

Lesson No. (9)

Tobias and the Angel

References

The Book of Tobit.
Tobias and the Angel, St. Mark Church of Washington, D.C.

Notes for Servants

- ★ God gave gifts the angels desire to see.
- ★ The Lord found His pleasure in mankind, but do we feel this love? Do we feel that our pleasure in Jesus Christ as it is written, "O taste and see that the Lord is good." Psalm 34:8.

Objectives

General: God's love and His care for us.

Specific:

- The children will be able to ...
- A. Learn that God sends His angels to help and comfort us.
 - B. Know that the angels around us protect and guard us.
 - C. Feel save at all times.

Bible Verse

“For Mine angel shall go before thee.”

Exodus 23:23

Teaching Aids

Wings for child to act like angel.

Introduction

- (1) Review last week's lesson.
- (2) Who remembers the verse?
- (3) Remind the children about the church occasions for the coming week.

Story Time

Tobit was a good man. He love God and obeyed his commandments and he used to give to the poor. Tobit had one child whose name was Tobias, he taught his son to obey God and to pray every day.

One day Tobit lost his eyesight and could not see anything around him, he lost his job and did not have any money to buy food or clothing. Tobit prayed to God to send food and clothing for his family. After the prayer he remembered that one day he had lent some money to a friend who lived in a far away city called "Media." Tobit knelt down praying to God: "O Lord, You know that I can't go because I'm blind. My son Tobias is still too young to travel that far. What am I going to do then? Please God, let me know what to do. Please send someone to accompany Tobias my son on his journey, to guard him against the dangers of the road."

Tobit sat thinking how Tobias could travel all that long way. At that time, there were no cars, no trains and no aeroplanes. People had to travel on animals or go on foot, along roads full of danger. God listened to his prayers and sent him "someone" to be a companion to his son Tobias, and "this person" stood waiting for Tobias outside their house.

Tobit asked his son if he was ready to go and bring the money. Tobias replied, "Yes Dad, I'm ready to do anything you want me to. I love you Dad." Tobias went outside the house, he found a man that has a bright face like an angel. Tobias was very glad when he knew that the man was going his way and the two started off. Tobias liked that man so much because he told him many interesting stories. He gave Tobias information about the villages and towns they were passing by on their way.

When evening came they chanted and praised the Lord. Then, Tobias saw a river from afar, and he ran toward it. He liked water and enjoyed watching the little waves. After a while Tobias saw a very big fish with a large head opening its mouth and making its way toward him. He thought the fish would attack him. Tobias was scared and started to run away but the good companion said, "Don't be scared Tobias. Hold out your hand and catch that fish." Tobias was encouraged and stretched his hand to pull out the fish. How amazing! The fish at once shut its mouth and let Tobias get a hold of it. Tobias looked at his good companion in great astonishment and said, "How did this happen?" Tobias began to realize that his companion was not an ordinary person but an angel from heaven. Tobias was very pleased and they cooked the fish and had a delicious meal. Tobias kept the gall of the fish in a small bag because the angel said, "Take the gall of the fish and keep it. It's going to be of great use." They kept on walking until they reached the city of Media.

They met Agabilos who rejoiced on seeing Tobias. Agabilos was sorry to hear what happened to Tobit and gave Tobias a lot of money before he left him to go back to his father. The journey back home was as interesting as that to Media. The angel told Tobias many stories about saints and about God's love. Tobias liked the angel very much and enjoyed his company. He wished the angel could stay with him forever telling him those nice stories, chanting beautiful songs and played together. The angel said to Tobias, "When we reach home, take the gall of the fish out of your case and rub it well on your father's eyes. His eyesight will soon be restored." Tobias was extremely excited at the thought of his father's healing. He quickened his pace because he wanted to reach his father as soon as possible. At last they reached home and Tobias knocked at the door saying, "This is Tobias. Open the door for me." When his parents heard his voice they opened the door and took Tobias into their arms. Very quickly Tobias took out the gall of the fish and rubbed it into his father's eyes. A few moments passed and Tobit began to see

things around him. He could once more see the beautiful trees, the colourful birds, the moon and stars. They all greatly rejoiced for Tobias had returned home after his long absence, and with him came a lot of silver and his father's eyesight. Everybody glorified God who loves all His children and cares for them in their need and their illness, and wherever they go. Tobit said to the good companion, "You must have your share of this silver which Tobias brought back. You shared my son the trouble of the journey and helped to bring my eyesight to me." The angel said, "I do not need silver or gold. I am Raphael, God's angel. When God heard your prayer Tobit, He sent me to accompany Tobias on his way and to bring back your lost sight. Do not thank me, but glory be to God who sent me." Then the angel rose up and disappeared into the clouds. Tobias lived all his life with that sweet memory of the angel's company. Tobias used to chant those hymns he learned from the angel, and felt that the angel was always beside him, and guarding him at night. God who loves all children sends an angel to every child to be his/her good companion. Yes, right beside you there's an angel sent by our Lord, Jesus Christ, who loves all His children.

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.