

Lesson No. (42)

Going To Church

The Ethics of Attending the Church

References

1 Samuel 3:10, 1 Kings 8, Luke 2:46.

Notes for Servants

- ★ Beloved, we should learn the ethics of discussions in the church and in our meetings. There must be a difference between a servant of the Lord and other people.
- ★ We should remember that our children like to copy their servants, we hope that they may copy proper Christian behaviours.

Objectives

General: To make the child eager to come to the church.

Specific:

The children will be able to ...

A. Know that the church is the house of God.

B. Understand that once we are in the church, we should be quiet, we should not run, talk loud, etc.

B. Learn how to enter into and leave the church.

Bible Verse

" Let the little children come to me. "

Matthew 19:14

Teaching Aids

Picture of Samuel Praying.

Teacher should take the children to the church and train them how to enter the church, how to walk inside, etc.

Introduction

- (1) Review last week's lesson.
- (2) Remind the children about the church occasions for the coming week.
- (3) Teacher should prepare the appropriate questions to emphasize the objectives during the lesson.

Story Time

Tell a short story about Samuel and why God talked to him.

Eli the priest was old and almost blind. Samuel stayed with him and helped him in the Temple. Samuel was a very good boy and used to pray every night. One night, when Samuel was sleeping, he woke up. He heard someone calling him. Samuel ran to Eli and said, did you call me?

Eli said, "Go to bed. I did not call you." So, Samuel went back to bed. Then, he heard someone call him again, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Samuel got up and went to Eli. He said, did you call me?

Again Eli told him, "Go to bed. I did not call you." Samuel went back to bed again. Then, he heard someone call him a third time.

Samuel got up and said, "Here I am, did you called me?"

Now Eli understood that God was calling Samuel. Eli told Samuel, "If you hear your name again, say, 'Speak, Lord, I am listening.'"

Samuel went back to bed. He heard God call, "Samuel! Samuel!" Samuel answered, "Speak, Lord, I am listening." Then, God start to talk to Samuel because he was very good boy.

Servant, take the children into the church and show the children how to:

1. Enter the church and make the sign of the Cross.
2. Bow before the Altar, take off their shoes before entering the Altar, how to enter the Altar and how to behave inside it (the Altar is a holy place where we are not allowed to talk with each other.)
3. Kiss the Icons for their blessing.
4. Put a donation cheerfully and quietly without anyone knowing.
5. Stand in order quietly when Abouna gives us the blessing of the water.
6. Behaviour in feasts and weddings.
7. Emphasize that children should avoid ...
 - a) Going in/out of the church too much.
 - b) Talking/playing with other kids inside the church.
 - c) Eating inside the church (cookies, gum, candy, etc.)
 - d) Going back and fourth between their parents during the mass.

Discussion

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

Learning Activities

Colouring Page.