

# Adventures with GOD!

## EVERYTHING IN COMMON (B.2.SPRING.8)

Biblical Reference	Acts 4:32-37
Key Verse	Philippians 2:4
Key Concept	God asks me to care about the needs of others.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain why the first Christians cared about each others needs.</li> <li>2. Make a list of things they can do for each other.</li> <li>3. Think about something they can do to help another person.</li> </ol>

### LIFE APPLICATION

The first Christians gave us a clear example of what it means to care for one another. They were very aware of the needs of others and were always ready to help. One of the unfortunate characteristics of our society is that we tend to be very individualistic. So we focus on our needs and on our life, but the Bible clearly tells us that as the body of Christ we are to care for one another. We are to share with one another what God has given us. We are a part of the family of God.

### Possible Activities and Class Plan

Activity	Materials	Time
My GROW adventure	GROW Adventure w/God materials	5 minutes
Opening prayer	Candle	1 minute
Bible reading	Bible	5 minutes
Review	Mural	10 minutes
Bible exploration	See instructions	10 minutes
Project	See instructions	10 minutes
Bible verse	Clothes line, clothes hangers, words	5 minutes
My GROW adventure	Review	5 minutes
Closing prayer	Candle	1 minute



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## INSTRUCTIONS

**My GROW Adventure with God Weekly Review:** As children enter take time to have them reflect on their adventure with God booklets and either discuss or use art materials to express their journey during the past week. You may wish to add any art work, written poems, prayers or songs to a GROW wall in the room. You can find my GROW Adventure with God materials on the Covchurch.org website in the same place as the Adventures with God sessions.

**Opening Prayer:** Gather children around a candle. Light the 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.

**Prayer Example:** Lord God, thank you for making us, for loving us, for forgiving us, and guiding us. We know you are here with us right now. As we enter into your word, the Bible, help us draw close to you, to understand and to listen to what you have to say to us. Amen (For safety sake, you may wish to extinguish the candle after the prayer.)

**Bible Reading:** Explain that as we read the Bible we do so first to spend time with God. Children can remain with hands out-stretched, palms up to receive the word as it's being read. Alternatively they can be invited to draw what they hear. Read the biblical reference for the day (Acts 4:32-37) two times and ask children to respond.

**Question examples:** What did you notice in this passage? How does it make you feel? Was there anything you would ask God about that you didn't understand or was confusing? Is God saying anything to you through the story?

**Review:** Give them some time to work on the mural. Have them draw an image that represents what they heard in the Scripture passage that was just read. Or give them materials to cut out and paste on the mural.

**Bible exploration:** To begin, have a conversation about times they have been helped by someone and/or helped someone else. Or have some images of people helping one another and ask what they see.

Remind them that the Bible teaches that we are to care for one another, to help one another when we have needs. The first Christians were great examples of that kind of love. Read Acts 4:32-37 together and talk about the tangible way that people showed Jesus' love by helping others.

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What are the needs that people around us have? How do we help them? How do we show Jesus' love. Make a list of concrete examples.

**Project:** Sharing is not always easy, but it is something that we do as followers of Jesus. To tangible model what sharing looks like, you can have the craft or activity for today be something that the children can make for someone else. There is an example of a craft in the following pages, or think of something else that your group would like to do. It's ok to have different options available.

**Bible verse:** To introduce the verse for today (Philippians 2:4), hang up a clothes line and have clothes pins available. Have each word of the Bible verse be written on a "piece of clothing" (from paper cut out shirts, pants, socks, etc. See the examples in the following pages). Then in order, string up the clothes and have the children repeat the verse. Take the "clothes" off the line and see if the children can put the words in the correct order.

## **Today's GROW Adventure with God Review:**

**G: God's Word:** What is the story? (Give children an opportunity to express their understanding of the story).

**R: Relationships:** Is there anything in today's Bible story that shows us how we should or shouldn't share God's love with others? (Remind children that sometimes God uses the stories of the Bible to show us how we shouldn't act toward God or others and give them a chance to consider how we might show God's love instead).

**O: Outward Action:** Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should help or serve God or others? (Explore concrete ways the children could live this out in the coming week).

**W: Worship:** Is there anything in the Bible story that shows us how we should accept God's love for us and others? Ask: How do you feel about God? How would you like to respond to God? What would you like to say to God?

**Closing Prayer:** Gather children around the candle again. As you light the candle explain that the flame is something that is present in the light and the darkness. In the same way, it reminds us that God is always with us. Is there anything anyone wishes to say to God? After children have responded, close the prayer time.

**Prayer Example:** Lord God, we thank you that you are always with us, and always love us. It's good to be with you. Thank you for what we have learned today. Thank you for being with us and for teaching us through the Bible. Help us to remember what you have taught us today and to live it out when we leave. Amen.



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## CRAFT

### SHARING WITH OTHERS

Materials: copies of the illustration, scissors, crayons, Hole punch, Metal fastener

- Elaboración:
1. Make a copy of the following illustration for each child. Have them color it and cut it out.
  2. Make a hole in the spot that is marked with the X. And in the upper part of the arm. Connect the arm to the body using the metal fastener.
  3. Help them to move the arm back and forth a few times so that it paper doesn't rip.



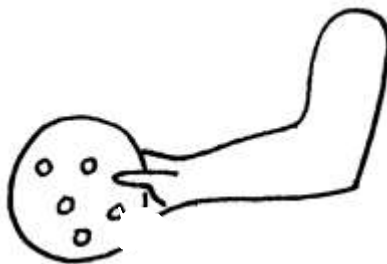
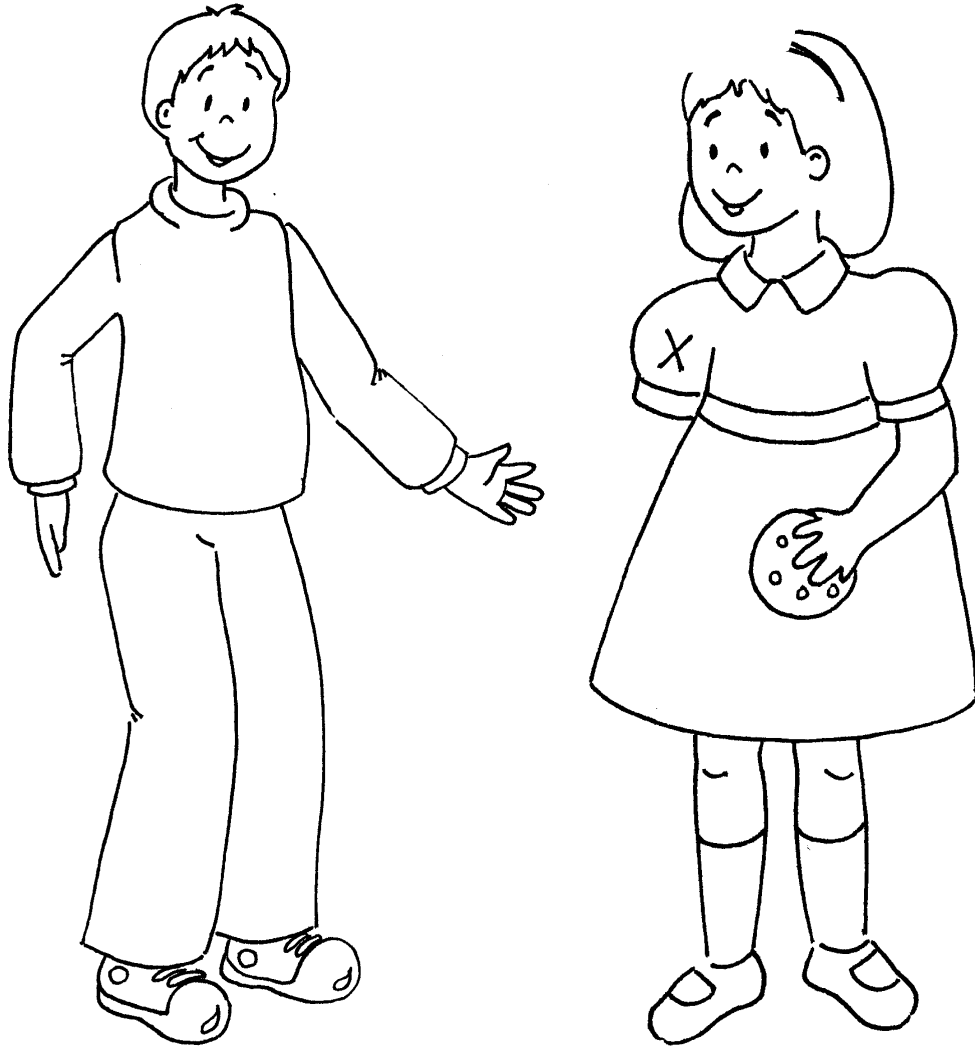
**God loves when we share with others!**



The Evangelical Covenant Church

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## CRAFT PATTERNS



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## ILLUSTRATION

PATTERNS FOR BIBLE VERSE

