

Acts of Charity - Tabitha

References:

Acts 9:36-41.

Notes for Servants

- ★ Service is the pure love that fills the heart of a person that loves the Lord and lives with Him and tastes His sweet love.
- ★ How happy is the faithful when he feeds a hungry soul, with a spiritual food and leads it to the living spring.
- ★ Whoever drinks of this water will not be thirsty again. How happy is the faithful when he offers his robe to a person who needs clothes, not a robe to cover his naked body, but a robe of righteousness of which he has been stripped because of sin.

Objectives

General: Helping the poor and the needy.

Specific:

The children will be able to ...

- A. Know the difference between the poor and the needy.
- B. Understand that God has purpose for having the poor in the world, and God will reward them in heaven for all the bad time they had on earth.
- C. Learn that by helping others we gain more rewards in heaven.

Bible Verse

“By love serve one another.”

(Galatians 5:13)

Teaching Aids

Clothes, shirts, robes, as symbols of the things made by Tabitha

Instruction

- (1) Review last week's lesson.
- (2) Who remembers the verse?
- (3) Remind the children about the church occasions for the coming week.
- (4) Concentrate on St. Peter's prayers and their power in bringing Tabitha back to life.
- (5) Servant may start by asking the following: If a needy person asks you for something, what would you give him? The disciples had no gold or silver; what did they give?
- (6) Teacher should prepare the appropriate questions to emphasize the objectives during the lesson.

Story Time

Now there was at Joppa a young girl named Tabitha, which means Dorcas "a deer". She was full of good works and deeds of charity. She spent all her time doing good and helping the poor. She was constant in prayer. She loved Christ with all her heart. She always praised the Lord saying, "O Lord we are all happy..." Tabitha thought of giving something to the poor but she had nothing to give. She could sew clothes. She served the widows who had nobody to help and support them. She made them tunics and other garments. She was very happy and the Lord rewarded her because the Lord does not overlook the labour of love.

1. Where was Tabitha from?
2. What does her name mean?
3. What did she do for the sake of the widows?
4. Who can say the verse?

In those days, Tabitha fell ill and died, and when they had washed her, they laid her in an upper room. The disciples sent for St. Peter who came to the upper room without delay. The widows were weeping bitterly and wanted Tabitha to come back to life. St. Peter prayed, and Tabitha came back to life. They were all happy. The Lord never overlooks the labour of love.

1. What did St. Peter do when he went up to the upper room?
2. What happened after the prayer?
3. With whose power did Tabitha come to life?
4. Who can say the verse?

Discussion

- 1 - Follow up the story by talking about it with the children.
- 2 - Continue the discussion while they do the activity.

Learning Activities

Activity Sheet.