit I am a sinner and believe that Jesus died for my sins. I am forgiven. My sins are taken away. Do you want to be forgiven and have your sins taken away? (If the child says "yes," then his friend can pray for him.)

Green page: The green page reminds us of things that grow. After believing in Jesus we need to grow as He did. What can we do to grow like Jesus? We pray, read and obey the Bible, attend church, and talk to others about Jesus.

MINISTRY TIME

Preparation

Give each child a small piece of paper and a pencil.

Presentation

On their paper, ask the children to write down the name of one person they can share the good news of Jesus with this week. Pray with the children that they will have an opportunity to share with the person whose name they wrote on the paper. Ask the children to put the paper with the name written on it in their wordless book and take it home as a reminder to share the good news of Jesus!

Materials
paper
pencils