



Sunday School Lessons

Short lessons for Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church

Sunday school students

EOTC Mahibere Kidusan USA Center

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Preface

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it. ”

Proverbs 22:15

This booklet is an initial release of lessons for Sunday Schools by the US sub center of Mahebere Kidusan. There are 44 lessons in this booklet. It is intended for KG students, but may be used for upper level grade students.

The lessons are compiled from the Old Testament, the New Testament, and teachings of the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church in no particular order or sequence. Some lessons are more appropriate for certain church calendars. Since this edition is not outlined according to the annual calendar of the church, the teacher may select appropriate lessons for certain occasions and church calendars i.e. Nativity, Easter or etc.

Some of the lessons have specified teaching aids, but most do not. It would generally be helpful to have a flip chart or a big size picture that illustrates the day’ s teaching.

Coloring is primarily the choice of activity for most of the lessons, but the teacher may add any applicable activity. Coloring pictures are not provided with this booklet, but the following websites can be helpful resources to obtain lesson related pictures:

<http://st-takla.org/Gallery/Kids/Coloring/Christian.html>

<http://www.coloring-page.com/bible.html>

<http://www.coloring.ws/christian.htm>

Coloring pictures may also be made available on Mahebere Kidusan’ s website of the US sub center at www.mahiberekidusan.org.

This booklet is the first of subsequent editions that will be more customized to certain ages and grade levels. We hope that teachers and students will find the lessons in this booklet helpful.

Glory to God the Almighty !

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 1

The Creator Spoke to Abraham

“The Lord said to Abraham, ‘Get out of your country... to a land that I will show you... I will bless you and make your name great.’” Gen 12:1-2

Lesson Objectives:

1. To let children know that Egzi-abher is the creator
2. To let them know that Egzi-abher is there for those who seek Him

References

- Commentary on the book of Genesis 11:28 – 32; Genesis 12

Introduction

Introduce your name to the children; and ask each child to do the same. Then, teach the following lesson, by taking them outside if possible.

- Today, we shall learn about who created us and everything around us.
- What do you see around you? (People, houses, trees, animals ...)
- What do you see when you look down? (The earth, soil, stones, grass...)
- What do you see when you look up? (The sky, the Sun, the Moon, the stars...)
- Now, look at yourselves. What do you see on yourselves? What do you have? (Hands, stomach, legs ...)
- Who created all these? Do you know? (They may say “God!”) Have you ever seen this creator [called “God”]? Have you ever talked to Him? Where is He?

The Lesson

- Long time ago, there was a man called Abraham. Abraham always wonder about who the creator was.
- One day, Abraham saw a big mountain. He said, “May be, this mountain is the creator!” But, he saw another mountain which is bigger; and even another one which is bigger than the two. So, he said, “Oh no! Mountain is not the creator. The creator should be greater than everything!” So, he left the mountains and went to search for the true creator.
- Then, he saw a powerful wind trembling the sea, and he said, “May be, this wind is the creator!” But, he saw the wind getting blocked by a mountain. So, he said, “Oh no! Wind is not the creator. The creator must not be blocked by anything.” So, he left wind and kept on searching for the true creator.
- As he was traveling, he saw a river flowing. He said, “May be, this river is the creator!” But, he saw that the water of the river was sometimes full; and, other times, half full. So, he said, “Oh no! River is not the creator! The creator should always be full and mighty.” So, he left the river and kept on searching for the true creator.
- Then, Abraham saw a powerful fire burning woods. So, he said, “May be, this fire is the creator!” But, he saw the fire being put off by water. So, he said, “...Oh no! Fire is not God! God should not be beaten by water!”

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- Finally, Abraham looked up to the sky and saw the Sun. And, he said “I have completed my search! The sun is the creator! It gives light to the whole world” But, he saw the Sun setting at night. So, he said, “Oh no! The Sun is not the creator. The true creator should be there at night too.”
- Therefore, Abraham knew that there is a creator that created the Sun itself. But, he could not figure out where the creator was. So, he looked up to the sky and said, “The creator of the Sun, please speak to me!” Suddenly, he heard a voice calling him from above “Abraham! Abraham!” ***Whose voice do you think that was? (The creator/Egzi-abher)***
- Abraham was very happy because the true Creator talked to him. He asked the Creator what His name was, and the Creator said “I am Egzi-abher! I created everything in this world!”
- From that day onwards, the Lord God (Egziabher) always talked to Abraham.

Activity

- Let the children color pictures of the sun, wind, mountain, and river in their picture books.

Conclusion

- What did you learn from Abraham’s story? Egzi-abher is the creator of everything. Egzi-abher becomes glad when we want to talk to Him. He also talks to us. So, we should always pray to Him and call His name. He also listens to us very well; so, we can ask Him whatever we want.

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Lesson 2 Creation

“I have made the earth, and created man upon it; I, even my hands stretched out the heavens” Isaiah 45:12

Lesson Objectives

1. To let children know how Egzi-abher created the world

References

- Genesis 1:1-25

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
- Who is the creator of all of us that talked to Abraham?

Today, we shall see how Egzi-abher created the world and everything in it.

- What creations do you see on the sky? (The sun, the moon, the stars)
- Name some of the animals you see on earth. (Sheep, goat, lion, cat, mouse, etc.)
- Now, tell me some of the plants you know. (Trees, flowers, grass, etc)
- Who created all of these?
- Very good! Now let us see how Egzi-abher created them.

The Lesson

- In the beginning, Egzi-abher created the Heavens and the earth. The earth was empty and there was nothing on it. There were no houses, no trees, no animals, no birds, no Moon, no Sun, and no stars. There was no one and it was dark, just like this: *(Turn the light off and tell children to close their eyes and be quiet for a moment).*
- Then, Egzi-abher said, “Let there be light,” and there was light (Turn the light on and tell the children to open their eyes). Egzi-abher saw that the light was very good.
- There was a lot of water on earth. Egzi-abher put all the water in one place and called it “sea”. He called the dry ground “land”.
 - *What was the water called? (Sea)*
 - *What was the dry ground called? (Land)*
- Then, Egzi-abher created all the plants. He created trees, flowers, grapes, oranges, banana, papaya, mangoes, palm, grass, cedar tree, corns, wheat, and all other plants. They grew and all were good.
- Then, Egzi-abher created the sun to shine during the day. He created the moon and the stars to shine during the night. They all looked very good.
 - *What did Egzi-abher create to shine during the day? (The sun)*
 - *What did He create to shine during the night? (The moon and the stars)*
- Next Egzi-abher created different types of animals, such as: fish, birds, sharks, sheep, oxen, cow, goat, cat, dog, and so on.
- Egzi-abher saw all the living things He created. The sheep were bleating “baaaa...!” and the cats were “meaow...! meaow!” and the mouse were “eek! eek!” They were all playing together happily. They never quarreled. Egzi-abher was happy with all of them.

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Activity

- Let the children color the shapes of animals and the Sun and the Moon in their picture books.
- The children can also play some more by mimicking the sound of the animals. While they are playing, let the teacher tell them that the animals are created by God and that they all love Him.

Conclusion

- It is Egzi-abher that created us, animals and plants. Egzi-abher is the beginning of everything. He can do anything. Since He is the creator of the entire world, He is very rich. Everything belongs to Him. There is no one as rich as God.

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Lesson 3 Man - The Greatest Creation

“God said, let us create man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth.” Gen. 1:26

Lesson Objectives

2. To teach children how Egzi-abher created man
3. To help them understand that Egzi-abher loves human beings more than other creations

References: Genesis 2:7-9

Introduction

- Last time, we learned how Egzi-abher created the heavens, the earth, the sea, the sun, the moon, animals, and plants. The last creature created after all these was the greatest of all. Who do you think is that creature? *Man!!*

The Lesson

- After Egzi-abher created all the creatures, He said, “Let us create man in our own image.” Then, He took dust of the ground from and shaped it a man. The man’s head, eyes, nose, mouth, hands, legs, and all other body parts were shaped out of dust from the ground gorgeously.
- Then, Egzi-abher breathed a breath of life through the nostrils of the man. The man moved his hands and legs. His eyes began to see. He was so handsome. Therefore, Egzi-abher called him “Adam”. “Adam” means handsome. *What does “Adam” mean?*
- Then, Egzi-abher took Adam to the fruits and said to him, “You can eat whatever you want!” The orange, the banana, the papaya, the avocado ...all of them smelled so good! Adam was very happy!
- Egzi-abher also brought all the animals to Adam and asked him to name each of them. The animals came to Adam one by one and greeted him. Adam knew the language of the animals. He talked to them. He also named each of them. The cat said, “My name is cat! Meaow! Meaow!” The dog said, “My name is dog! Woof! Woof!” The cow said, “My name is cow! Emboaa! Emboaa!” The animals were all happy!
- Egzi-abher said to Adam, “All these are yours! You are the master of every creature”; and He gave him everything. He always prayed to Egzi-abher to thanking Him for all His kindness and amazing gift.

Activity

- Let the children color the shape of a man- “Adam” on their picture book.

Conclusion

- You see? Egzi-abher created everything for Adam. Egzi-abher created all the things on the earth for us. Egziabher loves us more than any other creation on earth.
- Let us sing for Egzi-abher:
Enamesginew (2) Egzi-abhern (2)
Misgun newu yetemesegene (4)

Lesson 4

A Helper for Adam

*“This is now my bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh;
she shall be called a woman, because she was taken out of Man.” Gen 2:23*

Lesson Objectives

1. To let children know that Egzi-abher knows what we need and provides for us
2. To let them understand that the people in our family, and our friends are gifts from Egzi-abher

References: Genesis 2:20-23

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson: *When asking review questions, give time for the children to remember the answers. Give hints if necessary. If they don't remember, answer it and proceed. If available, use the previous lessons' illustration pictures.*
 - What is the name of the first man?
 - What does “Adam” mean?
 - What did Egzi-abher make Adam from?
 - What did Egzi-abher say to Adam when He brought the animals to him? (Name them, be their master)
- Today we shall see how Egzi-abher gave Adam a friend.

The Lesson

- When Egzi-abher brought animals to Adam, all of them were in a pair: a buck and a doe, a lion and a lioness, a ram and an ewe, a cock and a hen, and so on. Egzi-abher saw that Adam was lonely, so He planned to create a friend for Adam. *What did Egzi-abher plan to create for Adam?*
- Egzi-abher put him Adam into a deep sleep. Then, He took a bone from his right rib. But Adam did not feel any pain because he was in a deep sleep.
- Egzi-abher made a beautiful woman out of the bone He took from Adam's right rib and brought her to Adma. *What was Adam's friend made from?*
- Adam was very happy when he saw the woman. He named her “Hewan (Eve)”. “Hewan” means “mother of all”. *What does “Hewan” mean?*
- Adam and Hewan started living together praising the Lord.

Activity

- Let the children color the pictures of male and female animals, (Lion, ox, and sheep) and a man and a woman.
- Ask each children to list their family members, and their friends at school & at church

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Conclusion

- Egzi-abher knows what we need. Adam was lonely, but, Egzi-abher knew Adam's feeling and made Hewan for him.
- Egzi-abher has given us a mother, a father, brothers, sisters, friends, and neighbors so that we won't be lonely. So, we should thank Egzi-abher for giving us all these people, and we should love them.

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Lesson 5 Egzi'abher Saved Noah and His Family Part I

*“Come into the ark, you and your household,
because I have seen that you are righteous before me in this Generation.” Genesis 7:1*

Lesson Objectives

1. To help children understand that Egzi-abher saves those who obey Him
2. To help children learn the association between the Ethiopian flag with Egzi-abher and the rainbow

Teaching Aids

- A small Ethiopian flag or a flag printed on paper to be hung on the wall all the time, if possible

References :Genesis 6, 7, 8: 1-17 (Commentary)

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - Whom did Egzi-abher create for Adam?
 - What was Hewan made from?
- What does Egzi-abher want us to do for Him? To be good children, to respect our families and friends, to pray to Him and praise Him every day.
- What does Egzi-abher do for us if we obey Him? He protects us and keeps us safe.
- Today, we are going to learn about a man named Noah and how God saved him and his family.

The Lesson

- Adam and Hewan begot many children. They had children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and so on. Among them was a good man called Noah. Noah had a wife and children. His family loved Egzi-abher. They always prayed to Egzi-abher.
- But, Noah's neighbors and other people in his town were very bad people. They curse, they beat other people, they don't respect their mothers and fathers, they don't love Egzi-abher, they don't pray, and they don't sing to Egzi-abher.
- Egzi-abher was very sorry because of them. So, He told Noah to tell the people to obey Egzi-abher and ask for forgiveness. *What did Egzi-abher want the people to do?*
- Noah went to the people soon and said to them, "Please, apologize to Egzi-abher. Don't do bad things! Otherwise, you will be destroyed with flood." But, the people said to Noah, "No! We don't listen to you! We don't apologize to Egzi-abher!" So, Egzi-abher said to Noah, "Build a big boat for you and your family". So, Noah started building a big boat.
- The bad people laughed at Noah when they saw him building a boat. They said, "Hey! You build a boat thinking that a flood will come. Where is the flood?" Noah said to them, "Please apologize to Egzi-abher and stop doing bad things." But, they refused to listen to Noah.
- Noah finished building the boat.. The boat was like a big house it was big and it is called the Ark of Noah. Egzi-abher told Noah to take a pair from each kind of animals into the boat. Egzi-abher also told Noah to take his family. Noah took all he was told to take into the boat and closed the door.

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- After that, a heavy rain started to fall. A heavy water also broke out of the ground. All the earth was covered with water. The people and the animals that were out of Noah's boat drowned. Only Noah and his family were safe because they were in the boat.

Activity

- Let them color Noah's boat with similar pairs of animals going into the boat (Ark)

Conclusion

- We must respect and love our parents, elders and priests who teach us the word of God. We should always do what pleases the Egziabher.
- Besides, Egziabher wants us to apologize when we do something bad. For example, if we do something that our upsets our Mom and Dad, or our sisters and brothers, or our friends, we should apologize. Is there anyone among you who quarreled with their friends or took their belonging? If yes, stand up now and say "sorry" to them. Egziabher will be very happy when we apologize for the wrongs we did to others.

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Lesson 6 Egzi'abher Saved Noah and His Family Part II

"I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for the sign of the covenant between Me and the earth."
Genesis 9:13

Lesson Objectives

3. To help children understand that Egzi-abher saves those who obey Him
4. To help children learn the association between the Ethiopian flag with Egzi-abher and the rainbow

References:

- Genesis 6, 7, 8: 1-17 (Commentary); Aleqa Ayalew Tamiru (1953). Ethiopia's Religion under the Three Laws. Pg 233-235.

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - What kind of person was Noah? *He was obedient and loved Egzi-abher.*
 - Were Noah's neighbors obedient to Egzi-abher?
 - What did Egzi-abher tell Noah to say to his neighbors and the people in his town?
 - What did Egzi-abher tell Noah to build?
 - Who got in the boat (Ark) that Noah built?
- Today, we are going to finish the story about Noah, and how Egzi-abher saved his family.
- We are also going to learn about a promise (a Covenant) Egzi-abher made to Noah.

The Lesson

- Several days after Noah, and his family went into the boat (the Ark), the water started to go down. Noah and his children opened the boat. It was ***EnquTaTash*** - Ethiopian New Year! When all the water dried up, Noah and his family came out of the boat.
- Egzi-abher promised Noah never to destroy the earth with flood again. He said, "I will put a rainbow on the sky as a symbol to my promise." Egzi-abher told Noah that He would put a rainbow in the sky as a sign of their promise. Noah was pleased when he heard the promise. Since then, the rainbow started to appear on the sky when it rains.
- The rainbow had three bright colors: green, yellow and red. This is a big symbol for us- Ethiopians. (*Show them a small flag.*) Whenever we see this green-yellow-red symbol, we remember Egzi-abher and his promise to our forefather, Noah. That is His gift; so we respect and love it. We also put it in our house. *What are the three bold colors in a rainbow? Who gave us this symbol?*

Activity (12 minutes)

- Let them color Noah's boat on the water, a rain-bow, and the Ethiopian flag on their picture book.

Conclusion

- We must respect and love our green-yellow-red flag because it is the color of the rainbow that we received from God as a sign of His love and His promise.

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Lesson 7 **The Angels and the Devil**

*“And there was war in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon
And the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not.” Revelation 12:7-8*

Lesson Objectives

- To let children know the existence and the nature of angels
- To let them know the symbol of the angels
- To help them distinguish between darkness and light (angels and devil)

Reference: Genesis 1 – Commentary

Teaching

- A cross wall plaque to be hung on the wall (If a wall plaque is not available, the teacher can prepare a picture print under which the word “Mesqel/cross” is printed)

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - Why did Noah build an Ark (a big boat)?
 - Who was saved in the Ark?
 - What did Egzi-abher promise Noah after He came out of the Ark? What was the sign He gave him?
- Today, we are going to learn about angels.
- Can you name some of the creatures we learned about previously? ... Yes Egzi-abher created all these and others, creatures on earth, in the sea and oceans, creatures that fly... All these Egzi-abher created. All these are creatures on earth. God also created other beings in heaven on the first day of creation. Today, we are going to learn about these creatures.

The Lesson

- On the first day, Egzi-abher created the heaven and the earth. On the same day, He created countless number of angels.
- After creating the angels, Egzi-abher said to Himself, “Do they know that I am their creator? Let me hide and see if they know!” So, He hid Himself. The angels looked at each other and said, “Who created us?” They were very confused. One of the angels – Satna-El - was looked around and saw that he looked more powerful than the rest. But He looked like them. They were all powerful and had six wings. But he said to them, “I am the one who created all of you”. *What did Satna-El say to the angels?*
- But, he was lying. Some of the angels thought he was telling the truth, and said, “Yes! He is our creator!” Others shouted “No! He is lying! He is not our creator!” They couldn’t agree and they were arguing with each other.
- Then, one of the angels named Gabriel said with loud voice “Shhhhh...! Please, calm down. Our creator Himself will come to us. Let us just wait until He reveals Himself to us!” *What did the angel Gabriel say to the other angels?*
- After all the angels were quiet, Egzi-abher appeared to them. You see, Egzi-abher is pleased when we are humble and quite. He doesn’t come to us if we are nagging at each other, shouting or fighting!

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- When the angels saw Egzi-abher, they were very excited because He was so magnificent, so graceful, so shiny, and so powerful!
- Egzi-abher, then, threw Satna-El and his followers out of heaven because he is a liar! Satna-El was then named Seytan/Devil. *What did Egzi-abher do to Satna-El? Why did He throw Satna-El out of the heavens?*
- But, for all the other angels, Egzi-abher gave them a cross. The angels loved Him very much and praised Him saying “Qidus! Qidus! Qidus!” (“Holy! Holy! Holy!”)
- So, the angels started living happily with Egzi-abher, praying to Him day and night.

Activity

- Let them color the pictures of the cross and of angels.

Conclusion

- We must love angels because they are good creatures. They love Egzi-abher, and they also love us.

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Lesson 8 **Egzi-abher in Abraham's Tent**

*“The Lord appeared to him (Abraham) by the terebinth trees of Mamre,
As he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day.” Genesis 18:1*

Lesson Objectives

1. To let children know that Egzi-abher loves kindness
2. To introduce them with the three names of Egziabher: *Ab, Weld & Menfes-Kidus*.

Reference: Genesis 18: 1-16 (Commentary)

Teaching

- An icon showing Trinity (to be permanently posted on the wall)

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson:-
 - Who did God Create on the first day in heaven?
 - What was the name of the liar that was chased out of heaven by Egzi-abher?
 - Who was the clever angel that told all the angels wait until Egzi-abher reveals Himself?
- Today, we are going to learn about the kindness we should show when people come to our house. When our friends come to our place to visit us, we should accept them gladly. We should smile, and do good things for them. If we do so, Egziabher Himself will visit us.
- Do you remember Abraham? *Briefly revise the first lesson - “The Creator Spoke to Abraham.”* Abraham was very kind and Egzi-abher did an amazing thing for him. Let's see what He did for him.

The Lesson

- After Abraham found and talked to Egzi-abher, he became even a kinder person. He had a wife and her name was Sarah. Sarah, too, was very kind and she loved Egzi-abher. *What was her name?*
- Abraham and Sarah built a tent and started hosting travelers that pass by them. Many guests visited them. Whenever guests came, Abraham ran to them, gave them warm greeting, washed their feet, and welcomed them into his tent. His wife, Sarah, always prepared food and drink. They let their guests enjoy all the delicious plates until they were full.
- Egzi-abher saw that Abraham and Sarah were very kind. So, one day, He said “Why don't I, Myself, visit Abraham & Sarah?” *What did Egzi-abher say? Isn't that amazing?*
- So, Egzi-abher came from heaven; and appeared in front of Abraham as three elders. Those three elders were Ab, Weld, Menfes Qidus (the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit!!) *How did Egzi-abher appear to Abraham? Who are the three elders?*
- When Abraham saw the three elders, he was very happy! He went to them quickly and said “Oh! Lord! Please come in!” So, he washed their feet and took them into his tent.

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Activity

- Learn the following song:

Ne-amin be-Ab, wene-Amin be-Weld beWeld (2)

We-ne-Amin (4) we-ne-Amin be-Menfes Kidus

Meaning: *We believe in the Father, we believe in the Son, and we believe in the Holy Spirit.*

Conclusion:

- If we are kind just like Abraham and Sarah, the Father the Son and the Holy Spirit will very much pleased! We should happily welcome guests into our house.

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Lesson 9 **The Lord God (Egzi'abher) spoke Moses**

“Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.” Exodus 3:5

Lesson Objectives

1. To let them understand that Egzi-abher can be revealed in many forms
2. To teach them how they should enter the church

References: Exodus 3

Introduction (4 minutes)

- Review of the previous lesson –
 - What is the name of the couple who welcomed guests into their house?
 - Who came as three elders to Abraham & Sarah? What were the elder's names?
- Today, we shall learn about a man called Moses. He has spoken with Egzi-abher first on a place called the Mountain of Egziabher. It was a holy place. Let us see how Moses spoke to God for the first time.

The Lesson

- Moses lived in Ethiopia before He first met Egziabher. His teacher, Yotor (Jethro), was a blessed priest. He always taught Moses about Egzi-abher. *What does Yotor do?*
- Moses loved Egzi'aher very much and he learned about Him for many years. His teacher Yotor had lots of sheep. Moses used to tend Yotor's flock.
- One day, Moses took the flock to the field. The sheep were grazing and bleating, “baaaa..! baaaa..!” Suddenly, Moses saw something very interesting at the top of the mountain. You know what he saw? He saw a plant on fire; but, the plant was not burning. What happens to something when it is burnt? It becomes damaged and consumed, and changes into ash, right? But the plant Moses saw burning wasn't damaged at all. It was green though it was burning. Moses was amazed. He said “how come the plant burns, but doesn't get consumed?”
- Then Moses said “I must go up to the mountain and see this” So, He left the flock in the field and went up to the mountain alone. When Moses got closer, he heard a voice in the fire- calling him “Moses! Moses!” *Whose voice do you think was that?*
- Egzi-abher said to Moses “take off your shoes because the place you are standing on is holy!” Moses took his shoes off immediately. *What did Egzi-abher tell Moses to do? Why did Egzi-abher tell Moses to take his shoes off?*
- Moses was afraid to see Egzi-abher. But Egzi-abher was so kind that He made Moses not to be afraid. He also told Moses lots of interesting things. Moses was very happy because Egzi-abher talked to him.

Activity

- Let them color the fire and the plant on their picture book.

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Conclusion

- Moses grew up learning about God. When Yotor- the priest - taught him about Egzi-abher, Moses always listened very well. You should always learn about Egzi-abher like Moses.
- Also, when we come to church, we should take our shoes off like Moses. The church is a holy place because it is where we talk to Egzi-abher. We should also be careful not to take dirty and messy things inside. We should not be noisy and disturbing.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 10 The Ten Commandments

“I am the Lord your God.” Exodus 20:1

Lesson Objectives

- To introduce children briefly with the ten commandments

References: Exodus 19, 20

Teaching Aids

- A big poster of the Ten Commandments to be posted on the classroom at all times

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - Who taught Moses about Egzi-abher?
 - What did Moses see on a mountain while he was tending Yotor’s flock?
 - Whose voice did he hear from the fire?
- Today we are going to learn about “Tsilat” – a flat precious stone. On the Tsilat, Egzi-abher wrote very important commandments about what we should do and what we should not do. We are going to see how Moses received this holy item from the Lord – Egzi-abher.

The Lesson

- After Moses saw Egzi-aher, he loved Him even more. He talked with Egzi-abher many times.
- One day, Egzi-abher told Moses to come up to a mountain alone. Moses went up on the mountain. Then, Egzi-abher started speaking to Moses. The mountain was shaking when Egzi-abher talked. Egzi-abher’s voice was just like a thunder. There was a powerful lightening, tornado and smoke on top of the mountain. *What was there on the top of the mountain?*
- But, Moses was safe. He was excited and was listening to every word of Egzi-abher. Egzi-abher said to Moses: *(With loud and slow voice, say the Ten Commandments for the children. The simple version of the Ten Commandments can be read for them as follows.)*
 1. I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other God’s
 2. You shall not take the name of the Lord in vain.
 3. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
 4. Respect your mother and father.
 5. Do not kill.
 6. Do not commit adultery
 7. Do not steal.
 8. Do not give a false witness.
 9. Do not desire your neighbors hours, or any of His/ Her belongings.
 10. Love your friends.
- Egzi-abher wrote these commandments on the “Tsilat” and gave it to Moses to teach the people.

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Activity

- Let them color the two Tsilat on which the Ten Commandments are written and are put in the Ark. While they are coloring, go around and read some of the commandments for them.

Conclusion:

- We should always remember the commandments that are written on the Tsilat because they are God's commandments. We should keep the commandments everywhere.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 11 David and Goliath

"I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts." 1Samuel 17:45

Lesson Objectives

- To let children understand that we should trust in the power of God to do all things.

References: 1st Samuel 17

Introduction

- Review of the last lesson
 - What is the holy object Moses received from Egzi-abher?
 - What is written on them?
 - Tell me some of the Commandments?
- What does the second commandment say? It says: Do not take the name of the name of the Lord in vain. Egzi-abher wants us to respect His name. The name "Egzi-abher" is a very powerful name. We should love it very much! Egzi-abher is greater than all things! He is greater than us! He is greater than the Angels!
- There was a little boy named David who loved Egzi-abher very much. He also loved and respected the name of Egzi-abher. He does all things in the name of Egziabher! Let us see how Davit defeated his enemies in the name of Egzi-abher.

The Lesson

- Long time ago, there were many people who lived in the country called Israel. The people of Israel worshipped Egzi-abher; juts like us, Ethiopians. Whenever an enemy came to destroy them, they shouted to Egzi-abher. Egz-aher always saved them from their enemies.
- There was a man called Goliath. The people of Israel were very much afraid of him, because he was big and very... tall. He did not worshipped Egzi-abher, and believed that there was no one that can defeat him.
- One day, Goliath came to the people of Israel and said, "I will kill you, and your God can't save you from me!" He was so big and strong, he was relying on his physical strength.
- He challenged the Israelites to have someone fight with him. But he was so big and strong, the Israelites were scared of Him. But, there was a young boy, who was not afraid of Goliath, because he believed that Egzi-abher gives victory. The boy's name was David. *Who did David believe gives victory? What did Goliath rely on?*
- So David came forward and said He would fight Goliath. He went to a river, chose five stones and put them in his shepherd bag. He also got his sling. Do you know what sling is? *Describe a sling for them or show them one if possible.*
- David approached Goliath. When Goliath saw David, he laughed at him. He said "You came to kill me with a sling? Hey, I am a big guy! Ha...ha...ha!" But, David said to Goliath "I will defeat you in the name of Egzi-abher!" *What did David say to Goliath? (I will defeat you in the name of Egzi-abher!*
- Then, David slung the stone and the stone whizzed through the air... and struck the forehead of Goliath! Goliath fell face down on the ground!
- Goliath's soldiers ran away quickly because they were afraid of little David! The Israelites loved David because he saved them from Goliath. They clapped and ululated for him („elililili...") and called him

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“our hero!” They also praised Egzi-abher for giving David the power to defeat Goliath. *In whose name did David defeat Goliath?*

Activity

- Let them color the shapes of sling, river, and sword in their picture books.

Conclusion

- We should always rely on Egzi-abher. Whenever bad things bother us, we can beat them in the name of Egzi-abher. When we call His name, He will be with us. But, if we are arrogant like Goliath, Egzi-abher will not be with us. We should be polite and nice. We should not be mean to other kids.

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Lesson 12 Elijah Ascended into Heaven

“Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.” 2Kings 2:9

Lesson Objectives

1. To let children admire the omnipotence of Egzi-abher
2. To help them feel that it is possible to get blessings from Egzi-abher by adoring and following saints

References

- 1st Kings 17, 18, 19, 20
- 2nd Kings 2

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson –
 - What is the name of the little boy that killed the big arrogant guy called Goliath?
 - In whose name did David defeat Goliath?
 - Today, we shall learn how a wonderful man called Elijah ascended into heaven.
- How would you go if you want to be lifted up to the sky? (They may say by plane, in a balloon, on a hill, etc.) Do you know that Egzi-abher can take people into heavens? Today we are going to learn about a holy man named Elijah, whom God took to heaven. He didn't take him in a balloon or by plane. Let's see how Egzi-abher took Elijah into heaven.

The Lesson

- This man called Elijah loved and respected Egzi-abher very much. He always taught people to love and obey Egzi-abher. So, Egzi-abher loved Elijah very much.
- One day, Egzi-abher said to Elijah, “Go to a man called Elsa and teach him about Me. He will be a teacher to the people in your place because I am going to take you to heaven.” *What did Egzi-abher tell Elijah to do? What did Egzi-aher plan to do with Elijah?*
- So, Elijah went to Elsa and told him to follow him. As they were walking together, Elijah told Elsa lots of things about Egzi-abher. Elsa liked Elijah very much. So, he wanted to be like him.
- One day, Elijah said to Elsa, “Stay here. Egzi-abher has sent me somewhere. I should go alone.” But Elsa said “I want to go with you.” So, they went together. After they walked some more, Elijah said to Elsa again, “Egzi-abher has sent me somewhere. You stay here and I will go.” But, Elsa refused, “No! I don't want to leave you!”
- Finally, they reached near a river. Elijah said to Elsa again, “You stay here. Egzi-abher wants me to go to another place.” Elsa refused again, and said “No! I will go with you!” You see? Elsa liked Elijah very much because he was a holy man. He always wanted to be with him.
- Then, Elijah took his own cloth, rolled it up, and struck the river with it. The river divided to the right and to the left, and they walked on the dry ground in the middle. Isn't that amazing?
- After they crossed the river, it was time for Elijah to be taken. You know where Elijah is going to be taken to? It is to the heavens; to Egzi-abher! Isn't that lovely?
- So, Elijah said to Elsa, “Tell me what you want me to do for you before I am taken to heaven.” Elsa said, “I want two fold of your spirit to be on me.” *What did Elsa want?*
- Elijah was pleased by what Elsa asked for. He said to Elsa, “If you look at me while I am being taken from you, you will get what you asked for.” As they were walking together, a chariot and horses came

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down to take Elijah into heavens. They were all made from fire. Egzi-abher can make everything out of anything.

- Then, Elijah left his cloth to Elsa, sat on the fire chariot, and went up to heaven. Elsa then picked Elijah's cloth and returned along the same path he took with Elijah before. All people who saw Elsa said to each other, "Look! The spirit of Elijah has now rested on Elsa!" So, they loved and respected Elsa just like Elijah, and he started teaching them about Egzi-abher.

Activity

- Let them color the picture of chariot and horses.

Conclusion

- Today, we learned that we should love Egzi-abher just as Elijah did. We should also respect people who love Egzi-abher. We should love and respect Egzi-abher's servants such as Moses, Abraham, and Elijah because they are saints. If we do so, their spirit will rest upon us.

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Lesson 13 **The Angel Gabriel and the Virgin Mary**

“Rejoice, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women.” Luke 1:28

Lesson Objectives

- To let children know the good news St. Gabriel brought to Virgin Mary
- To help them feel that the holiness of Virgin Mary is very unique

References: Luke 1:26-38 (Commentary)

Introduction

- Today, we shall learn about an amazing news the angel Gabriel told to the Virgin Mary.
- Do you know the Virgin Mary/Denegel Mariam? Who is She? (*Give them a chance to tell what they know about Mary.*) Do you remember the angel Gabriel? ...The clever angel that told the other angels to be quiet when they were quarreling?!
- In the following lesson, we will learn about what kind of good news the angel brought to the Virgin.

The Lesson

- Egzi-abher wanted to come and live with us because he loves us very much. So, He wanted to be human, just like us. He looked down from heavens and started looking for a woman who can be His mom. Finally, He found one young lady who is the most pure and holiest of all women. Her name is Mary (Mariam). *What is her name?*
- Mary was very kind and glorious than all other people in the world. She was always truthful, and kind to everyone. She loves all people. She also loves Egzi-abher and always prays to Him. Egzi-abher also loved her because she was pure and obedient to his commandments. So, Egzi-abher called the angel Gabriel, and said to him, “Go and tell Mary that I will be born of her.”
- The angel Gabriel descended from heavens to the Virgin Mary. Mary was sitting in the temple making curtains for the temple. The angel Gabriel came to Her and greeted her politely, “Hail Mary, full of grace! The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women!” *What did the angel Gabriel say to Mary?* (Let them repeat this phrase)
- The Virgin Mary thought “what kind of greeting is that?” The angel said to her, “Don’t be afraid Mary. You will give birth to a baby. He is the Son of Egzi-abher. You will call Him Jesus. He will be a king forever!”
- The Virgin Mary asked how could she give birth to a child without a father for the baby. The angel Gabriel said “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, the power of the most high will overshadow you. The holy One that will be born from you will be called the son of God (Egziabher)... Nothing is impossible with God” The Virgin Mary was very happy, and she said, “I am the servant of the Lord, let it be done unto me according to your word.” *What did the Virgin Mary say?*
- So, Egzi-abher quickly came down from heaven and dwelt in the Virgin’s womb as a little baby.

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Activity

- Teach them the following song:
Mahedere Melekot (2)
Mary Eme Bizuhan (4)
Meaning: The house of the divine, the mother of the true Light, is the Virgin Mary
- If they have time, let them color the pictures of the sky, curtain and temple on their picture book.

Conclusion

- We should love the Virgin Mary just like Egzi-abher loved Her. She is the mother of Egzi-abher. She is also our mother. So, we should call Her “Our Mother Mary.” Just as the angel Gabriel greeted Her, we should also give Her greetings, pray to Her and sing for Her.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 14 The Virgin Mary's Visit of Elizabeth

"Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Luke 1:42

Lesson Objectives

- To let children know the glory Yohannes/John and Elsabet/Elizabeth gave to Denegel Mary
- To let them understand that it is important to praise Virgin Mary

References: Luke 1:39-56

Teaching Aids

- An icon depicting the Holy Virgin with Her Beloved Son, a white sheet, and candle with its stand.

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson –
 - Whom did Egzi-abher choose to be His mother?
 - Who did Egzi-abher send to Mary?
 - What did Gabriel tell to Mary?
 - What is the name of the baby to be born?
 - Who is Jesus?
- Today, we will learn what happened when Mary went to visit her aunt. The name of Mary's aunt was called Elizabeth. In this lesson, we are going to see the manner in which Elizabeth greeted Virgin Mariam.

The Lesson

- After Mary conceived a child in her womb, she went to visit her aunt Elizabeth.
- Elizabeth was an old woman, but God blessed her and she was also with a child in her womb.
- Virgin Mary traveled a long way on foot and reached Elizabeth's house. She stood at the door and said – "Elizabeth!... Elizabeth! How are you?" When Elizabeth heard Mary's voice, she became very happy because she was filled with the Holy Spirit!!
- The child in Elizabeth's womb also heard Mary's voice and leaped with joy! Elizabeth said really loud, "O! Mother of my Lord! You came to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped with joy." Elizabeth ran to Mary and kissed her. *Why was Elizabeth happy? (Because she heard Mary's sound and she was filled with Holy Spirit) What did the baby in Elsabet's womb do? (He leaped with joy when he heard Mary's voice)*
- Then, Elizabeth said to Mary "You are blessed among women." Mary replied "I am glad because God wants to be born from me. I thank Him! From now on, all people will call me blessed!" *What did Mary say all people will call Her? She said all people will call me blessed.*

Activity

- Place the icon of the Holy Virgin with Her beloved Son in front of the children, and make them salute and kiss the icon.
- Using an icon in a frame, covering the top with a white sheet, and lighting candle, is good to help the children picture in their minds the respect that needs to be given to holy icons.

Conclusion: We should praise Virgin Mary /Virgin Mary/ just like the angel Gabriel and Elizabeth did.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 15 **The Lord is born!**

“There is born to you this day in the city of David, a Savior who is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11

Lesson Objectives

- Introduce the story of Nativity to the students

Reference:

- Mathew 2 (Commentary) ; Luke 2; Miracles of Jesus: 10th Miracle. Tensa’e Zeguba’e Printing Press; Addis Ababa: 1994.

Introduction

- Today, we shall learn about the greatest and the most incredible event that took place on this earth. That is the birth of Egzi-abher from Virgin Mary. Let us learn attentively how Egzi-abher was born from Mary.

The Lesson

- Virgin Mariam conceived a child as the angel Gabriel told her. She was in a place called Bethlehem with Joseph when it was time for her to have the baby. They could not find any place to stay in Bethlehem. The only place they could find was a manger – *Do you know what a manger is? It is a shelter for domestic animals like cows, ox and sheep.*
- On a peaceful cold evening, Mary gave birth to Jesus Christ, the Son of God, in the manger.
- Mary fed Him her breast milk. She wrapped Him in a piece of cloth & the cows and donkeys in the manger also warmed Him with their breath.
- The angels were singing in heaven. They were so happy because Egzi-abher was born. Many angels also came down to earth to sing. They sang, “Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth.” *Repeat the angels’ song.*
- That night, there were shepherds watching their flocks out in the field. One of the angels came to them and said, “Don’t be afraid; a Savior has been born to you. You will find Him in a manger.” The shepherds hurried to the manger to see the baby. They found Mary and the baby there; and they bowed down before them.

Activity

- Teach the students the following song
 Beza kulu Alem Yom Tewelde (2)
 Beza Kulu Alem Yom Tewelde (4)
 Meaning: *The Savior of the world has been born today.*
- Color the picture of a manger, cows, and donkeys in their picture books.

Conclusion

- How do you celebrate your birthday? How do your friends celebrate theirs.
- Jesus Christ is the King of the universe, creator of the world, but He was born in a manger.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 16 The Plight to Egypt

“Out of Egypt I called My Son.” Hosea 11:1

Lesson Objectives

- To teach the children the plight of the Virgin Mary & Jesus Christ, with Joseph, to Egypt and their visit to Ethiopia

Reference: Mathew 2 (Commentary); Miracles of Mary

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson -
 - Where did Mary give birth to Jesus?
 - Who told the shepherds to go to the manger and see the Lord?
 - What did the shepherds do when they reached the manger?
- Today, we shall learn how Mary fled to Egypt from a cruel king named Herod, and of her visit to Ethiopia with Jesus Christ.

The Lesson

- In Jerusalem, the country where Jesus was born, there was a cruel king called Herod. He was shocked when he heard of the birth of a King – Jesus Christ. He was jealous because people from far away came to Jerusalem to worship Jesus Christ. So, he wanted to kill baby Jesus.
- But, the angel Gabriel came to Joseph and said to him in his dreams, “Herod wants to kill the baby. So, take Jesus and His Mother and flee to Egypt immediately.” So, Joseph left for Egypt with Mary and Jesus. *What did Gabriel say to Joseph? What did Joseph do?*
- Mary first went to Egypt; and then She went to Ethiopia. Do you know where Egypt and Ethiopia are located? *Show them a simple world map and where Israel, Ethiopia, and Egypt are located.*
- So, our Mother Mary came to Ethiopia with Her Son Jesus Christ. She went to Tana Islands by boat.
- When Mary reached the island, the residents said to Her, “It is alright! You and your Son can stay here with us. The soldiers of Herod will not come here.” Mary felt happy and stayed there for a long time. Many Ethiopians came to the island to visit Her. They loved Her very much. Mary also loved the people of Ethiopia. So, She said “Ethiopians are my children.” She traveled across the country and blessed many places. *Where did Mary stay when She went to Ethiopia? What did Mary say about the Ethiopians?*
- Since that time, Ethiopians always remember Mary. They also sing for Her, “ነይ... ነይ ማርያም!” (“Come to us!”). Hence, She comes in spirit and blesses them.

Activity: Teach the students the following song:

Enze tehaqifiyo leHitsanki Virgin Virgin (2)

Ne-e (6) eme-Amlak ne-e Mary

Meaning: *O Virgin, mother of God, come to us with your child in your bosom.*

- Color the picture of the islands of Tana and a boat.

Conclusion

- Just as our mothers and fathers loved Virgin Mary, we should love her too. She said that Ethiopians are her children. If you always love her and sing to her, she comes to bless you.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 17 The Childhood of Jesus Christ

“The Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom.” Luke 2:40

Lesson Objectives

- To help children learn that they should obey their parents just like baby Jesus.
- To introduce them to the miracles of Jesus Christ

References

- Matthew 2:19-21; Luke 2: 40-52
- Miracles of Jesus: 17th Miracle. Tensa’e Zeguba’e Printing Press; Addis Ababa: 1994.

Teaching Aid

- A cup of water, a piece of cloth, and a vessel.

Introduction

- Review of the last session
 - What was the name of the cruel king that wanted to kill Jesus?
 - Where did Joseph go to with the Mother and the Son?
 - Where did Virgin Mary stay when she went to Ethiopia?
- Today, we shall learn about the childhood of Jesus Christ & some of His miracles.

The Lesson

- After the cruel king, Herod died, Joseph, Mary, and the baby Jesus went back to Jerusalem . Jesus was only four years old then. He had friends of His age. He played with them by shaping a dove out of mud. The dove-shaped muds got life and flew when He breathed on them. He can give life because He is Egzi-abher. The other kids tried to do what He did, but they couldn’t.
- Baby Jesus also used to do other amazing things. He used to bring firewood to His Mom for cooking. He used a piece of cloud to take the firewood home. Can you bring a piece of cloud down here and make it float? None of us can, right?
- On another day, Mary sent Him to the river to fetch water. On His way, His pot was broken. You know what He did? He poured the water on His cloth and brought it to her. *What did He bring the water with?*
- Jesus was only a seven year old boy then. Can you hold water in your cloth? We will see later what happens if you try.

Activity

- Color picture of a dove & wood on a cloud.
- Demonstrate what happens to water when you pour it on a piece of cloth.

Conclusion

- As Jesus Christ grew up obeying His mother, we have to obey our parents and elders. One of the Ten Commandments tells us to honor our mothers and fathers. We should keep that commandment so that Egzi-abher will be pleased.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 18 **Baptism of the Lord Jesus Christ**

“This is my beloved Son in Whom I am well pleased.” Matthew 3:17

Lesson Objectives

- To let the children know that Jesus was baptized in the hands of Yohanes
- To let the children understand that they were also baptized when they were 40 and 80 days old
- To help them remember/ask their baptism name

References : Mathew 3: 13-16

Teaching Aids

- A short clip or a picture that shows an infant being baptized
- A piece of paper for each child on which the questions “what is my baptism name?” “where was I baptized?” and “Am I the child of God?” are written

Introduction

- Review of the previous session-
 - What did Jesus use to do when He played with the other kids?
 - What things did He bring to Mary? How did He bring them?
- Today, we shall learn about the baptism of Jesus Christ by John the Baptist

The Lesson

- One day, our Lord Jesus came to John to be baptized in the Jordan River.
- Do you remember John? He was the babe in Elizabeth’s womb, who leaped with joy, when Elizabeth heard the sound of the Virgin Mary. He used to teach the people do good things and prepare for the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. He was known as John the Baptist, because he used to baptize the people.
- John the Baptist was surprised when Jesus came to him. He said to the Lord Jesus, “It is I who should be baptized by you” But Jesus insisted that John baptize him.
- So, John baptized the Lord Jesus in the Jordan River.
- When Jesus came out of the water, the Holy Spirit came upon Him in the form of a dove, and a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased.”
- Jesus was baptized to set an example for us. We become the children of God through baptism. Have you seen a child being baptized? We are also baptized in water by a priest, and we are given a new name – a baptismal name. Do you know your baptismal names?

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Activity

- Ask the children their baptismal name, and explain to them the meaning of their names. Make a habit of calling the students by their baptismal name during lessons
- Teach them the following song:
Hore Eyesus, hore Eyesus (2)
Engelila (3) habbe Yohannes (2)
Meaning: *Jesus went from Galilee, to John (to be baptized.)*

Conclusion

- Our Lord Jesus was baptized to set an example for us. Thus we are all baptized to become the children of God, for Jesus said, *“Unless you are baptized of water the Spirit, you will not enter the kingdom of God.”*

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 19 **The Disciples of Jesus Christ**

“He called His disciples to Himself and from them, He chose twelve of whom He also named apostles.”
Luke 6:13

Lesson Objectives

- To introduce the disciples to children
- To encourage the children to think about learning the word of God like the disciples

References: Luke 6: 13-16

Teaching Aids

- A picture of the twelve disciples

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson-
 - Who baptized the Lord Jesus Christ?
 - What happened when Jesus came out of the water?
- We shall learn the names of the 12 disciples the Lord Jesus chose to be His followers

The Lesson

- Right after our Lord Jesus was baptized, He went into a wilderness to fast and pray by himself.
- He fasted for 40 days and 40 nights. He only did not eat anything for 40 straight days. Isn't that amazing?
- When he finished His fasting, He started teaching the people how to obey the commandments of God, and how to become His children.
- He also chose twelve people to follow Him, and learn from Him, so that they can teach the people. The twelve He chose are called the Twelve Disciples or the Twelve Apostles. *What are they called?*
- They were: Andrew, Peter, John, James, Philip, Nathanael, another James Thadaeus, Matthew, another Simon, Thomas, and Judas of Iscariot.
- Judas of Iscariot was later replaced by Matthias, because He denied the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Our Lord Jesus said to them, “Come, follow me. I will teach you many things; and, you will also teach other people. But first you should be good students and listen to what I teach you very carefully, Okay?” They replied “Okay Master!” and followed Him.

Activity

- Let them color the picture of an apostle holding a cross and a Bible.
- Ask the children if anyone is named after a disciple.

Conclusion

- Just like the Twelve Apostles, we should learn what Jesus Christ taught. The apostles used to sit quiet and learn. They wrote the teachings of our Lord Jesus in the Holy Bible. Therefore we should read the Bible and learn from it. What we are learning in our Sunday school are these teachings that the Twelve Apostles passed on to us from our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 20 The First Miracle at Cana of Galilee

“This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory.” John 2:11

Lesson Objectives

- To let children admire the miracle of the Lord and realize His might
- To let children learn about the kindness of the Virgin Mary

References: John 2: 10-11

Teaching Aids Needed

- A picture of the service of Holy Matrimony

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson –
 - Who are the apostles Jesus chose to teach?
- Today we are going to learn about the first miracle our Lord Jesus did after His baptism. Jesus can do anything He wants; so, He does lots of miracles. The miracle He did in one small village is interesting. Do you know where He did the miracle? It was at a wedding party! Let us hear what He did at the wedding party.

The Lesson

- Once, our Lord Jesus, the Virgin Mary and the disciples were invited to a wedding, in a place called Cana of Galilee. *Where was the wedding?*
- There were many waiters who were giving food and drinks to guests. Do you know what kind of drink they used to serve for the guests at the wedding? It was wine.
- Suddenly, in the middle of the party, all the wine was gone. The waiters and the bridegroom were very worried.
- But the Virgin Mary saw that they were worried and She wanted to help them. You see? The Virgin Mary always wants to help those in need. She always wants to help people because she is very kind. So, she said to her Son, the Lord Jesus “My Son, they have no more wine”.
- She knew that her Son, our Lord Jesus could solve their problem. So, she called the waiters and said to them, “Do whatever He tells you to do”. The waiters asked Jesus, “What shall we do?” and He said to them, “Fill the jars with water.”
- They did as our Lord Jesus told them. He then told them to serve the guests, and when they did, it was no more water, but wine coming out of the jars. The Lord Jesus turned to water into wine. *Isn't that amazing?*
- They were so happy and took the wine to their boss. The boss tasted the wine and said “wow! Where was this wine until now? It tastes so good!”
- So the waiters poured the wine to everybody. The wine was very good and everybody was happy. Virgin Mary was very happy too!

Sunday School Lessons

Activity

- Color a picture illustrating the story.

Conclusion: Our Lord Jesus can do many miracles to help us. The Virgin Mary also helps us in our need, for her Son, Jesus Christ will do anything she asks of Him on our behalf.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 21 Jesus Christ Cured Peter's Mother-in-law

"He healed many who were sick with various diseases." Mark 1:34

Lesson Objectives

- To let children know that Jesus Christ can cure the sick
- To let them understand how kind Christ is to the needy

References: Mark 1: 29-31

Introduction

- Revision of the previous lesson
 - Do you remember the wedding at Cana? Who was invited with the Lord Jesus?
 - Why did the waiters and the bridegroom worried?
 - What did the Virgin Mary say to the Lord Jesus when She saw that the wine was gone?
 - What was the miracle the Lord Jesus did to solve their problem?
- Last time we learned about the miracle the Lord Jesus did at the wedding in Cana. Today, we shall see how the Lord Jesus healed a sick woman.

The Lesson

- Do you remember Peter? He is one of Jesus' 12 disciples. Once his mother in-law got very sick. She had a fever. *Have you ever caught a fever?* She was so sick, she couldn't get out of her bed.
- Jesus Christ visits those who are sick and His heart goes out for them. He came to Peter's house to visit his mother in law. He entered her room and came close to her. When He touched her hand, the fever left her immediately! Peter and everyone in the house were very happy!
- His mother in law was healed instantly and she served everyone food and drink. The people who were there felt very happy. They came to understand that Jesus Christ is Egzi-abher. They knew that He can do anything.

Activity

- Teach them the following song:
 - Tenageru denq serawunim meskiru (2)
Te'amrun le'alem nigeru (2) denq serawun meskiru (2)
 - Meaning: *Speak of & witness His splendid work,
Speak of his miracles to the world.*

Conclusion

- Jesus Christ is very kind. He visits us when we get sick; He also heals us. So we should always thank Him. He has the power to heal us from our sickness, and to help us when we are in need.
- Just like Jesus, we should also be kind to our friends

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 22 **Jesus Christ Raised Lazarus from the Dead**

“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.” John 10:25

Lesson Objectives

- To let children admire the mighty deed of Jesus Christ

Reference

- John 11: 1-44

Introduction

- Revision of the previous lesson
 - How was Petros’s relative sick?
 - How did Jesus cure her?
- Today, we shall see that Jesus, not only cures sick people, but also raises dead. Isn’t that amazing? Let us see how Jesus raised a man named Lazarus from the dead.

The Lesson

- Once upon a time, a man named Lazarus (Al-Azar) village called Bethany.
- He had two sisters, Mary and Martha.
- Lazarus was very sick and his two sisters were very worried.
- They were saying to each other, “Our brother is very sick; what shall we do?” But, then, they remembered one thing! They said, “If we tell Jesus, He will cure him.” So, they sent someone to tell Jesus to come quickly and cure their brother.
- But, when Jesus came Lazarus was already dead and his sisters were crying.
- When they heard that Jesus came, they immediately ran out to meet him and said, “O! Lord! If you had been here, our brother wouldn’t have died,” and they cried. When Jesus saw them crying, He felt sad and He cried too.
- Then, Jesus went to the tomb where Lazarus was buried.. The tomb was closed with a big stone. Jesus said to the people there, “Lift the stone and open the tomb.” It had been four days since Lazarus was buried, and the people were wondering what Jesus was about to do.
- After the people lifted up the stone, Jesus lifted up His hands and said with loud voice “Lazarus, come out!” Then Lazarus came out of the cave.
- The people had never seen such a miracle before. They realized that Jesus can not only heal the sick, but also raise the dead.

Activity

- Coloring illustrating the story
- Practice the same song from the previous week (*Tenageru*)!

Conclusion

- Jesus Christ is capable of raising the dead. He can do anything. He is Egzi-abher. Therefore, we should worship Him and sing for Him.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 23 Jesus Christ Walked on Water

“Be of good cheer! It is I, do not be afraid.” Matthew 14:27

Lesson Objectives

- To let children know that Jesus Christ is the master of all creation
- To let them understand that Jesus Christ saves those who cry out to Him

References: Mathew 14: 24-32

Introduction

- Revision of the previous lesson
 - What is the name of the man Jesus Christ raised from the dead?
 - How many days was it he buried before Christ brought him back alive from the cave?
- Today, we are going to learn another amazing thing Jesus Christ did.
- But first, let me ask you a question. What do people walk on? They walk on the earth, right? Have you ever seen a person who can walk on the air? How about who can stand on water on their foot? They sink if they try to, right? But there is nothing that our Lord Jesus Christ cannot do. We are going to learn another amazing miracle of Jesus Christ

The Lesson

- One evening, the Disciples (*Do you know who the disciples are?*) were sailing on a boat. It was so dark and they were afraid. While they were traveling, suddenly someone came towards them walking on the water. They have never seen anyone walking on water before, so they thought it was something else. They screamed out of fear.
- But, the man who was walking on the water said to them, “It is me! Don’t be afraid!” They looked at Him again and they realized that it was Jesus Christ. “Oh.....!” they felt happy.
- One of them, Peter, wanted to walk on the water like Jesus Christ. So, he said to Him, “O Lord! Please allow me to come to you on the water?”
- You know what Jesus said? He said, “Ok! Come to me!” and stretched His hands to him. Peter felt so happy. He stepped out of the boat and stood on the water. One...two...three... oh! He walked! He was very happy!
- But, suddenly, a powerful wind came and made the water to tremble. When Peter saw the wind, he was very frightened. So, he screamed, “O Lord! Please save me!” Jesus quickly stretched His hand and grabbed him. “Why are you afraid?” Jesus said to Peter.
- When Jesus stepped into the boat, the powerful wind stopped. All of them bowed down before Him and said “Oh! You truly are Egzi-abher!” They were so happy, and they traveled the rest of the night peacefully.

Activity

- Practice the song from the previous lesson.
- Color picture of a boat.

Conclusion

- Our Lord, Jesus Christ has power over all creation. Even the wind and the sea obey him. We, too, should obey Him.
- When in fear or in trouble, we should call upon our Lord Jesus like Peter.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 24

The Transfiguration on Mount Tabor

*“He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.”
Matthew 17:2*

Lesson Objectives

- Learn about the Transfiguration of Jesus Christ on Mount Tabor

References

- Mathew 17: 1-8 (Commentary)

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - Who did the disciples see walking on the sea?
 - Which disciple asked to walk to Jesus on the sea? What happened next?
 - What happened to the wind when Jesus finally entered the boat?
- Today we are going to learn about an event known as “The Transfiguration”. Transfiguration means a change in appearance. We are going to learn how Jesus’ appearance changed, where and who saw it.

The Lesson

- One day, Jesus Christ took three of the disciples to a mountain called Mount Tabor.
- While they were lying down, they suddenly saw a bright light, and saw the face of Jesus Christ changed! *What is this change in appearance called?* His face shined like the Sun! His cloth was full of light and turned very bright!
- When Peter and the other disciples saw the light, the reflection blurred their eye and they were thrilled!
- Wow! They then realized that Moses and Elijah were with our Lord Jesus Christ! *Do you remember who Moses & Elijah are?* ...Isn’t that beautiful? Moses and Elijah wanted to see Jesus; so, they came from heavens and stood there with Him. Moses said to Jesus, “You are my God! You are my Lord!” Elijah also said to Jesus, “You are my God! You are my Lord!” Moses and Elijah praised Jesus. *What did Moses and Elijah say?*
- Then, Peter said to Jesus, “O Lord! Let us live here forever! This is so beautiful! Let us make three tents; one for you, one for Elijah and one for Moses...” He was so much in delight that he didn’t even know what he was saying.
- While Peter was saying that, a bright cloud came down and covered them all. A graceful voice came out of the cloud and said “This is my Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased. Listen to Him!”
- The three disciples fell down on the ground when they heard the voice, and when they looked up again, there was no one except Jesus Christ. Moses and Elijah were gone.

Sunday School Lessons

Activity

- Color picture of mountains and clouds.

Conclusion

- The Transfiguration of Jesus Christ happened on Mount Tabor, and three of the disciples witnessed it. It was the first time our Lord Jesus Christ showed himself to the three disciples in His glorious appearance. We may also see the glory of our Lord if we are faithful, and obey him in our lives.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 25 **Jesus Christ Blessed Children**

“Let little children come to me.” Matthew 19:14

Lesson Objectives

- To let children understand that Jesus Christ loves them
- To set them on the path of learning how to talk to Jesus Christ through prayer

References

- Mathew 19: 13-15 (Commentary)

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - What happened when Jesus went to Mount Tabor with the three disciples?
 - Who were the two men that came from heaven to see Jesus?
 - What did Peter say when He saw Moses & Elijah with Jesus?
- Today, we are going to learn about how much Our Savior Jesus Christ loves children. Because He loves kids very much, He always wants them to come to Him.

The Lesson

- One day, many parents came to Jesus Christ while He was teaching; and they said to Him, “O Lord! Please bless our children.” The disciples went angry because the parents brought their kids while Jesus was teaching. So, they said to the parents, “Why do you bother Him? He is teaching!”
- But, do you know what Jesus said? He said, “Let the children come to me. Do not forbid them.” *What did Jesus say?*
- Then, Jesus Christ laid His hands on the children, blessed them and hugged them. The children and their parents left with joy.
- You see? Jesus Christ loves you very much. When you come to church, He wants you inside with your parents so that you may also be blessed.

Activity

- Recite the “Our Father” prayer
- Practice Prostration with the sign of the Cross

Conclusion (1 minute)

Jesus Christ loves you very much; so, always call Him and praise Him with this prayer. When you come to Church, or when you are home, in the morning when you get up, and in the evening before you go to bed, and every time before any meal, or whenever you want to talk to Him, pray to Him saying “Abatachen Hoy (Our Heavenly Father.)”

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 26 **Hosanna in the Highest**

“Behold your King is coming, Sitting on a donkey’s colt.” Zechariah 9:9

Lesson Objectives

- Learn about the glorious entry of our Lord Jesus Christ & how children and the people received Him.
- Help the students imagine the divine glory of the Lord

References

- Mathew 21: 1-12 (Commentary) ; Luke 29: 28-44 (Commentary)

Introduction

- Review of the last lesson
 - What did the disciples say to the parents who brought their children to Jesus?
 - What did Jesus say to the disciples?
 - What did Jesus do for the kids?
- Today’s lesson is about how people sang to the Lord Jesus Christ when He went to a city called Jerusalem. On that day, children also sang to Him very loudly! You know what they sang? Listen to the story carefully!

The Lesson

- One day, Jesus wanted to go to Jerusalem. So, He sent the disciples to a small village and said to them, “Go to that house. You will find a donkey with her colt. Untie them and bring them to me.” *Do you know what colt is? It is a small donkey.*
- The apostles went to that village and they found the donkey tied with the colt, just as the Lord told them. They untied them and brought them to Jesus.
- Then, they put their clothes on the colt for Jesus to sit on. When He sat and started traveling, His face shined like the Sun. An amazing light was on the sky and on earth. Lots of angels came down to earth to sing for Him.
- The people put their clothes on the path of the donkey and began singing. The light was all over Jerusalem and the song went loud throughout the city. Many women and their children came out to see this great event.
- All the people and the children, including infants feeding on breast milk, sang “Hosanna! Hosanna!” They also brought branches of palm tree and spread them in the path of the Lord.
- Isn’t that amazing? Even the infants, so much younger than you, who were in the arms of their mothers sang, “Hosanna! Hosanna!” It was not only the angels and the children that sang to Jesus Christ that day. Even the rocks also sang for Him.

Sunday School Lessons

Activity

- Learn the following song

Hosa-ena be-aryam

Iyalu zemeru hitsanat be-Ieyerusalem

Meaning: *Children in Jerusalem sang, Hosanna in the Highest.*

Conclusion

- This glorious entry of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem is called Hosanna, because the people, including children, infants, and even the rocks praised Him saying “Hosanna in the Highest.”.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 27 The Crucifixion

“While we were sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

Lesson Objectives

- To help children notice that the icon of crucifixion depicts the death of Christ on the cross
- To help them envision the passion of Christ and the sorrow of Virgin Mary

References

- John 18, 19

Teaching Aids

- An icon depicting the crucifixion, a white sheet, and a candle with its stand

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson –
 - How did our Lord Jesus Christ enter Jerusalem?
 - How did the people receive Him?
 - What did the people, children, and even the rocks, sing to Him?
- Today, we shall learn the greatest thing Christ did for us. What do we do for our friends if we like them very much? We play with them, we share our candy with them, we hug them, and we kiss them, right? But, Jesus Christ did more than that for us. What did He do for us? Let us hear the story.

The Lesson

- Many people followed Jesus Christ because of the miracles they have seen and heard of. But there were some who were jealous of Him. They were not happy about many people following Him, and said to each other, “Look! Many people follow Him; but no one comes to us.”
- So, they sat together and said to each other, “What shall we do?”
- They finally decided to bring false accusations against Him to kill Him.
- What did they say? (Let’s go kill Jesus)
- They brought Him to their king and accused Him of claiming to be the Son of God. They also accused Him that He calls Himself a king. They said their king is only Cesar and no other.
- They accused Him falsely, mocked Him, spat on His face and beat Him.
- They finally nailed His hands and feet on the Cross. *What do you think the Lord Jesus did in reply?* He did not do anything. He didn’t even try to defend Himself. Instead, He prayed for them saying, “Father, forgive them for they do not know what they are doing.” *Do you pray to someone who is being mean to you?* Our Savior Jesus did.
- Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ willingly accepted all the suffering, and eventually death on the Cross for our sake.

Sunday School Lessons

Activity

- Show them an icon of the crucifixion, and explain the figures and the symbols on the icon.
- Prostrate before the crucifixion and kiss it.

Conclusion:

- Jesus Christ was crucified on the cross because He loves us. Whenever we see this icon, we have to kiss His feet. We have to love Jesus Christ very much. We have to stand in front of the icon and pray “Our Heavenly Father/Abatachen hoy./” He listens to us when we pray to Him, and He also blesses us.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 28 **The Lord is Risen from the Dead**

“The Lord is risen indeed.” Luke 24:34

Lesson Objectives

- Learn the story of the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ

References :John 18, 19

Teaching Aids

- An icon depicting the resurrection

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - Why did the cruel people want to kill Jesus?
 - What did they do to Him?
 - What did they crucify Him on?
- Today, we shall see what happened a few days after Jesus Christ died and was buried.

The Lesson

- On the third day after our Lord Jesus Christ was crucified and buried, some women who loved Him very much went to His tomb. *Do you know what a tomb is? They wanted to spray perfume on His body.*
- Here is the surprising news! When they reached the cave, it was open! “Who opened it?” they asked each other. When they looked inside the cave, the body of Jesus Christ was not there! Isn’t that surprising? The women were surprised and said to each other, “Where is the body of the Lord Jesus?”
- What do you think happened to the body of the Lord’s body?
- While the women were standing confused, they saw two angels who wore a bright, white cloth. The angels said to the women, “Why do you look for Him among the dead? He has risen up! He is not here!” *What did the angels say to the women?*
- The women were very much amazed and ran back to town. And they told the disciples what the angels said. But, the disciples could not believe them. So, they also went to His tomb and found it empty.
- Yes, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was risen from the dead, and He showed himself to the disciples too.

Activity

- Ask all of them to stand and teach them the following song.
Aman be’aman (4)
Tens,a emne mutan (4)
Meaning: Truly, truly, He is risen from the dead.

Conclusion:

- The Lord Jesus Christ suffered on the cross for our sake and died, but the earth could not contain Him. On the third day of His crucifixion, He rose from the dead and gave us the hope of resurrection.
- We all shall rise again to be with the Lord Jesus Christ when he comes again.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 29 **The Holy Communion**

"I am the living bread which came down from heaven." John 6:51

Lesson Objectives

- Introduce the essence of the Holy Communion
- Encourage a love for the Holy Communion

Reference: John 6

Teaching Aid

- A paint or picture that shows priests and deacons holding the Holy Communion (If it is picture, use the picture of the priests and deacons of the same church the children attend)

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - When the women went to the tomb, whom did they see?
 - What did the angels tell them?
 - What did the disciples see when they went to the Lord Jesus' tomb?
- Today, we are going to talk about food! But, not the food you eat at home. We talk about the special kind of food you eat inside the church.

The Lesson

- What do you do when you go inside the church in a line? What does the priest give you to eat? Do you know its name? It is called the Holy Communion or Qurban!! Do you know where it came from?
- Look at this icon of the Crucifixion. What do you see?
- The Lord Jesus Christ gave us His body and His blood on the Cross to receive.
- Inside the church, when you line up and approach the Holy of Holies, the priest gives you something to eat, and the drink gives you a drink on a spoon. Have you ever wondered what that was?
- It is the body of Jesus Christ, and His blood that you receive from the priest and the deacon, the precious body and blood of Jesus Christ that was crucified on the Cross.
- We call it Qurban or the Holy Communion.
- Jesus Christ said that whoever eats of His body and drinks of His blood has eternal life. Therefore, we have to receive His body and His blood.

Sunday School Lessons

Activity

- Do you receive the Holy Communion? How do you approach the Holy Communion? What do you do after you receive It?
- Do you feel happy when you go inside the church to receive Qurban?
- Do you remember Jesus Christ when you eat the Qurban?
- Sing last week's song: Aman be'aman (4)
Tens,a emne mutan (4)
 - *Meaning: Truly, truly, He is risen from the dead.*

Conclusion:

- The Holy Communion is the body and blood of Jesus Christ.
- He said whoever eats of His body and drinks of His blood will have eternal life. Therefore we have to keep His commandments and receive the Holy Communion so that we can have eternal life with Him.

Lesson 30

The Virgin Mary & the Little Boy – Part I

“As soon as the voice of your salutation sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb with joy.” Luke 1:44

Lesson Objectives

- To help children develop feeling of love and closeness to Virgin Mary

References

- Miracles of Mary

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - What is Qurban? Where did it come from?
- Today, we are going to learn how much Virgin Mary loves children that always take the Qurban. Listen to the story of a little boy who was helped by Virgin Mary to take the Qurban.

The Lesson

- Once up on a time, there was a little boy who had many friends. His friends went to church every Sunday to receive the Holy Communion (Qurban); but, his father did not allow him to go with them.
- But, one day, the little boy wanted to go to the church. He wanted to see what his friends were going to do in the church; so, he followed them.
- When he entered the church, he was amazed by all that he saw. There were many people in white clothes and praying loud. The priest was burning incense and it smelled very good. The boy also saw many pictures on the wall of the church. He liked everything he saw in there.
- Then, the children made a line to receive the Holy Communion. So, he went and stood with them. When it was his turn, he was very afraid. But, as he got close to the priests and the deacons, he saw a beautiful woman who was looking at him. Her clothes were shiny, and she had a crown on her head. She stretched her hands to him and she smiled. When he saw her, he felt so happy, he went to the priest and received the Holy Communion (Qurban).
- When the church service was over, he went home. But, he did not forget the beautiful woman he saw in the church. *Who do you think is the beautiful woman?* It was the Virgin Mary

Activity

- Learn the following song
 - Mariam, Mariam Dengel Mariam (2)
 - Rehrehte helina (4) Mariam (2)
 - Meaning: Mariam has a compassionate heart.*

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 31 The Virgin Mary and the Little Boy – Part II

“As soon as the voice of your salutation sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb with joy.” Luke 1:44

Lesson Objectives

- To help children develop feeling of love and closeness to Virgin Mary

References

- Miracles of Mary

Introduction (4 minutes)

- Review of the previous lesson
 - Who did the little boy see when he went to church?
 - What did the little boy do after he saw Her?
- Last week you learned how a little boy went to church with his friends, and saw the Virgin Mary as he approached to receive the Holy Communion. Today, we are going to continue the story and learn what happened when he went back home after the church service.

The Lesson

- Do you remember the father of this little boy? He would not allow his little boy to go to church.
- When the little boy went back home after church, his father was angry. He said, “Where were you?” The little boy answered, “I was at the church.” His father said, “What were you doing in the church?” The little boy was afraid and he said “I ate the Qurban!” His father stared at him angrily and said “What? You ate the Qurban?”
- The father was so mean, he wanted to punish the little boy. So, he threw him in a fire. But, the boy was not burned because the beautiful woman he saw in the church came to him. She sat with him and told him not to be afraid. She told him that she is glad he receive the Holy Communion. The fire was not burning them. It was like a beautiful wind.
- But, the neighbors knew that the father threw the little boy into the fire; so, they hurried to get him out. But when they came to him, they saw him playing, and the fire did not hurt him.
- They pulled him out and asked him, “How come you didn’t get burnt little boy?” He said to them, “the beautiful woman I saw in the church was playing with me.” “What? Who is she?” the neighbors said to each other. Soon, they all realized that it was the Virgin Mary, and they shouted, “Oh!... It is Virgin Mary! It is Virgin Mary! This little boy saw Mary! She saved him! Oh! She is wonderful!” All the people cheered and cried with joy.
- From that day on, they loved and respected Virgin Mary very much! They also understood that taking the Qurban is very good and pleasing to God and the Virgin Mary.

Activity

- Revise the song from the previous week.
 Mariam, Mariam Dengel Mariam (2)
 Rehrehte helina (4) Mariam (2)
 Meaning: Mariam has a compassionate heart.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 32 **The Lord's Ascension into Heaven**

“While He blessed them, He was parted from them, and carried up into heaven.” Luke 24:51

Lesson Objectives

- Learn the story of the Ascension of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
- To envision the heavenly Glory of the Lord Jesus Christ

Teaching Aids

- Drum, sistra, and, if available, flute

Reference

- Mark 17; Miracles of Jesus: 101st Miracle. Tensa'e Zeguba'e Printing Press; Addis Ababa: 1994.

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
- Today, we are going to learn about the amazing thing Jesus Christ did after He finished His purpose on earth.
- Do you remember some of the things the Lord Jesus Christ did...He has done lots of things, right? He did all this for us. He wants us to love Him, pray to Him, and sing for Him every day.
- Today, we are going to learn about how the Lord Jesus Christ bade farewell to the disciples.

The Lesson

- One day, Jesus Christ took the disciples to a mountain. Then, He said to them, “Teach all people about Me. Go to every country in the world, and tell them that I love them. Baptize them in the name of Ab-Wold-Menfes Qidus (In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit). *In what name did the Lord Jesus order the disciples to baptize?*”
- He laid His hands on them and blessed them. There was light from the mountain up to the sky. The face of the Lord Jesus Christ was shiny like the Sun.
- Many angels also came down. Their wings were flapping and their sound was just like thunder. They sang for the Lord beating drums, shaking sistra and blowing flute. When the disciples saw all this, they were amazed and bowed down to the ground. The chanting, the thunder, and the light were very wonderful! But, they knew that Jesus was going to leave them; so, they cried.
- So, Jesus Christ comforted them saying, “Don’t cry, I will always be with you.” Then, He went up into the air. The mountain trembled, the lightning flashed; and the thunder roared. The angels circled Him singing and went up to the heavens with Him. When the angels in the heavens saw Jesus Christ, they rejoiced and worshiped Him.

Activity

- Learn the following song:

Arege besibhat arege be-ililta (2)

Motin dil adirgo yeserawit Geta, arege arege be-ililta (2)

Meaning: *He ascended with glory and praise*

Trampling down death, He ascended into heaven with praise.

Conclusion: The Lord Jesus Christ ascended into heaven with glory 40 days after His resurrection. The apostles were sad that He was leaving, but he comforted them saying that He would always be with them.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 33 The Holy Spirit

“You shall receive power after the Holy Spirit is come upon you.” Acts 1:8

Lesson Objectives

- Learn the events of Pentecost
- Introduce the work of the Holy Spirit

References

- Acts 2; Miracles of Jesus: 112st Miracle. Tensa’e Zeguba’e Printing Press; Addis Ababa: 1994.

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - How was it like on the mountain when Jesus Christ ascended to heaven?
 - How did the disciples feel when Jesus Christ ascended into heaven?
- Today, we shall learn what kind of incredible gift Jesus Christ sent down to the disciples after He ascended into heaven. What was that gift? Listen carefully.

The Lesson

- The Lord Jesus Christ promised the disciples something before He ascended into heaven. He promised that He would send them the Holy Spirit and told them to stay in Jerusalem until then. *What do you think the disciples did?*
- They did stay in Jerusalem as Jesus Christ had told them as He told them and always prayed together. The Virgin Mary also with them.
- One day, when they were praying with Virgin Mary, suddenly, a sound of a rushing wind came and filled the house they were in.
- A divided flame of fire appeared to them, and was upon each of them. But it didn’t burn them. *Isn’t that amazing?* That was the Holy Spirit coming upon them, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.
- You know what happened then? They were able to speak the language of every country! *Isn’t that wonderful?* How many languages can you speak? The disciples were, however, able to speak seventy two languages. *Isn’t that great?*
- So, they went out and started teaching the people. Because they taught everyone in their own language, the people were amazed.
- They taught the people about the Lord Jesus Christ. Three thousand people believed in the Lord Jesus Christ that same day and were baptized.

Sunday School Lessons

Activity

- Learn the following song:

Menfes Qidus Werede La`ele Hawaryat (2)

Temesilo (5) Be Nede esat (2)

Meaning: The Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples, in the form of flame of fire

Conclusion

- On the 50th day after the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit descended on the disciples. Among many gifts, they received the gift to speak 72 languages. They became courageous and committed to witness about our Lord Jesus Christ. They started their teaching on the same day they received the Holy Spirit, and three thousand believed and were baptized on that day.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 34 **Baptism of Bakos – the Ethiopian**

“Here is water, what hinders me to be baptized?” Acts 8:36

Lesson Objectives

- Introduce baptism of the first apostle to Ethiopia
- Understanding importance of reading the scriptures

References

- Acts 8: 26-29

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - Where did the Lord Jesus Christ tell the disciples to stay until they receive the Holy Spirit?
 - What happened on the fiftieth day of the Lord Jesus’ resurrection?
 - How did the Holy Spirit descend on the disciples?
 - What special gift did they receive when they received the Holy Spirit?
- Do you remember how many people believed in the Lord Jesus Christ on the first day after the disciples received the Holy Spirit...? Yes, three thousand people believed and were baptized. Today we are going to learn about the baptism of the Ethiopian, Bakos.

The Lesson

- Ethiopians used to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem every year before the dating back three thousand years ago. *Do you know what a pilgrimage is...?* Pilgrimage is a journey to a holy place to pay tribute & worship the God.
- The Ethiopian finance minister, named Bakos, was traveling to Jerusalem one year after the resurrection of Jesus Christ to worship. He was traveling on a chariot and reading the Scripture.
- The Holy Spirit ordered a friend of the disciples, named Philip, to go to Bakos. So, he went to Bakos’ chariot and asked him, “Do you understand what you are reading?” Bakos replied, “How can I understand unless someone explains it to me? Please, come up and sit with me and teach me.
- Philip joined Bacos on the chariot, and started explaining to Him about the Scripture. He told Him about the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ, His life and miracles on earth, about His crucifixion and death, resurrection and ascension.
- Bakos became so glad when he heard about Jesus Christ. Soon, they reached a river. Bakos said to PhilIP, “I want to be the son of Jesus Christ. Can I be baptized?” PhiliPos replied, “If you believe in Jesus Christ, you can be baptized.” Bakos said “Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ!” So, they both went down into the water and PhilIP baptized Bakos.
- Bakos became very happy! Then, he returned to his chariot and went on his way back to his country, Ethiopia. He told whomever he found to be baptized and become Christians like him.

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Activity

- Color a picture depicting the story of the Baptism of Bakos

Conclusion:

- Bakos was the first Ethiopian to be baptized. He was baptized by Philip while traveling to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage.
- He was reading the Scripture when the Holy Spirit sent Philip to baptize Him. You should have a habit of reading the Scripture like Bakos .

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 35 **The Apostle Matthew in Ethiopia**

*“Teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”
Matthew 20:19*

Lesson Objectives

- To let children learn that St. Mathewos baptized many people in Ethiopia
- To help them remember the main things that happened from the birth to the ascension of Jesus Christ

References

- Aman Belay, Meri Ras (2000). “The Land of the Intermingling of the Descendents of Shem, Ham, and Japhet, The Red Scarlet as a Sign of Salvation: The Disciples of Christ in Ethiopia.” The Book of Abrhit, (pp. 64-94), Askale Printers.

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson –
 - What was the name of the Ethiopian who was reading a bible in his chariot?
 - Who baptized the Ethiopian?
 - Who sent the disciple to the Ethiopian?
- Today, we will learn what one of the apostles, called Matthew, did when he went to Ethiopia.

The Lesson

- Matthew is one of the 12 apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Once up on a time, He went to Ethiopia to teach about Jesus Christ. There, he found many people. He asked them, “What do you worship? Do you believe in the creator?” They said to him, “Yes, we believe in the Creator.” Then, Matthew asked them, “Who do you call Him in your language?” They answered to him, “We call Him Egzi-abher.”
- Matthew was glad! He realized that the name “Egzi-abher” was awesome.
- Then, Matthew said to the people, “You know what? The creator you call Egzi-abher came down from heaven, was born from Virgin Mary and was named Jesus Christ, and He saved the entire world!”
- He said, “Very recently. He used to live in our country. He taught me and my friends lots of things. But some people accused Him falsely and crucified Him. But, He was risen from the dead on the third day. He came to us and told us to go to all people and teach them about Him. He also told us to baptize them in the name of Ab, Wold, Menfes Qidus /the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit/. So, here I am to baptize you.”
- The people said they believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and wanted to be baptized. Matthew took them to a river and baptized them.

Activity

- Color the picture
- Practice prostration with the sign of the cross in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion: One of the 12 apostles of Jesus Christ came to Ethiopia and taught and baptized the people. The people were happy to hear about the Lord Jesus Christ and were happy to be the children of God through baptism.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 36 Virgin Mary Visited Paradise

“Upon Your right hand did stand the queen in gold of Ophir.” Psalm 45:9

Lesson Objectives

- Envision and admire the beauty of the heavens
- Understand the Virgin Mary as the queen of heaven and earth
- Learn that the saints live in heaven with the Lord God /Egziabher/

References

- The Vision of Mary

Teaching Aids

- Audio-Visual harp song (DVD) and its player, if not available, an audio CD or a cassette

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - Who is one of the twelve apostles who went to Ethiopia to teach about Jesus Christ?
 - What did Matthew do after teaching the people
- Today, we are going to learn about one beautiful place Virgin Mary visited.

The Lesson

- One day, While Virgin Mary was praying, a cloud suddenly came to her and carried her sky. When she reached there, she saw Her beloved Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. He took her to the heavens and showed her where the saints live.
- When Virgin Mary saw the heavens, she was amazed. The place was very beautiful and brighter than the Sun and the Moon. She met many of the forefathers who came and greeted her.
- She met Elijah, who ascended into heaven on a chariot. *Do you remember Elijah?*
- Adam, the first man, and his wife Eve, the first woman also came and greeted her as she visited the beautiful garden in paradise.
- Abraham and Sarah, his wife, who used to host with hospitality everyone who passes by his tent, came and greeted her.
- Moses who received the Ten Commandments from God bowed to her, and David praised her with His harp. *Do you know what kind of instrument a harp is...?*
- Virgin Mary was so happy to see all these great fathers.

Activity

- Listen to a song with a harp instrument, or watch a video if available.
- Color a picture of David playing the harp.

Conclusion

- The Virgin Mary is the most revered of all creation because she is the mother of God. The angels and the saints praise her. We should also do the same for she is a loving mother to us all.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 37 Saint Yared and the Worm

“The hope of the righteous shall be gladness.” Proverbs 10:28

Lesson Objectives

- To inspire children to admire the endurance and kindness of St. Yared

References

- Merqorewos Arega, Liqe Birhanat. (1994). The Story of Saints: Fifth Book. Addis Ababa.

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson
 - Do you remember how the Virgin Mary went to visit Paradise?
 - Who did she meet in paradise? Who was the man who sang to her with a harp?
- Today, we shall learn about a little boy named Saint Yared.

The Lesson

- Saint Yared was a saint who lived in Ethiopia. When he was a child he used to go to church and learn the Ethiopian alphabet. His teacher was angry at him because he couldn't learn to read.
- St Yared was so frustrated he couldn't that he couldn't read, he decided to run away. He said, “I will never learn again! That is enough! I understand nothing!”
- So he started running away, and came to sit under a tree when he got tired.
- Sitting under the tree, he notice a little worm to climb up a tree. But the little worm was trying and falling down again and again. This happened six times, but the little worm never gave up, and on the seventh try, the little worm made it to the top of the tree and ate from the fruit.
- When Saint Yared saw this, he said, “I will understand everything if I keep trying, just like this worm,” and smiled in hope. Then he went back to his teacher and said “O father! Forgive me. I have come back to learn.” The priest was so happy and he forgave Yared. Egzi-abher also got happy when Yared apologized. Egzi-abher loves those who apologize and those who forgive.
- So, Egzi-abher did something for Yared. You know what He did for Yared? He opened his mind! Very soon, Qidus Yared learned how to read. He also read the bible and became very clever. The priest and all the friends of Yared were very surprised! Qidus Yared thanked Egzi-abher very much.

Activity

- Draw a picture of a little worm climbing a tree.

Conclusion

- St Yared learned never to give up from a little worm, and went back to his teacher to learn. Not only was he able to learn to read and write, but also became a great saint. Sometimes it may take repeated effort, but there is nothing we can't achieve in faith if we keep trying.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 38 **Saint Yared and the Three Birds**

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly host praising the Lord saying: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace and good will toward men.” Luke 2:13-14

Lesson Objectives

- To help children understand that the style of singing they see and use in the Ethiopian church is learnt from angels

References

- Merqorewos Arega, Liqe Birhanat. (1994). The Story of Saints: Fifth Book. Addis Ababa

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson-
 - What did St. Yared see while sitting under a tree? What did he learn from what he saw?
 - What did he do afterwards?
- We are going to continue on a story of St. Yared, and see how he learned to sing.

The Lesson

- One day, St Yared was praying alone on a beautiful day, with the sun was shining, and the blowing nicely.
- Suddenly, three birds came to St. Yared from the sky. The color of the first bird was green; the second bird was yellow; and the third bird was red. *What is the green-yellow-red color? Do you remember? (The Ethiopian flag; the rainbow)*
- Do you know where the birds came from? They came from the heaven.
- He heard the birds singing with angelic voice. St. Yared also heard and learned to sing from angels.
- He started composing songs of praise for God. He also composed songs to the Virgin Mary.
- Many people listened to him when he sang because his voice was so beautiful. “Who is this man? Wow! He sings such a nice and melodious song”, people said in wonder. Even cows and oxen held their ears straight to listen while he sang.
- He taught priests and many believers how to sing songs of worship and praise for.

Activity

- Color the picture showing St. Yared and the three birds.

Conclusion

- The songs of St. Yared and songs he learned from angels. That is why we use them today in our church. We should strive to learn this angelic praise. The songs you learn and sing every day at church are derived from the songs of St. Yared.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 39

Afomia

“The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear him.” Psalm 34:7

Lesson Objectives

- To introduce children with Saint Michael and to inspire them to love him
- To help them understand that Angels help Christians
- To strengthen in them a positive feeling towards holy icons and the sign of the cross

References: June’s Homily to Saint Michael

Introduction

- Today, we are going to learn about one angel.
- Do you know what angels are? Where do they live? Do you know the name of any angel?
- Today we are going to learn about how the chief of the angels – the Archangel Michael – helped a holy woman named Afomia.

The Lesson

- Once upon a time, there was a clever Christian woman named Afomia. She was very kind and she loved God very much. She also loved Michael so dearly that she always gave food to poor people in his name.
- Afomia lived alone; but, she was not afraid because she had a beautiful icon of St Michael in her house.
- Afomia always prayed in front of the St Michael’s icon. She used to say: “O Qidus Michael! Be with me; guard me; pray for me; ask mercy from the Lord God on my behalf.” Afomia was kind and she used to feed the poor. But the devil was angry at her good deeds. He wanted to deceive Afomia.
- One day, he came to her and said “I am St Michael. Bow down before me!” He had a wing, just like Qidus Michael. He also had a fake light on him; but, he had no cross in his hands. Afomia looked at him very carefully and asked him, “Are you St Michael? Where is your cross then?” The devil said, “Oh, er...er...er...we, angels, do not have cross.” But, he was lying. It is only the devil that doesn’t have a cross.
- Then, Afomia said to the devil, “If you truly are St Michael, then, kiss this icon” and walked to bring the icon. Now, the face of the devil changed and became dark. He grabbed her by the back of her neck and wanted to kill her. Afomia cried out for help, “St Michael, help me! Help me!”
- Right then, the real angel, St Michael, came down from heaven to rescue Afomia! He was so handsome and his face was glittery like the sun. When he entered Afomia’s house, the house was filled with light!
- Then St Michael beat the devil down by with his rod. The devil started pleading, “Please, please, doesn’t destroy me. I will never ever come again near your icon; I will never be

Sunday School Lessons

wherever your name is called!” St Michael chased the devil, and the devil flew away screaming.

- After chasing the devil away from her, St Michael ascended back to heaven. From that day on, the devil never bothered Afomia again.

Activity

- Color the picture for the lesson
- Visit icons of angels inside the church

Conclusion: Afomia loved St. Michael and made a feast for the poor in his name every month. Even though the devil tried to deceive her, she wasn’t deceived because she knew how St Michael would appear from the icon she kept in her room. She always called on him in time of need, and he always delivered her.

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Lesson 40

Saint Gabriel Saved Qirqos and His Mother

“Our God Whom we serve is able to deliver us.” Daniel 3:17

Lesson Objectives

- To show that faith overcomes fear and that angels are our helpers.

References: July’s Homily to Saint Gabriel

Introduction

- Review of the previous lesson-
 - Whose icon did Afomia have in her house
 - Who came to deceive Afomia & what did he say to her?
 - How did she know that he was not Qidus Michael?
 - What did Qidus Michael do when the devil wanted to kill Afomia?
- Today, we are going to learn how another angel helped a little boy and his mother. That angel is the friend of St. Michael. He is St. Gabriel! Follow the story carefully

The Lesson

- Once upon a time, there was a little boy named Qirqos. His mother always taught him about Jesus Christ and Virgin Mary. The child Qirqos loved Jesus Christ and Virgin Mary very much. He prayed with his mom every day.
- But, the governor of the country where the child Qirqos and his mom lived was very cruel. He never prayed to Jesus Christ and Virgin Mary. He also hated those who worshipped Jesus Christ.
- So, he ordered his soldiers to arrest anyone who is a Christian.
- The soldiers went out and arrested many Christians. They arrested the child Qirqos and his mom, too. When they brought them to the governor, he told them to worship his idols or be thrown into the fire.
- The child Qirqos said to the governor: "your gods are made of stone and wood by the hands of men. There is no other god except my Lord Jesus Christ."
- So, the soldiers brought the child Qirqos and his mom close to the fire. When Qirqos' mom saw the fire, she was afraid for her son.
- But, her son, the little Qirqos, said to her, "Why are you scared mom? Don't you believe that Jesus Christ can save us? It is okay! Don't be afraid of the fire! Egzi-abher will save us!" When his mother heard what he said, she felt strong and she was not afraid anymore.
- Then, the soldiers threw into the fire! But the angel Gabriel came down from heaven and got into the fire with them. The angel Gabriel made the fire cool like the wind, and it did not burn them.

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Activity

- Learn the following song

Qirqos Eyalutan yawetah kesat (2)

Egnanim adinen adinen Liqe Mela-ikt (4)

Meaning: The archangel who saved Qirkos and Eyaluta (his mom),

Save us too like you saved them.

Conclusion

- Angels love us very much and they care for us. If we have faith, they will always help us. Like the child Qirqos said, there is no other god other than the Lord our God.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 41 **King Lalibela Carved a Church**

“I have consecrated this house which you have built to put My name there forever.” 1Kings 9:3

Lesson Objectives

- To inform children about the presence of holy sites in Ethiopia
- To inspire them to admire the grace given to King Lalibela and the omnipotence of Egzi-abher

References

- Biography of Lalibela

Teaching Aids Needed

- A small printout of the one of St. Lalibela’s pictures of rock hewn churches

Introduction

- Today, we are going to learn about some incredible church buildings in a place called Lalibela in Ethiopia. Many people go there to visit because of its beauty. Who built these churches? Let’s hear the story.

The Lesson

- The Church you saw is found in a place called Lalibela. These churches were built by an Ethiopian king called Lalibela too.
- Lalibela was a very blessed, kind, and a wise man who loved Egzi-abher very much.
- The people loved Lalibela because he was kind. But, some cruel people were jealous. So, they wanted to kill him. So, they gave him a drink with a poison. Lalibela drank the poisonous drink and became very ill.
- While lying sick in his bed, he had a vision. In his vision, Lalibela was taken up into heavens by the angel St Gabriel. He saw our Lord Jesus Christ. He was very happy to see the Lord.
- Our Lord Jesus Christ said to Lalibela, “When you wake up, carve an incredible church for me. That place shall be holy.” Lalibela replied, “How am I going to do the church? Who will help me?” Jesus Christ said to him, “Don’t worry, I will help you. Go! Carve churches out of the rocks.”
- After three days, Lalibela woke up. His relatives were very surprised and they said to him. They didn’t know if he was alive or dead.
- St. Lalibela started carving churches out of rocks as the Lord had commanded him. He built many beautiful churches out of rocks.
- Every year, many Christians go to this place to pray.

Activity

- Color the cross-shaped church of Saint George.

Conclusion

- Lalibela is an Ethiopian saint, who also was a king of Ethiopia. He built many churches from rocks that many Christians visit every year.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 42 The Queen's Journey

"Blessed be the Lord your God, who delighted in you." 1Kings 10:9

Lesson Objectives

- To briefly introduce children to the Queen of Sheba

References

- 1st Book of Kings 10: 1-13
- Aman Belay, Meri Ras (1998). "The reign of "Iteya"/"Makeda" or the Queen of Sheba referred to as the Queen of the South in the Holy Gospel." The Book of Sevens, (pp. 165-189), Flamingo Printing Press.

Introduction

- Today, we are going to hear about a queen who travelled a very long way. She is the queen of Ethiopia. To travel this long way, she prepared lots of people and camels. Besides, she carried a lot of gift.

The Lesson

- Long time ago lived a queen of Ethiopia, named Queen Makeda, who loved Egzi-abher very much. She was very wise and very rich. She used to rule many regions in and around Ethiopia. She loved the people she ruled, so always prayed to Egzi-abher whenever they faced a problem. The people, too, liked her very much.
- Queen Makeda heard of a wise king in Jerusalem who also loved God, and she wanted to see his wisdom with her own eyes.
- She said to her soldiers, "Come! Let's go and see this great king!" The queen loaded lots of gifts onto camels to take to the king, and started travelling.
- The journey was very long. The queen and her soldiers travelled through the desert for many days. It was very sunny and too hot. But the queen stayed strong because she really wanted to meet that great king.
- After a long journey, Queen Makeda finally reached Jerusalem and met the wise king. His name was King Solomon. She marveled at everything she saw.
- She told the king that what she has heard of was only a fraction of his wisdom and greatness, and praised the lord God who made Solomon a king over Israel.
- Finally, she set out to go back to her country because she missed her people very much. So, she said "good bye" to the king, and started travelling with her soldiers. She hurried to be with her people for the New Year holiday, EnquTaTash!

Activity

- Color the picture provided

Conclusion

- Queen Makeda is was a queen of Ethiopia. She heard of a great king of Israel. She wanted to see the wonders she has heard of and travelled to Israel to see the King. His name was king Solomon. She took the king a lot of gifts, the king also received her well. Since that time, Ethiopians had a tradition of visiting Jerusalem.

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 43 The Child Samuel

*“As Samuel grew up, the Lord was with him...
All Israel... knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the Lord.” 1Sam 3:10-20*

Lesson Objectives

- Introduce the prophet Samuel

References

- 1 Samuel 1-3

Introduction

- Do you know what a prophet is? A prophet is a messenger of God who teaches the people to live according to the commandment of God and brings messages from God to the people.
- Today, we are going to learn about one of the prophets named Samuel who served the Lord God since his childhood.

The Lesson

- Samuel was the son of a couple named Elkanah and Hannah.
- Hannah was without a child for a long time and was that she didn't have any child.
- Once upon a time she cried bitterly at the temple of the Lord God that He would give her a child. She made a promise to the Lord God saying, *“If You give me a child, I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life.” 1Sam 1:11*
- The Lord God her prayer and gave her a son. She praised the Lord God and named him Samuel.
- When he was only a child, Hannah brought Samuel to the temple of the Lord and gave him to the priest so that he can serve the Lord God as she had promised.
- Samuel grew up in the temple serving the Lord God and obeying the priest Eli.
- Because Samuel was a good boy, God chose him to be a prophet.
- Once upon a time, while Samuel was sleeping, the Lord God called him by his name. But Samuel did not know that it was the Lord God who was calling him. So, he went to the priest Eli and said, “Here I am.”
- But the priest told him that he did not call him, and that the Lord God was calling Him.
- From that day on, the Lord God spoke to Samuel instructing him to teach the people, and the people also knew that God had chosen Samuel to be a prophet.

Activity

- *Take the children inside the church and explain to them how Samuel spent his childhood serving the Lord in the Holy of Holies.*

Conclusion

- It is important to pray to the Lord God when we are in need of something. If it is good for us, the Lord God will hear our prayer like he heard the prayers of Hannah.
- When we make a promise, we should do as we promised like Hannah did. She gave Samuel to the Lord to serve Him all the days of his life as she had promised.
- Even children serve the Lord God as Samuel did since his childhood. How do you serve the Lord? ...

Sunday School Lessons

Lesson 44 David Anointed a King for Israel

“The Lord looks at the heart.” 1Samuel 16:7

Lesson Objectives

- Introduce King David & What God looks in a person

Teaching Aids

- A power point or flipchart of pictures illustrating the story

References

- 1st Samuel 16

Introduction

- Do you remember Samuel, today we are going to learn about how Samuel anointed a king for the Israelites.

The Lesson

- The child Samuel grew up to be a great prophet and all of Israel respected Him.
- He was a true messenger of God. Once upon a time, the Lord God told him to a man called Jesse.
- The Lord God told him that He would choose one of the sons of Jesse to be a king.
- The prophet Samuel went to Jesse as the Lord God told him to do & he told Jesse to bring all his sons for the Lord God would choose one of them to be a king.
- Jesse brought seven of his sons before Samuel, but Samuel told him that the Lord did not choose any of the seven, and asked him if there is any of his sons that didn't come before him yet.
- Jesse said told Samuel that there is the youngest, who is keeping the sheep. So Samuel said, *“Send and bring him.”*
- So, Jesse brought the his youngest son before Samuel. He had bright eyes and was good looking.
- The Lord God told Samuel, *“Arise and anoint him, for this is the one.”*
- So, Samuel anointed the youngest son of Jesse, David, with oil to be the king of Israel and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day on.

Activity

- Color the picture provided

Conclusion

- Anointing means rubbing with or pouring oil. God's chosen to be a king was anointed with oil by a holy person. Samuel was such a holy person and beloved prophet in Israel. He was obedient to the Lord from his childhood and grew up to be a prophet everyone in Israel looked up to.
- David was also a young man when the Lord God sent Samuel to anoint him a king for Israel. He was brave, obedient and always sang to the Lord, even while keeping his father's sheep.
- He was the youngest son in his family, but God chose him to be a king at a young age.
- It is important that we always praise the Lord like starting from our childhood for the Lord has done great things for us, and will do more for us if we obey our parents, love one another and be faithful to him.