

Adventures with GOD!

GOD GAVE ME THE CHURCH (A.1.Spring.10)

Biblical Reference	Acts 4:42-47
Key Verse	Ephesians 2:19
Key Concept	I am part of the church.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Say the names of people in their church 2. Participate in a celebration (service, special program) of their church 3. Pray with an adult from the congregation

Life Application

Today the emphasis will be on the fact that the children play an important role in the life of the church. They are part of the church. Today we can be instruments of blessing for others, as we participate in the life of the church. This week the children will have an adult from the congregation pray with them and for them.

Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
Opening Prayer	Candle	1 minute
Craft	banner	15 minutes
Bible story	Bible, puppets	10 minutes
Activity		10 minutes
Presentation		15 minutes
Prayer		5 minutes
Closing Prayer	Candle	1 minute

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INSTRUCTIONS

Note: This week will be a little different as the children will present to the church the banner that they've done. They can also share the Bible verse and a song that they have been learning. We also encourage you to use this time to connect a child with someone in the congregation who can pray for and with the child. This can all be a part of the church service, or if that's not possible, invite some of the adults to come to the classroom and have a special service there.

Opening Prayer

Gather children around a candle and explain that we are entering into a special time with God. Encourage the children to hold their hands out in front of them palms up as a sign they are ready to receive what God has for them today. Light the candle

Prayer: God we light this candle remembering: you made light, you made us, and you are with us now. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer)

Craft: They can finish the banner that was started, in order to be able to give it to the church. There is another option of a craft they can do in the following page.

Bible story: Using the finger puppets (draw faces on your pinky, ring finger, and middle finger), tell the story about how the church began and how they are part of the church. For more help on how to tell the story, go to the appendix.

Activity: Help them get organized so they know what they will do when they either go to the service or have their own special ceremony with some special guests. Help them to practice saying the Bible verse, review a song you have learned, etc.

Presentation: It doesn't have to be elaborate or long. It's a time for the children to express what they are learning – that they are an important part of the church. Invite the adults to sing the song with you if they know it. Have the children say the Bible verse and present the banner. Then, have an adult pray with one or two of the children.

Prayer: Let the children pray, or have the adults lead them. The prayer should be simple and short, using vocabulary that the children understand. If possible talk with some of the adults ahead of time about how they can help the children express themselves in prayer.

Closing Prayer

Gather children around the candle again. Light the candle

Prayer: Thank you God for loving us, Thank you God for sending your son Jesus into the world.

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CRAFT

Happy to be a part of the church

Enlarge the following images to the size of a small paper plate, or draw your own image of a boy and a girl. Have one picture ready for each child and allow them to color it as they like. Then give them a paper plate and instruct them to glue the picture on the plate. Then, at the top of the plate, make two holes with a hole puncher and put a piece of yarn through (long enough that it will go around their necks to make a necklace). Tie the plate around their neck so that it becomes a necklace for them to wear.

While they are working, talk about how wonderful it is to come together to worship God. God loves when we worship together, read the Bible together and serve together. We are a part of the church and when we come together with other Christians there is joy and celebration.

