

Adventures with GOD!

PREACHING THE GOSPEL (B.2.SPRING.4)

Biblical Reference	Acts 2:14-18, 22-24, 32-33, 37-42
Key Verse	Acts 1:8
Key Concept	As a part of God's family, I have the privilege to announce the good news of Jesus to others.
Educational Objectives	At the end of the class today, the children will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Name and pray for someone that they want to tell about Jesus. 2. Give the main points from the message that Peter gave. 3. Say the Bible verse by memory.

Life application

Many times children are the best messengers of God's message of love. Jesus lifts up children as a model of faith and of love for adults to follow. As they share with others, they are sharing the love of Jesus that has touched their lives. Encourage them to talk with their parents and to talk with others about Jesus. Remind them that as followers of Jesus, who are a part of God's family, they have the privilege and responsibility to share the good news.

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
Collage	Old magazines, newspapers, card stock, glue, scissors	10 minutes
Bible exploration	Bible, illustrations	10 minutes
Craft	Activity sheets, glue, crayons, scissors	10 minutes
Bible verse		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 2:22-24) 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?

Collage: Before the class time, collect old magazines, newspapers, or catalogues and have them available. Have the children begin to cut out pictures or words of newsworthy items they find. Tell them they are going to make a picture of something and then they are going to show it to others and tell a story about it.

Bible exploration: We all like to get good news, right?! Together share about some of the good news you've all received. Many times, unfortunately, the news we find in the newspaper or the tv isn't always good news. A lot of time its focused on war, or crime, or someone who's been hurt by someone else. But, Jesus is very clear that he wants us to share good news with people. The good news that Peter shared with the people on the day of Pentecost. The good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.

If you've been making a mural together, refer to it to remind them of the events they learned about previously. What happened to the disciples after Jesus' resurrection and after

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he went to be with the father? What were the disciples feeling as they waited. They were scared. They were vulnerable. They didn't know what to expect. But God's gift of the Holy Spirit came and empowered them to be brave and share the good news about Jesus with others.

The story is found in Acts 2. Focus primarily on Acts 2:14-18, 22-24, 32-33, 37-42. As much as you can, tell the story in your own words. Tell the story about when Peter received the power of the Holy Spirit and he began to teach people in Jerusalem about Jesus. Imagine how brave he was. It was a big city and there were many people visiting because of an important holiday. Imagine, this is the same Peter who denied Jesus, after Jesus was arrested, and now he's talking in public about Jesus to a bunch of different people. He told the people:

- Jesus died on the cross (show an illustration)
- Jesus rose again on the 3rd day (show an illustration)
- That the people could receive forgiveness for their sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit, just like Jesus' disciples (show an illustration)

Many people who heard Peter accepted his message; the good news that he shared with them and they decided to follow Jesus. The Bible tells us that over 3000 people accepted the message and were baptized this same day. I wonder what it would have been like to see so many people baptized.

It is a privilege to share the good news about Jesus with other people. We can tell

Crafts: There are different options for crafts that the children can do. It will remind them of the privilege that they have of sharing about Jesus with their friends and family. You will find the different options on the following pages. As you finish up the class, also allow them to name someone that they would like to share about Jesus with.

Bible Verse: Using actions, teach them the Bible verse for the day.

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).

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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.



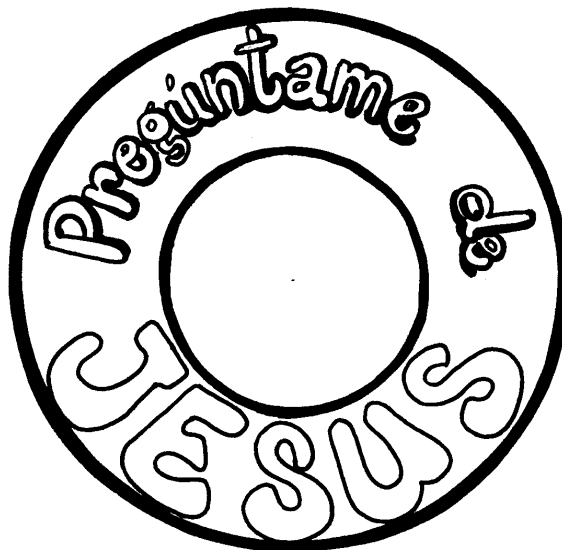
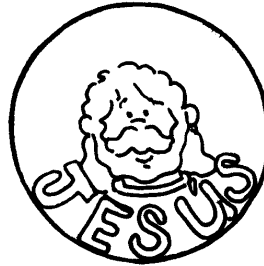
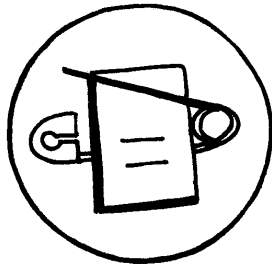
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CRAFT

BUTTON: ASK ME ABOUT JESUS

Materials: circles cut out of poster board, crayons, Glue/tape, Illustration of Jesus' face stapler

- Instructions:
1. Make copies of the circle below and cut out one circle for each child. .
 2. On the back part of the circle, attach a safety pin (using tape or a stapler).
 3. Then color and cut out the illustration of Jesus and glue it on the circle.
 4. Provide other materials to decorate the button with and help them write the words, "Ask me about Jesus."



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Craft 2

GOOD NEWS

Materials: Letter-sized pieces of blank paper
crayons
model of a megaphone
scissors
Scotch tape

Instructions: 1. Make sure each child gets a piece of paper.
2. On one portion of the paper (towards one of the ends) have the write the words, "Good news!" They can decorate it with crayons or stickers.
3. Then help them roll over the edge so that it forms a megaphone. Help them to tape it together, with the words "Good news" showing.

