**september 27th, 2020: Pre-k thru 2nd Grade Sunday School
GODLY LIVING Lesson 2: let’s go to church!**

***This lesson will help the children realize why it is important to go to church and learn about God.***

**ACTIVITY: LET’S GO TO CHURCH! (Materials: activity page printed, pencils)**

***A fun activity that encourages kids to go to church.***

**WHAT YOU WILL DO:** Hand out the activity page. Have the kids find the pairs of cartoon characters on the page and draw a line to connect them, then draw circles around the kids that look like they are getting ready to go to church. Ask the kids if they think it makes God happy when we go to church. If time permits, have the kids draw a picture of themselves getting ready to go to church.

**WORSHIP TIME AND BIBLE VERSE: "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another." Hebrews 10:25 NIV (1984)**

 **BIBLE STORY**

Gather the children around you in preparation for story time. After the introduction, read the passage from the Bible. If possible, use a Children's Bible so it will be easier for the kids to understand. The New International Reader's Version is a nice choice for this passage.

**Introduction:** Sometimes people get lazy and make excuses why they cannot go to church on Sunday. God tells us that it is important for all of us to meet with other Christians. The Church is the perfect place for us to meet with other Christians and learn more about our wonderful God.

**Read Hebrews 10:22-25

Discussion Questions:**1. Why is it important for us to go to church?*(To learn about God and grow closer to Him.)*
2. When we go to church, how do we learn about God?*(Worship, Sunday School, Fellowship.)*
3. Besides learning about God, what else can we do at church? *(Attend Sunday school, see friends, sing, etc.)*
4. Is going to church fun and exciting, or is it boring?*(Allow for answers.)*
5. What is fellowship? *(Fellowship is getting together with others who love God, to share prayer and praise requests, accomplish common goals (or jobs) to help the church grow, to make close friendships and encourage each other.)*
6. When we eat good food, it helps our bodies grow. Going to church helps us grows in another area, what area would this be?*(Spiritually. Going to church teaches us how we can grow closer to God, by talking to God in prayer and also teaches us how to worship God.)*7. Why do you think some people make up excuses so they do not have to go to church? *(Allow for answers.)*

**GAME: FOLLOW JESUS (Materials: Picture of Jesus and a stranger, stick or ruler)**

***In this version of “Simon Says,” children must carefully watch for Jesus before following any command.***

**WHAT YOU WILL DO:** First, print out the pictures, or use some of your own. Tape the pictures back to back and over the stick or ruler so you can turn either side to the class as you play the game.

The game is played as you would "Simon Says," except you display either a picture of Jesus or a stranger when you give the commands. If the children see Jesus, they must follow the commands, but if they see the stranger, they ignore the commands. Any mistakes and the child is out, and must sit down until the end of the game.

Example: You show the picture of Jesus and say, "Hop on one foot." Because the kids can see Jesus, they must hop on one foot. Next, you show the picture of the stranger and say, "Stop Hopping." The kids must continue hopping because they do not see Jesus. If someone stops hopping, that child is out.

**Other commands you can use:**  1. Raise you right hand
  2. Clap
  3. Say Jesus is Lord
  4. Put your hands on your hips
  5. Stick out your tongue
  6. Dance
  7. Jump up and down
  8. Bark like a dog

**PRAYER/SNACK** Explain to the children that having a snack together is one way that we can fellowship with God and other people who love God. Before eating the snack, ask children to share in prayer why they are thankful for the things God is doing for them today. Explain to children that by praying to God we are asking Him to join us and asking Him to have fellowship with us.

**SONG: EARLY SUNDAY MORNING (Materials: song sheet printed)**

***A delightful song to help us follow Jesus. Sung to the tune of “Ten Little Indians.”***

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| *(Hands around mouth)*This is how we sing to Jesus,Lift our voice so He can hear us.This is how we sing to Jesus,Early Sunday morning.*(Hands raised above head)*This is how we worship Jesus,Raise our hands so He can see us.This is how we worship Jesus,Early Sunday morning.*(Pointing to heart)*This is how we welcome Jesus,Ask Him in so He can free us.This is how we welcome Jesus,Early Sunday morning. | *(Both hands on one shoulder)*This is how we follow Jesus,Take our cross and let Him lead us.This is how we follow Jesus,Early Sunday morning.*(Both hands forward with palms up)*This is how we love our Jesus,Help each other like He teaches.This is how we love our Jesus,Early Sunday morning.*(Using all the hand signs in order)*Sing and worship our sweet Jesus,Ask Him in and follow Jesus,Love each other like He teaches,Early Sunday Morning. |

**What We Learned:** Today, your child leaned that it is not only important to go to church, but also to use that time to learn more about God. Sometimes people get lazy and make excuses why they cannot go to church on Sunday. God tells us that it is important for all of us to meet with other Christians. The Church is the perfect place for us to meet with other Christians and learn more about our wonderful God. (Scripture used: Hebrews 10:22-25)

**Words to Remember:** (Bible versions used are selected to help young children learn and understand the meaning of scripture.) "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another." Hebrews 10:25 NIV (1984) Practice this verse several times with your child during the week. This will not only help your child to remember the verse, but also it will help to reinforce what he or she learned during class.

**Suggested Parent/Child Activity:** After the church service next Sunday, take your child for a short tour of the building. Point out the various rooms and sections of the church, and ask your child if he or she knows what people do there. Then, explain what goes on in each area from a spiritual perspective. Help your child understand how dynamic a church is, with all the different jobs people have. Weather permitting, continue your tour outside. Talk about the parking lot and garden areas also, and how people work hard to keep them nice for everyone who comes to visit the church.

**Daily Prayer:** Dear Lord, thank You for the chance to go to church. You are such a wonderful God, and I never get tired of learning more about Jesus in our Sunday school class. It is such a joy to worship and praise You. Help me not be afraid to share how wonderful You are with others. Amen.