



# GIFT OF LOVE INCLUSIVE DISCIPLESHIP



## Lessons 2021/2022 "The Path of Happiness"

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**SDMI REGIONAL FOLDER**

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CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



## **Content:**

### ***Motto: "The Path of Happiness"***

God PREPARES the way for of us.  
His hand reaches out to us and draws us to Him,  
drawing us into a deeper relationship with Him.  
This grace not only precedes our response  
but makes it possible for us to respond.

#### **1- My Personal Guide**

The Holy Spirit and His Coming

The Holy Spirit and The Trinity

The Holy Spirit is My Guide Along the Way

#### **2- The Route to Follow . . . Three Things That Lead Me to God**

Pray – Talk to God

Listen – To God's Word

Worship – With Other Believers

#### **3- Footprints to Follow**

I Am the Light

Be Good to Others

We Can All Serve God

We Must Remember

Inclusive Discipleship:

God made us whole people, let's help develop the five senses in our students:

In the Visual area use lots of colors, contrasts, videos, posters, visual props, artwork activities (hand crafts), etc...

In the Auditory area, our students discover the world "by listening" through story telling. Have the storyteller include sounds and voice inflection like amazement, admiration, etc., as well as loud and soft voices; listen to and sing songs.

In the Tactile (Touching) area our students may need to develop their motor skills, learning new concepts when manipulating objects. This can include using interactive posters, objects, or crafts to illustrate the lesson, etc.

In the area of Movement (kinesthetic) experiment with teaching through dramas, skits, mime, puppets that interact with the child, games that involve movement, etc.

Children with "Disabilities" or "Special Needs" understand that the Church is a special place where they can learn to please God.

We continue with the goal of providing this material to help you prepare lesson for your students who have Downs Syndrome, Intellectual Disabilities, and Cerebral Palsy.

Children should be placed in appropriate classrooms according to the severity of their disability and the age of the child, mental age between 6 and 10 years, not chronological (a person can be 20 years old and have a 5-year-old mind). It's very important that a psychological evaluation be made of each child, with the help of the SDMI council if possible. If this isn't possible, (only as a last option) the teacher may observe the student, taking into consideration the attitude and action of the child in order to make a comparison with a normal child's behavior to determine the child's mental age.

With Much Appreciation,

Cecilia de Diaz  
I bless you in the name of Jesus

## EXAMPLE OF A TEACHING MAP TO HELP ORGANIZE THESE LESSONS:

### Lesson 3: The Spirit is My Guide Along the Path

*“He guides the humble in what is right  
and teaches them his way.”*

Psalm 25:9

**Objective:** That the students will know that they can ask the Holy Spirit for the guidance.

<b>Elements of our time with the group.</b>	<b>Methodological Procedure</b>	<b>Resources</b>
Welcome	Greet each student. Give each student a nametag as they arrive.	Nametags
Opening Prayer	Divide into small groups and lead a guided prayer. Teacher directs the prayer.	Visual: joined or folded hands
Singing	Teach your students the first verse and chorus of the hymn “He Leadeth Me”.	Copy of the hymn
Activity	Prepare some thread as transparent as possible. Explain according to the lesson.	Thread and volunteer
Introduce the Bible theme	Have your Bible in your hand. Start developing the lesson.	See the lesson
Review	Ask “What did we learn today?” and other questions and allow students to answer.	Everyone should participate
Connection	A copy of the worksheet for each student	Colored pencils, crayons, markers
Additional Option	Memorization	Today’s Bible Verse
Goodbye with God’s Blessing	Encourage your students to be guided by the Holy Spirit. Give your students a little incentive.	Refreshments

# SECTION 1

## My Personal Guide



## **Lesson 1: The Holy Spirit and His Coming**

**Verse:** *"I will pour out my Spirit on all people."*

Joel 2:28

**Objective:** That your students will know that they can request the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

There is a difficult word I want us to learn. Let's say it together. **PEN – TE – COST**  
**PENTECOST.** Now each person say it.

What does this word mean? The Bible tells us that it is a Jewish holiday.

Have you had a birthday party? Who came to your party? How did your friends and family get to the party?

Today's story is about a lot of people who traveled a very long way to be together at a big party, to remember God's love.

They believed that God loved them! And that God had a special message for them. He wanted them to know about the love of Jesus.

And in Acts Chapter 2, verse 1 it says: "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place." This is talking about the disciples of Jesus.

While Jesus' disciples waited in the upper room of a house, they prayed and worshiped God.

The Father sent the Holy Spirit and suddenly, a noise like a strong wind was heard throughout the house and they saw flames of fire above each person's head. (Look for volunteers to stand up and put paper flames [prepared in advance] on their heads.)

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, it was all a beautiful party. The Holy Spirit worked in a new way so that believers could grow and be more like Jesus.

It's the same with us here, today, in this place. We don't see flames of fire, nor do we hear the wind, but those of us who believe in Jesus can be filled with the Holy Spirit.

The reason that the Holy Spirit came to the disciples was to empower them so that they could talk about Jesus and help others in their church, in their homes and in their neighborhoods.

And that's why the Holy Spirit comes today to those who believe in Jesus, so that we can talk about Jesus and help people in our church, in our homes and in our neighborhoods.

Ask a student to pray.

God will work. Remember our verse for today: "I will pour out my Spirit on all people."  
Joel 2:28

Lesson 1 Worksheet



## Lesson 2: The Holy Spirit and the Trinity

**Verse:** *“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father . . .”*  
John 15:26

**Objective:** That your students will know that when they accept Jesus as their Savior, the Holy Spirit's comes to live in them.

What is the Holy Spirit like? How can we know the Holy Spirit?

If we seek to know God the Father, and we invite Jesus into our hearts and seek to know him ... then we will also know the Holy Spirit.

Just as we feel the air on our skin, we can also feel the Holy Spirit within us.

The Holy Spirit is all powerful and when He comes into our life, we also have that power.

And we help our friends when we invite them to know Jesus as we know him.

When you think a nice thought and you don't tell anyone that thought, no one else is able to know that nice thing you thought, only you know that thought. But the Holy Spirit knows what God is thinking because he is God.

The Bible tells us that all three, God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit, are ONE. How is that?

Activity: Let's look at this egg, it has several parts. Can you tell me the parts of this egg?

Answers:

- 1- The shell
- 2- The white
- 3- The yolk



Separately place the parts of an egg in front of your students so that they can touch, see, perhaps even taste the egg. (A hard-boiled would work well.) Then show a raw egg and how the three parts make up ONE egg.

When Jesus went to heaven to be with the Father (God), he sent us the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is part of the Trinity, and when we ask Jesus into our hearts the Holy Spirit comes to live in us.

Let's Pray!

Lesson 2 Worksheet



### Lesson 3: The Holy Spirit is My Guide Along the Way

**Verse:** "...and teaches them his way." Psalm 25:9

**Objective:** That your students will know that they can ask the Holy Spirit to guide them.

Would it be nice to have someone around to guide us? In the things we do each day? When we go somewhere? When we have problems?

God has given us the Holy Spirit to guide us on the right path.

**Activity:** Show some light or transparent thread to your students and then have a student volunteer. Give them one end of the thread and you hold on to the other end. Lead them around the room among the other students. Explain that the thread gives us an idea of how the Holy Spirit guides us.

The Holy Spirit is like this thread that we can barely see but we know it exists. Also, the Holy Spirit, like the thread in our activity, can guide us, so we don't get lost. But we have to ask him to live in our heart. Do you already have the Holy Spirit in your heart? If you don't, you can receive him now by kneeling at the altar and praying to ask him to come into your heart.

What should I do so that I know the right way to go, or the right thing to do?

Here are three things you can do.

- a. Pray. It's important to talk with God and ask him for guidance and help.
- b. Obey. What is a guide for if we don't do what they tell us to do?
- c. Have Faith. You must believe God will do what he says He will do.

The Holy Spirit is everywhere, all the time. We can't hide from Him, He sees everything. He is invisible, we can't see Him, but we know He is there.

Let's Pray.

Teach your students the Hymn: He Leadeth Me.

"...and teaches them his way." Psalm 25:9

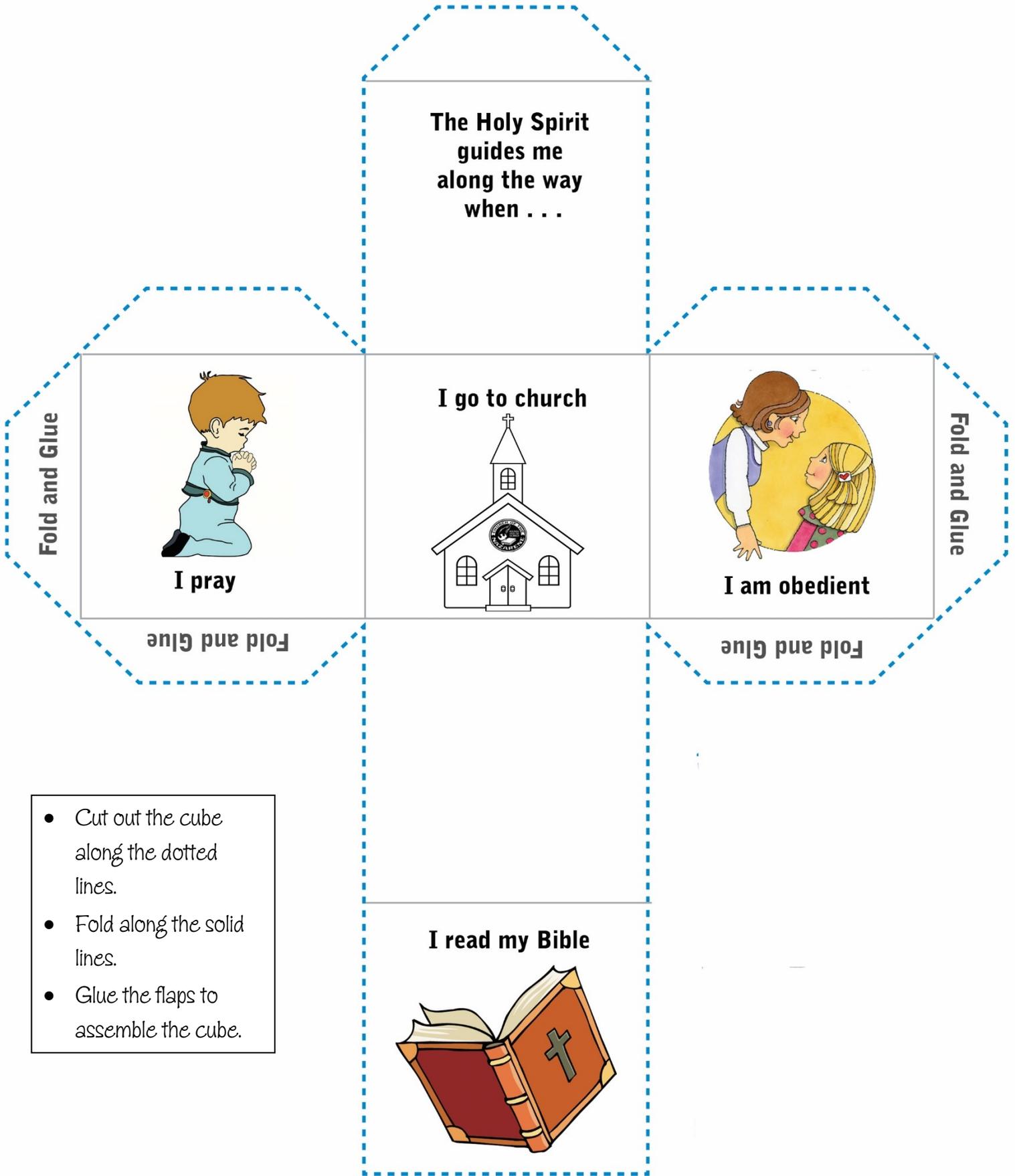
#### HYMN:

#### HE LEADETH ME

He leadeth me, O blessed thought!  
O words with heav'nly comfort fraught.  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
Still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

#### Chorus:

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me,  
By his own hand he leadeth me.  
His faithful follower I would be,  
For by His hand He leadeth me*



**The Holy Spirit  
guides me  
along the way  
when . . .**



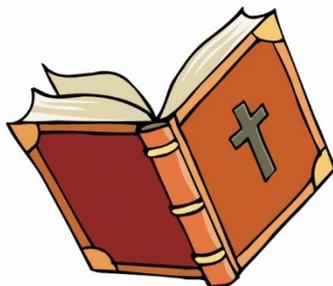
**I pray**



**I go to church**



**I am obedient**



**I read my Bible**

- Cut out the cube along the dotted lines.
- Fold along the solid lines.
- Glue the flaps to assemble the cube.

## SECTION 2

### The Route to Follow . . . Three Things That Lead Me to God



## Lesson 4: Pray – Talk to GOD

**Verse:** *“The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”*  
James 5:16b

**Teacher:** In Matthew 6:5-15, Jesus gives us an example of prayer how we should pray. Paraphrase this passage for your students.

Explain to the group using pictures or appropriate visuals what Jesus taught.

- 1- ... What Jesus said about people who pray in public for everyone to see.
- 2- ... Jesus' advice for those who pray in secret.
- 3- ... Jesus' advice regarding babbling (repetition of lots of useless words).
- 4- ... The prayer that Jesus gave us as an example of how we should pray.
- 5- ... Jesus' advice to forgive others the evil they have done to us

In this passage of scripture, we see how important it is for us to set an example for others to follow.

Jesus gives us an example of how God's wants us to learn to pray.

Jesus teaches us that God wants us to pray from our hearts. He doesn't want us to repeat a lot of meaningless words.

He teaches us that God wants us to forgive each other just as God has forgiven us.

And Jesus gives us an example of how to pray.

It's good to confess and repent of our sins. We must remain faithful in prayer.

*"The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective."*  
James 5:16b



## **Lesson 5: Listen - to God's Word**

**Verse:** *"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."*

Psalm 119:105

A guide!

What is a guide? (Possible answers: a map, a book, someone who guides a hike, etc.)

The bible is a guide for all people, a wonderful book that God wants us to know because he has left it for us, it is like a letter that gives us directions and like a light that shows the way.

He guides us throughout our lives with the plan he has for each of his children. He guides us to Jesus. He guides us to know history and that He created the world that we live in and He created us.

There are many ways that you can learn about God. We learn about God when we listen to God or to God's Word being read, when we read God's Word, when we memorize God's Word. We can read God's Word in book form, on a cell phone, on a computer, or listen to His word on the radio or on TV.

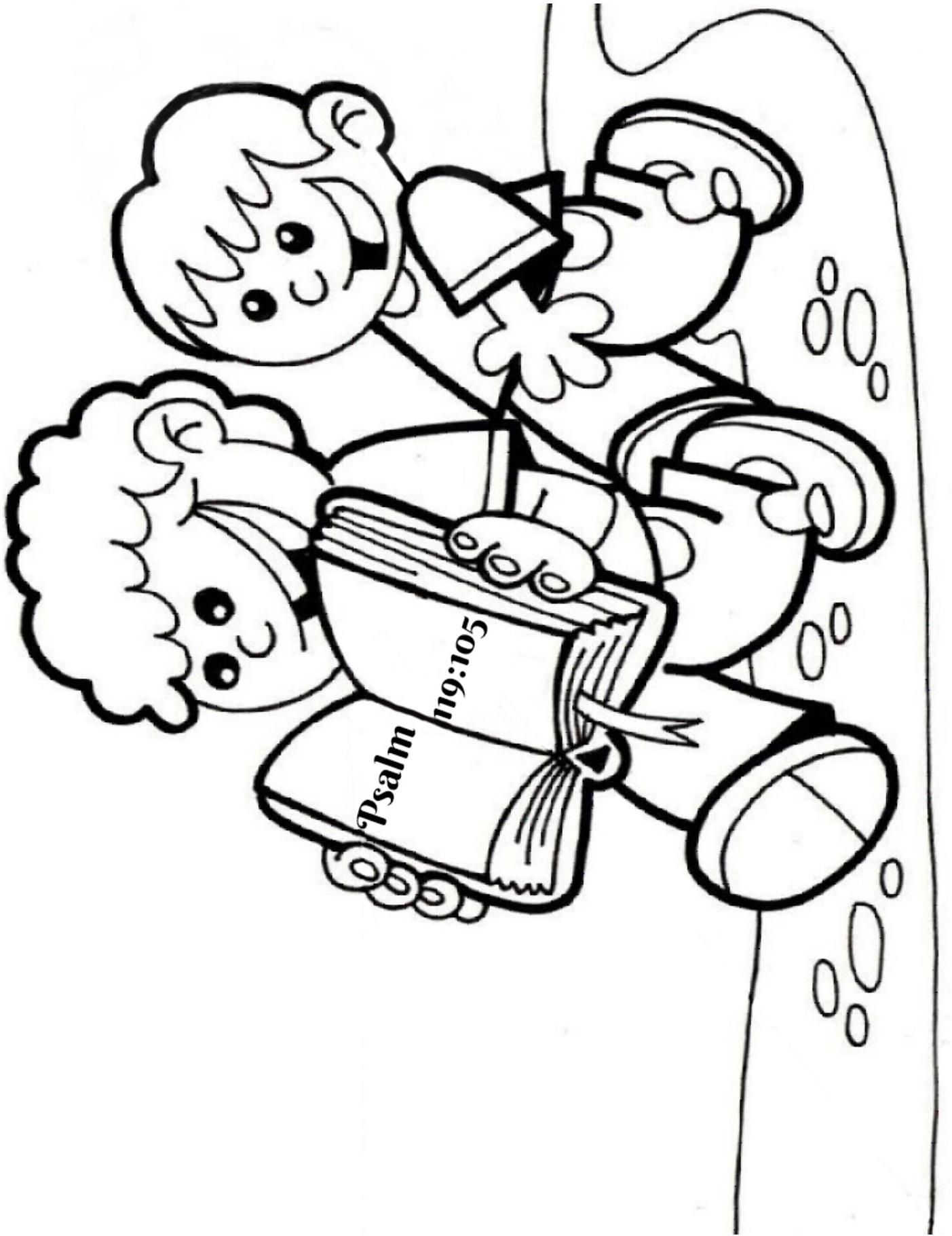
The Old Testament tells us the story of the Israelites (God's chosen people) and the New Testament tells us about the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, as well as Jesus' message to us and the history of the first Christians (followers of Christ).

In the Bible we find the most beautiful stories, full of the love of Jesus.

It is important to read the Bible, study it, share it and do the things it teaches us to do. When we do these things we will have a better relationship with others, and a close bond with God.

Do you have a Bible of your own?

Do you need a Bible?



## **Lesson 6: Worship – With Other Believers**

**Verse:** *"For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."*  
Matthew 18:20

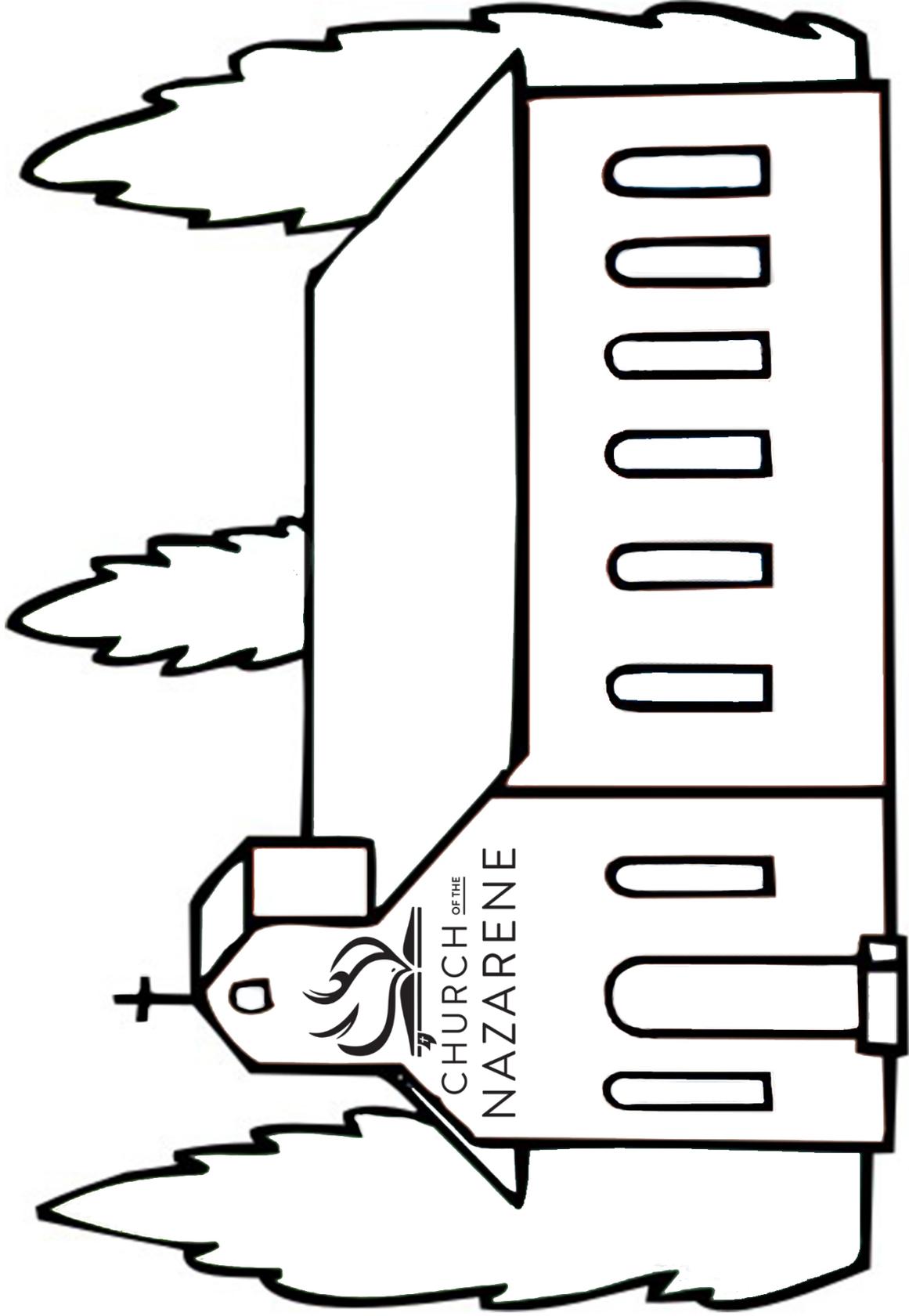
God wants us to seek Him together, with other believers. The Bible teaches us that Jesus (the Son) and God (the Father) are united – they are one. The Bible also teaches that we are to be united in Christ. Unity is something we must seek; we must work towards unity. When we are united, we are less likely to be deceived by the devil. It's a fact that 2 people can do more and do it better than one person can. One of the best ways we can be united is in worship.

God likes to hear the prayers of his people when they are raised as a team, united, and it's to these types of prayers that God responds much faster.

Another way that we can be united is in our worship: praise and adoration. When we worship together, we encourage each other. And more than that, God loves to hear his children singing to him with one voice, in unity.

*"I will declare your name to my people; in the assembly I will praise you."*  
Psalm 22:22

The church is a place where I can sense God's presence, and I can please God in my worship which includes praise, adoration, prayer, etc.



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# SECTION 3

## Footprints to Follow



## LESSON 7: I AM THE LIGHT

**Verse:** “. . . *I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.*”

John 8:12

**Note for the teacher:** For the illustration, prepare in advance a box with a small hole in one end, two red paper hearts, one with a hole and one without a hole (see sample on the next page) and a flashlight. Also prepare to have a heart with a hole in the center for each student.

Have you ever spent time in the dark?

And when someone turned on the light, how did you feel? (Give the students a choice of multiple answers.)

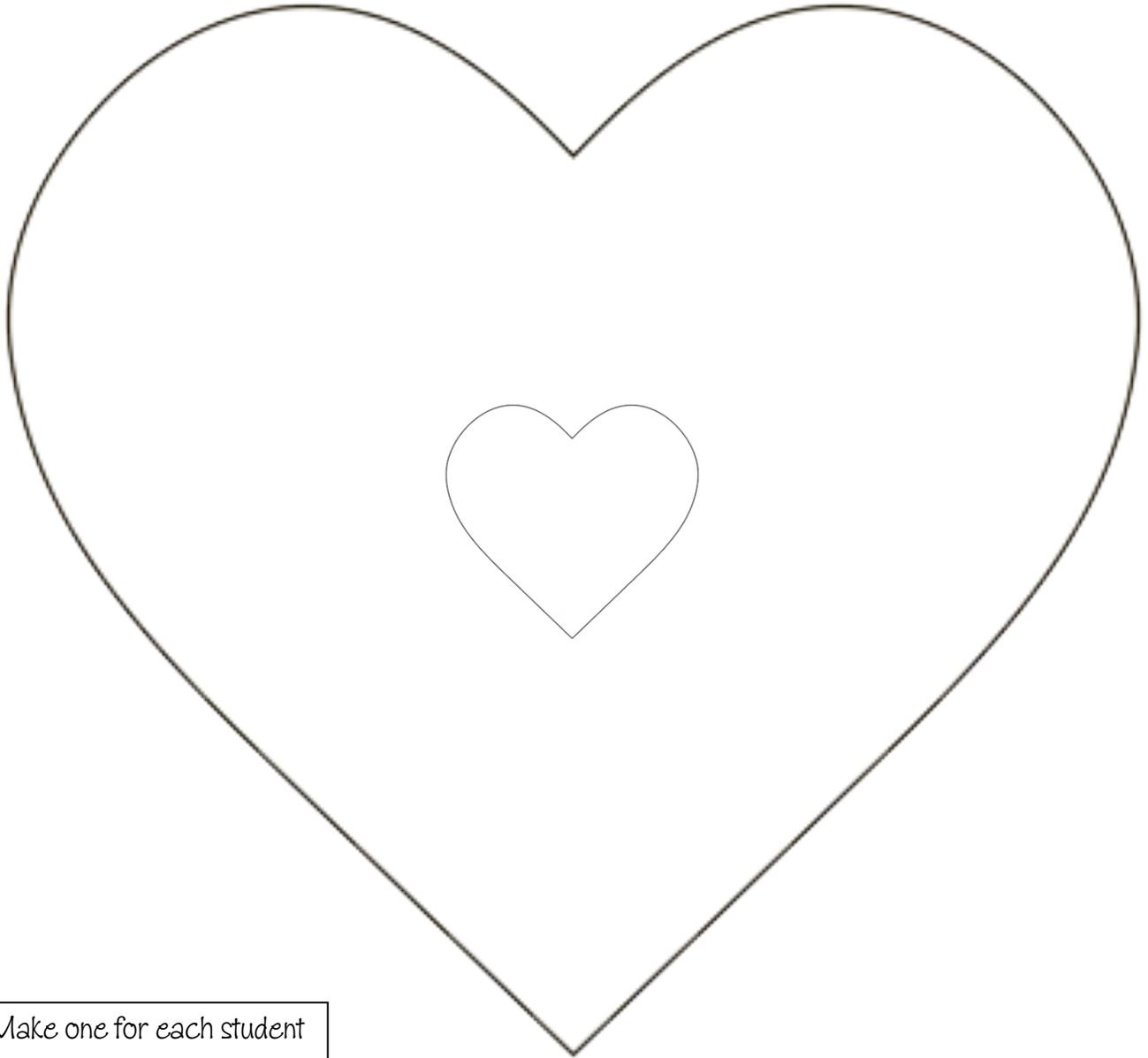
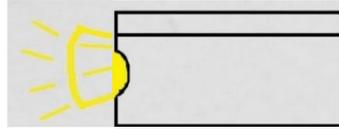
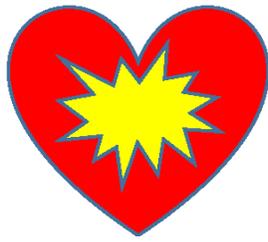
If Jesus is the Light of the world and he lives in our hearts, then we have the light of Jesus in us! And since we're Christians (followers of Jesus Christ), we must show the light of Jesus, which is in us, to all the people who know us.

Just like this box that has a light inside it and when the light is turned on the light shines out through the heart, to illuminate those who are nearby. (Shine the flashlight into the hole in the box using the heart without the hole). But the light can illuminate many more if we let the light shine out of our hearts (use the heart with the hole cutout). Our friends can see that you and I shine with the love of Jesus which is inside us.

Allow your students to touch and see the box. You can shine the light through the hole in the box using the students' hearts with the center cutout.

Don't forget that each of us can be light and we can shine with the light of Jesus.

If you don't have Jesus in your heart, you can receive him today and share the light of Jesus with others.



Make one for each student  
and one for the teacher  
out of red paper.

## Lesson 8: Be Good to Others

**Verse:** *“Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:15

The Bible tells us about a man named Mephibosheth who could not walk. Mephibosheth's father had been a prince and his grandfather had been the king, but they had both died. David, the new king, sent a message to Mephibosheth asking him to come and eat a meal with him.

When Mephibosheth arrived at the palace, King David told him that his father, Prince Jonathan, had been a very close friend of his. And because Jonathan had been such a good friend, King David wanted Mephibosheth to come and live in the palace with him and he would take care of Mephibosheth. For Mephibosheth, who couldn't walk, this was great news and he was so happy for the goodness of King David.

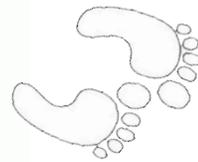
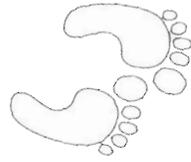
Just like David was good to Mephibosheth; God wants us to be good to our family and friends.

Can you be good to your friends and family? How? (Wait for your students to respond.)

Here are some more ideas of how we can be good this week: Help our parents at home - Do our homework without being told - Play nicely with our brothers and sisters - Help the other students in our class at school.

Let's Pray...





## Lesson 9: We Can All Serve God

**Verse:** *"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see0 your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."*

Matthew 5:16

**Note to the teacher:** Bring several different brands of pens to class, some that are fancy and some that are regular. Talk about the quality of the different pens, ask your helpers to tell you which one they think is better.

Some of these pens are expensive and some "flow" better, but we can write with all of these pens. How can we use pens? (Continue to talk with your students about the different ways we use pens).

Just like these pens have various qualities, people have different qualities and God can use our various qualities and talents.

Let's talk about the talents God has given us, and how we can use them to serve him. It's a privilege when we can use our talents to service God.

Remember, we are the light of Jesus, and we must light his light shine through us.

What can we do to service God and light Jesus' light shine through us? Some ideas of what we could do would be to pray for the people in our class, or in our church. We could greet people at the door when they come to church or be an usher and show them where to sit. We could help clean the church building or stack chairs after an event or help take care of the garden.

There are lots of ways we can use our talents to serve God.

Let's Pray. . .

I will serve God



## Lesson 10: We Must Remember

**Verse:** *“And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.’  
In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.’”*  
Luke 22:19-20

**Note to the teacher:** Prepare a photo album to bring to class. Show the album to your students and lead a conversation about what a photo album is and why we have photo albums.

This album has a lot of photos (pictures) in it. Do you have a picture of yourself? Do you or does your family have a photo album at home? Why do people keep pictures?

(Possible answers may include: to remember friends and family or remember activities done together. It’s important to talk more about this to enforce the application of our lesson.)

When Jesus came to earth and it was about time for him to return to heaven; He asked his friends the disciples to have dinner together, he wanted to leave them with a special memory.

At the dinner, Jesus performed a simple ceremony, that we call “the Lord's Supper” or “Communion”, and he asked the disciples to repeat that supper to remember his death on the cross. (Read the account of Lord's Supper from the Bible.)

Jesus wants us to always remember him, what he taught us, how he died on the cross, and how on the third day he rose again and that we are waiting for his return.

Just as we remember good times with friends and family, we can remember what Jesus did for us.

Everyone who receives Jesus in their hearts wants to remember his love.

Now, we are going to participate in the Lord’s Supper. (Have the Communion elements prepared and have your Pastor conduct the sacrament of Communion with your students.)

Let’s Pray . . .

