

GOOD NEWS CLUB AGENDA

The First Century Church #3 – “The Believers are Persecuted” Acts 5:12-42

WEEK OF:

MAIN TRUTH: The Holy Spirit will help you to have peace in times of trouble.

TO DO AS THE CHILDREN ARRIVE:

1. Greet the children; make them feel welcome.
2. Take attendance.
3. Listen to previous week’s memory verse.
4. Have children put money in missions bank.
5. Have children put candy corn in their team’s container according to the number of points earned.

PRE-SESSION ACTIVITY:

1. OLDER CHILD: “Shape Your Faith!”
2. YOUNGER CHILD: “When Should You Believe God?”

SONG: (2 minutes)

PRAYER: (4 minutes)

1. Prayer song: _____
2. Review the **WHEN WE PRAY IN CLUB** Chart. Explain the **PATTERN FOR PRAYER** Chart. (See attached visual.)
3. Lead the class in prayer. Be sure to include your “Thank You Prayers” and “Please Prayers.” Let the children say, “*Dear Heavenly Father*” and “*In Jesus’ name, Amen*” with you.

MEMORY VERSE: (7 minutes)

John 14:27 – “*Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto You . . . Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*”

(The underlined portion of the verse indicates what the younger children should memorize. See “**Involvement Helps for Younger Children**” for helps in teaching the verse to the younger children.)

“**Solo Word**” – After you have read this verse from the Bible, explained what it means, and repeated it at least two times, you may begin this drill. Choose a child to select any word from the verse to be his “solo word.” When the group repeats the verse together, that child alone will say his “solo word.” He keeps his “solo word” and another child chooses another word to be his solo. Children continue choosing “solo words” and saying the verse.

HYMN FOR THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH: (2 minutes)

BIBLE LESSON: (20 minutes)

THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH #3 – “The Believers are Persecuted”

(See “**Involvement Helps for Younger Children**” for ways to involve the children in the Bible lesson.)

COUNSEL TIME:

(If you have a helper, hostess, or Teacher Junior Grade, let them do the review time while you counsel those who responded to the invitation. Otherwise, at the end of club, be sure to remind them to stay for a few minutes so you can counsel them.)

TAKE TIME TO REVIEW/QUIET TIME NOTEBOOK: (1 minute)

From the returned TTtR/Q.T.N.s, mention one or two of the children's responses to the Main Truth challenge. Hand out Take Time to Review/Quiet Time Notebook, The First Century Church #3. Ask the children to complete the booklet before the next club. Remind them that they need to show you their TTtR/Q.T. Notebook next week.

LEARNING ABOUT THE BIBLE & THE OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS: (5 minutes)

Teach information for Week #3.

MISSIONARY TIME: (13 minutes)

1. Sing "God's Way" while a child comes to look in the "Go and Tell" Box.
2. Share information for the "Go and Tell" Box – Week #2 and pray. (See attached page.)
3. Show goal chart and mention the amount given so far.
4. Missions song: _____
5. Story: *No Darkness At All*. Teach the part of the story for Week #3/4.

REVIEW ACTIVITY: (6 minutes)

Use the activity of your choice or the Bible Learning Game from "Involvement Helps for Younger Children."

Review questions for THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH #3:

1. **What is the Temple?** (The building where Jewish people could go to worship God and to learn about Him)
2. **Name the three Persons of God.** (God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit)
3. **Which Person of God lived in each believer and helped them to do some amazing things?** (The Holy Spirit)
4. **Many people were coming to Jerusalem for the disciples to help them. What kind of people were they?** (Sick people who wanted to be healed)
5. **Why did the Sadducees have the disciples arrested and thrown into prison?** (To try to stop them from preaching about Jesus)
6. **The disciples were persecuted. What does "persecuted" mean?** (To be treated badly for believing in Jesus and for telling others about Him)
7. **What were the disciples warned to stop doing?** (Telling people about Jesus)
8. **How did the disciples get out of prison?** (An angel of the Lord came and opened the gates of the prison)
9. **What did the Temple guards find when they arrived at the prison?** (The prison door was shut and locked, prison guards were standing watch, but the disciples were gone)
10. **What wise advice did Gamaliel give to the council?** ("Be careful what you are planning to do to these men. Leave them alone. Let them go.")
11. **How did the disciples feel about being able to suffer for Jesus?** (They rejoiced)
12. **Did the disciples stop telling people about Jesus even though they were threatened?** (No)

*COUNSEL TIME: (*Only if you did not counsel with the children earlier.)

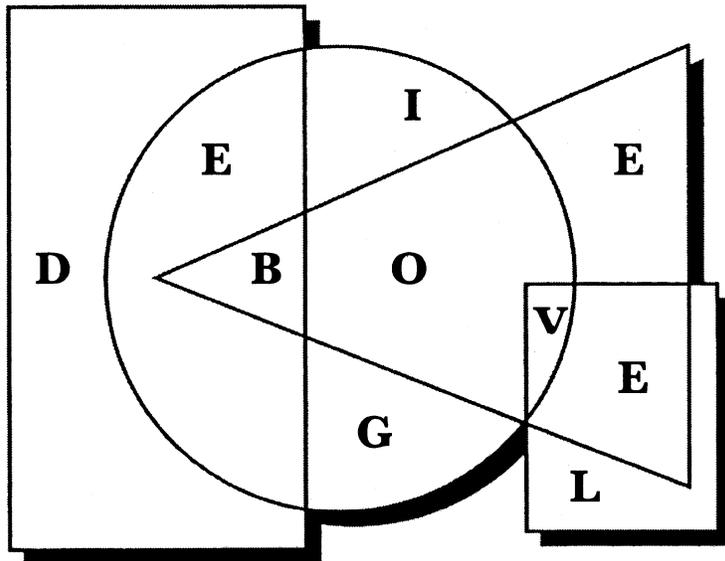
SEND HOME WITH THE CHILDREN:

1. Pre-session papers for older and younger child
2. Memory verse token
3. Take Time to Review/Quiet Time, The First Century Church #3

Shape Your Faith!

Find the letter in each shape to discover something each one of us should do.



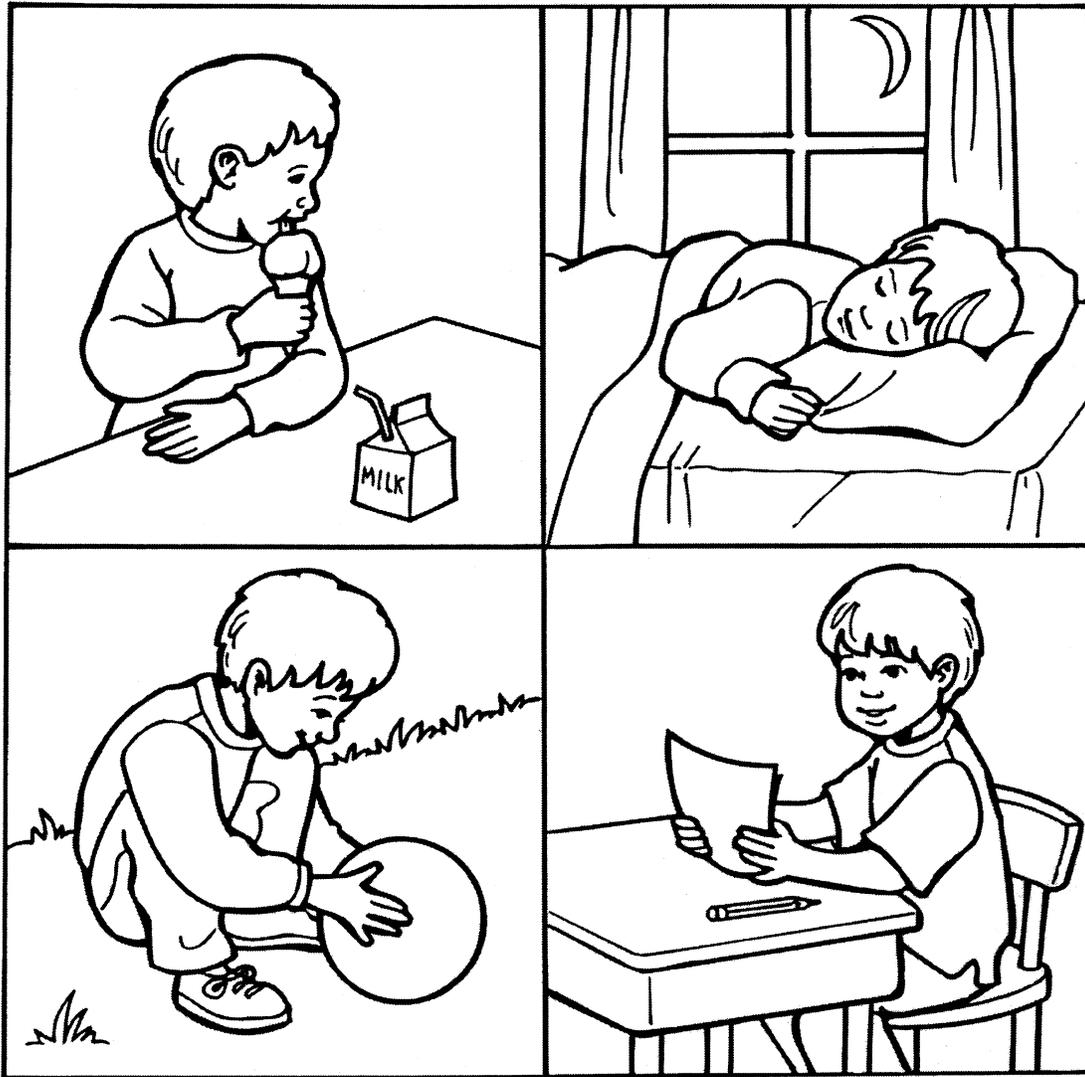


1. Which letter is in the large rectangle, circle, and triangle? _____
2. Which letter is in the top of the circle only? _____
3. Which letter is in the large rectangle, circle, and triangle? _____
4. Which letter is in the bottom of the small rectangle? _____
5. Which letter is only in the small rectangle and the triangle? _____

Where do we find what God wants us to believe? In the _____.

When Should You Believe God?

You should believe God when you eat, play, rest, and work. Color the picture that shows when it is hardest for you to believe God. Ask God to help you remember the Bible verse at the bottom of this page so you can believe God all day long.



**“ . . . Let not your heart be troubled,
neither let it be afraid.”**

John 14:27

**Dear Heavenly Father,
Thank You for ...**

Please ...

**In Jesus' name,
Amen.**

The First Century Church #3

THE BELIEVERS ARE PERSECUTED

John 14:27

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto You . . . Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

(The underlined portion of the verse indicates what the younger children should memorize.)

By Missy Hess



INTRODUCE THE VERSE:

Think about a time when you had a terrible problem or went through something that was hard or difficult. During that time were you afraid? Worried? Unsure what to do? We all go through times like that in our lives, but when we do, God wants us to have peace. What is peace and how can we have it? Listen carefully to our memory verse for today . . .

READ THE VERSE:

Read the verse together from the visualized verse. Then read the verse directly from the Bible.

EXPLAIN THE VERSE:

John 14:27

– This is where the verse is found in the Bible. We call it the address or reference. It is found in the book of John, chapter 14, verse 27.

“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto You”

– Peace is quietness in your heart or a calmness on the inside. When you know Jesus as your Saviour, God wants to give you peace even when you are going through a hard or difficult time.

“. . .”

– These dots mean there are more words to the verse, but we are not going to learn them today.

“Let not your heart be troubled,”

– When we are going through hard or difficult times, God doesn’t want us to feel worried or upset inside. Instead, He wants us to have peace.

“neither let it be afraid.”

– Just as God doesn’t want us to be troubled inside, He also doesn’t want us to be afraid. No matter what hard thing is happening in our lives, we can be sure that God is with us and will help us by doing what is best.

REPEAT THE VERSE:

“Solo Word” – After you have read this verse from the Bible, explained what it means, and repeated it at least two times, you may begin this drill. Choose a child to select any word from the verse to be his “solo word.” When the group repeats the verse together, that child alone will say his “solo word.” He keeps his “solo word” and another child chooses another word to be his solo. Children continue choosing “solo words” and saying the verse.

HELPS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN

The First Century Church #3

By Missy Hess

Memory Verse

For younger children, teach only the underlined portion of the verse.

John 14:27 – “Peace” I leave with you, My peace I give unto You . . . Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

Bible Lesson Involvement Helps

Flashcard 3-2:

Have children pretend to be carrying someone on a stretcher.

Have children make an angry look on their face.

Have children repeat the word “persecuted.”

Flashcard 3-3:

Have children show a thumbs up if they think the disciples will keep telling people about Jesus. Have children show a thumbs down if they think the disciples will not keep telling people about Jesus.

Flashcard 3-4:

Have children put their hand over their eyes and look around as if looking for the missing disciples.

Flashcard 3-5:

Have children shake their pointer finger angrily and repeat, “Didn’t we order you never to teach in Jesus’ name?”

Have children make an angry look on their face.

Have children nod their heads in agreement.

Bible Learning Game

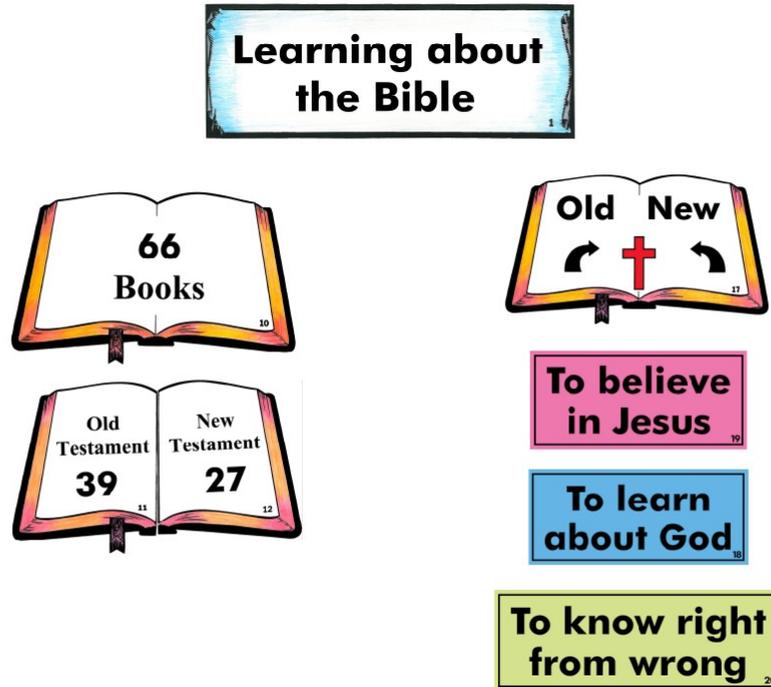
Have children sit in a circle on the floor. Pass a beanbag (a soft ball or rolled up sock will also work) around the circle while singing the words below to the tune of “Deep and Wide.”

“Have His peace. Have His peace,
God wants you to always have His peace.
Have His peace. Have His peace,
God wants you to always have His peace.”

When the song is finished, say to the children, “The followers of Jesus were going through a hard time in our story today. Even children have times of trouble.” Then ask the child holding the beanbag, “(Child’s name), what does God the Holy Spirit want you to have during times of trouble?” Allow child to answer. Then say, “Peace is a quietness in your heart or a calmness on the inside for people who know Jesus as their Saviour.” Repeat as time allows, giving other children a chance to be the one holding the beanbag at the end of the song.

LEARNING ABOUT THE BIBLE & THE OLD TESTAMENT BOOKS

WEEK #3



(Place figure #1.) Do you know how many books are in the Bible? Yes, the Bible has 66 books in it, and it is divided into two parts. *(Place figure #10.)* The first part is the Old Testament and has 39 books in it. *(Place figure #11.)* The second part of the Bible is the New Testament, and it has 27 books in it. *(Place figure #12.)* So the Bible is a book of books. The word *Testament* means “agreement” or “promise.” The Old Testament tells us that God promised the Saviour would come. The New Testament tells us that God kept His promise—the Saviour (Jesus) did come. *(Place figure #17.)* There are three reasons why God gave us the Old and New Testaments: 1) To learn about God. *(Place figure #18.)* 2) To believe in Jesus. *(Place figure #19.)* 3) To know right from wrong. *(Place figure #20.)* Everything in the Bible is the correct record of what God wants you to know and do. The more you read the Bible, the more you know what are the right things for you to do. I am thankful to have a copy of the Bible to study so that I can tell you about God and the Lord Jesus.



GO AND TELL BOX

WEEK #2 – EARNING MISSION MONEY

It is important that children understand when they are young how God wants us to share so that other children can hear about Jesus also. When you teach missions and talk about bringing an offering for the missionaries, it is important to help the children understand that they should be willing to give some of their own money. Share with them that we do not want them just to go home and ask their parents/guardians, etc. for money. We are giving to help support the missionaries we sponsor in the club ministry.

The list below will provide you with some ideas that you can share with your clubbers to help them know how they can earn their own money to give in the missionary offering.
(Choose those appropriate for your clubbers.)

1. Weed gardens or flower beds.
2. Help wash cars.
3. Pick up trash in the neighbor's yard and help them put it out.
4. Rake leaves and pick up twigs that fall in the yard.
5. Wash windows.
6. Babysit. (Children too young to babysit can entertain younger boy or girls while their mothers are busy working.)
7. Address Christmas cards.
8. Wrap Christmas presents.
9. Clean a garage.
10. Collect and recycle aluminum cans.
11. Shovel snow off walks or decks.
12. Fold laundry.
13. Take the neighbor's mail and newspaper in while they are away.
14. Water plants and lawns when neighbor is away
15. Make and sell cookies.
16. Help a younger child, with their homework.
17. Run errands for an older person.
18. Help an older person carry their groceries.

- Adapted from Shining Star Publications.

PRAYER

THANK God for our missionaries that are faithful in sharing God's Word with others

ASK God to help us be able to work together to support our missionaries this year.



CHILD EVANGELISM FELLOWSHIP OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA, INC.

P.O. BOX 4375. ♦ HARRISBURG, PA 17111-0375

**The Holy Spirit will
help you to have
peace in
times of
trouble.**



- Instead of being afraid, disciples boldly answered, "We should obey God rather than men!"

- Religious leaders were furious; Wanted to kill the disciples

- Then one religious leader stood up to speak, "Be careful what you are planning to do to these men..."

- ...Let them go. If they are doing these things on their own... nothing will come of it...

- ...But if what they are doing is from God, we cannot stop it. We would be fighting against God"

- Religious leaders listened

- Instead of trying to have the disciples put to death, beat them and ordered them never to speak of Jesus again; Then let them go

- What would the disciples do next? Would they stop telling others about Jesus?

FLASHCARD 3-6

- No! Bible even says they rejoiced that they were able to suffer for Jesus who they loved so much

- Every day, disciples continued to teach at the temple and in their homes

- Kept telling everyone about Jesus and how He came so that sinners like you and me could be saved from our sin

- What about you? Have you ever asked Jesus to save you from your sin?

INVITATION

John 3:15 – "...Whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."

**S
P, E
L**

BOW HEADS RESPONSE

CHALLENGE

G – Go over MT

**MT, PAS – THE HOLY SPIRIT
WILL HELP YOU STAND UP
FOR JESUS**

R – Review PAS verse

Acts 1:8 – "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto Me...."

O – Overview PAS examples

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

W – Will you do it?

THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH #3

Acts 5:12-42

- How many of you like it when someone treats you badly or makes fun of you?

- Did you know that around the world today, there are many people who are treated badly and made fun of for believing in Jesus?

- When that happens, that is called being persecuted

- Some of Jesus' disciples in today's true story from the Bible were being persecuted

- What would happen? Would they stop telling others about Jesus? Listen carefully to find out!

FLASHCARD 3-1

- Excitement was growing in the city of Jerusalem

- Big crowds gathered to listen to what Jesus' disciples were teaching

- Disciples were Jesus' closest followers; Spent all their time with Him listening, learning from Him while He was alive here on earth

- Some were even with Jesus the day He died; Had seen those men who hated Jesus nail Him to cross

O

P, E

Hebrews 9:22 – "...And without shedding of blood is no remission."

- Some disciples had been there on the day He died

- Had seen Jesus after He came back to life again; Saw Him go back to Heaven; Had been there when God the Holy Spirit had come

- Now Holy Spirit was living in those who had believed in Jesus as Saviour from sin

- Helping them tell others about Jesus and do amazing things!

- Was also helping many people realize they were sinners and that they needed Jesus to be their Saviour from sin

- Have you ever realized that you are a sinner?

S, PAU

Isaiah 53:6 – "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way."

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

- The Holy Spirit was helping many people realize they were sinners

- Thousands of people put their trust in Jesus as their Saviour from sin

- God's church, those who had believed on Jesus as their Saviour, was growing!

FLASHCARD 3-2

- Throughout Jerusalem, news was spreading that people who were sick were being healed

- Bible says, "They brought forth the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and on couches."

- Those who couldn't walk were carried in on stretchers

- Bible says, "Every one of them was healed"

- God was using these miracles to prove to the people that what the disciples were saying about Jesus was true; He really was God the Son who had come to save His people from their sin!

- God loved those people; Wanted them to hear and believe this Good News!

G

- He wants you to hear and believe this Good News

- But not everyone was happy about what was happening in Jerusalem

- Religious leaders were not happy; Instead were filled with anger

- Did not want the people to hear about Jesus or believe on Him; Thought they had gotten rid of Jesus!

- Wanted to stop disciples from telling about Jesus; Had them arrested and thrown into prison

- Disciples were being persecuted; Treated badly for believing in Jesus and for telling others about Him

- Maybe you can think of a time when you were treated badly for believing in Jesus; Maybe someone made fun of you and you got embarrassed; Or maybe your teacher looked down on you

- It is not always easy to stand up for Jesus

- **MT – THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL HELP YOU STAND UP FOR JESUS**

- And God the Holy Spirit was going to help the disciples too

- Disciples were being persecuted – thrown into prison and warned to stop telling others about Jesus

FLASHCARD 3-3

- Then something amazing happened

- Angel came at night opened the prison gates, led disciples out!

- Then, angel told them to go to the temple and to keep telling others about Jesus

- Disciples knew if they did that, they may be thrown back in prison

- What would you have done? What do you think the disciples did?

- That's right! They went to the temple and kept telling others about Jesus

- Maybe you are thinking, that's crazy; Who would do that? But God the Holy Spirit was helping them!

MT, PAS – THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL HELP YOU STAND UP FOR JESUS

Acts 1:8 – "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto Me...."

1.

2.

3.

- God the Holy Spirit was helping the disciples to stand up for Jesus

- Next morning the religious leaders sent for the disciples to be brought out of prison

- Guards rushed to the prison right away to get them

FLASHCARD 3-4

- When guards arrived at prison, door was shut and locked, prison guards were outside keeping watch

- But when temple guards went into prison, the disciples were gone!

- Guards must have been shocked; Hurried back to tell religious leaders what they had seen

- "Prison was locked. Guards were standing outside. But when we opened the doors, no one was there!"

- Must have wondered what happened and what to do next

- Then, someone came with news...

- "Men you put in prison are standing in the temple and are teaching the people."

- Guards hurried to the temple to get the disciples; Brought them back to the religious leaders

FLASHCARD 3-5

- High Priest, "Didn't we tell you to stop teaching about Jesus?"