



# SPIRITUAL CONCEPTS ABOUT THE CHURCH

## relating to New Church Day

A sampling of ideas to share with children of various ages

*These ideas are accommodated to the state of the child.  
They are coordinated with the religion curriculum of the General Church.*

### **PRESCHOOL**

1. We have church so that people who want to be good can gather together.

### **PRIMARY LEVEL** (*kindergarten—3rd grades*)

1. The Church is the Lord's heaven on earth.
2. The Lord invites everyone to belong to His new church.
3. People become part of the church when they obey and live what they have learned from the Word.
4. Only the Lord can make His church grow. (Except the Lord build the house...)
5. The Word brings the church and heaven together.
6. The visions described in the book of Revelation are prophecies of the New Church.
7. The woman clothed with the sun symbolizes the Lord's New Church.
8. The baby boy that was born represents the teachings for the New Church.
9. The dragon is like the evil spirits who want to destroy the truth of the New Church.
10. June 19<sup>th</sup> is the birthday of the New Church.
11. The New Church comes to earth when we read the Word and use the Lord's truth to live a good life and help other people.
12. The gates of the Holy City are always open, because the Lord welcomes us all into His Church.

### **INTERMEDIATE LEVEL** (*4th—6th grades*)

1. The church is our spiritual mother because it takes care of our spiritual needs.
2. The whole purpose of the church is to teach its people how to be good and loving.
3. If we don't choose to be good we are not in the church, no matter how much we know.
4. The role of the priesthood is to teach the truth and to use the truth to lead people to good.
5. The two uses of the church (*Arcana Coelestia* 9925) are worship and preaching the gospel (education and evangelization).
6. All are saved who worship one God and lead the life of religion.
7. We can serve all people by helping them find the Heavenly Doctrines of the New Jerusalem.

### **UPPER LEVEL** (*7th—8th grades*)

1. The three essentials of the church that should be known and acknowledged are:
  - The Lord's Divinity
  - The holiness of the Word
  - The life of charity
2. The church on earth is a foundation for heaven (mutual interdependence).
3. Among the many churches on earth, the Lord provides that there is one church where He is known and loved.

### **HIGH SCHOOL** (*9th—12th grades*)

1. The Church is only with people who rightly understand the Word (*Sacred Scripture* 79).
2. The Church consists of those only who from the heart acknowledge the Divine of the Lord, and who learn truths from the Lord by the Word and do them (*Apocalypse Explained* 388).
3. In the New Church there will be spiritual peace, glory, and internal blessedness of life (see *Coronis* 0).