

Lesson No. (48)

The Icons In The Church

References

Genesis 8:21, Psalm 141:2, Jeremiah 44:21, Revelation 5:8 & 8:3.

Notes for Servants

- ★ If we want our children to respect the church and learn how to behave in it, we must set ourselves as a model for them by coming early to the services, bowing before the sanctuary, praying before the saints' icons ... etc.
- ★ Also we should stand for the prayers in the proper way, and not to leave the church during the service.

Objectives

General: The importance of the Icons, candles and incense in our church.

Specific:

The children will be able to

- A. know the censer and why Abouna is using it.
- B. know the use of the Icons in our church.
- C. know the use of the candles.

Bible Verse

" Let my prayer be set forth before Thee as incense. "

(Psalm 141:2)

Teaching Aids

1. Some Icons.
 2. Censer, incense, coal.
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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) Servant should train the children on the church system and the meaning of everything we have in the church, that they may feel joy coming to the church and know the value of being in it.
- (5) Servant should train the children on how to enter the church quietly, how to bow before the Alter, how to kiss the Icons and how to get back to their places quietly with the complete respect

for the house of God.

(6) Servant should encourage the children to prepare a prayer corner in their rooms at home.

(7) Teacher should prepare the appropriate questions to emphasize the objectives during the lesson.

Lesson Application

+ The Icons in the church make us imagine the look of the saints and to remind us about them, their lives, their good deeds, and their end that we may follow their steps to join them in the Kingdom of God.

+ Censer is a symbol of Saint Mary who carried God the Son (Christ) in her womb.

+ Incense is one of the favourite things for God, and our faithful prayers is like a sweet smell of incense before him.

+ Candles is a way of honouring the saints and reminding us that they were the light of the world in their times.

+ Candles is also expressing how those saints sacrifice their life like burning candle to light for us and keep the faith.

+ There is a special prayer to consecrate the Icons and the other tools used in the church, this prayer is held by the Pope or by a bishop who will anoint the Icon with the Holy Oil (Miron). After the prayer is completed the Icon becomes holy like any part in the church which should be honoured and respected.

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.