

Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program
Preschool Lessons, Phase - Lesson 37
The Woman Clothed with the Sun (Revelation 12:1-9 13-17)

Theme: The New Church

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. Because John loved the Lord, the Lord was able to be with him and was able to show him these representations of the New Church.
- B. The woman clothed with the sun represents the New Church. The baby boy to whom she gives birth represents the truths or doctrines of the church. And the dragon represents the forces that want to harm the New Church, such as love of the world.
- C. The Lord can protect the church when its members look to Him and resist the evils that would harm the strength of the church.

II. Story Circle

A. Introduce the Story

- 1. There is a special day in the summer that we call New Church Day. It is a special day because it is the birthday of our church, the New Church. The Lord started the church on June 19th a long time ago.
- 2. Discuss the concept of a symbol (something we see that makes us think of something else). Show the children examples, such as:
 - a. The American flag makes us think of our country
 - b. A cake with candles makes us think of a birthday
 - c. A Christmas tree makes us think of Christmas, etc.
- 3. Today's story is about a symbol of the New Church, a beautiful woman clothed with the sun.
- 4. One of the Lord's disciples (followers) named John told people about all the wonderful things the Lord did while He was on earth. Then a man sent him to live on an Island so John couldn't tell people about the Lord any more. But the Lord opened John's eyes in a special way so that He could see into heaven! He showed John many wonderful things. One of these wonderful things was the woman clothed with the sun.

B. Tell/Read the Story

- 1. Retell the story from Rev. 12. (See attached retelling.)

Preschool Sunday School Lessons: Phase 1 – Lesson 37

C. Ideas to Discuss

1. John saw a beautiful woman in heaven.
 - a. What was she clothed with? (the sun)
 - b. What did she stand on? (the moon)
 - c. What was her beautiful crown made of? (12 stars)
2. Then John saw the large dragon.
 - a. What color was he?
 - b. How many heads did he have? (seven)
 - c. How many crowns did he have? (seven)
 - d. How many horns did he have? (ten)
3. What did the dragon want to do? (hurt the woman and her baby)
4. What happened to the baby boy when he was born? Did the dragon hurt him? (No, the Lord kept him safe.)
5. Who came to fight the dragon? (Michael and his angels)
6. Who won the fight? (Michael and his angels)
7. The dragon still tried to hurt the woman. What did the Lord give her to keep her safe? (two wings of a great eagle)
8. When the dragon sent a great flood after the woman, what happened? (The earth swallowed up all the water.)

D. Further Ideas

1. The woman clothed with the sun is a beautiful symbol of the New Church. Her dress shines with the sun; under her feet is the moon; and around her head is a garland of twelve stars. Her baby is like the truths of the Lord's new Word, which we call the Writings. The Lord gave the new Word to the New Church so that people could learn more true ideas about the Lord, heaven, and how to be good.
2. The angels welcome the New Church. But the evil spirits want to hurt the New Church. They are like the red dragon who tried to kill the woman clothed with the sun and her baby. But the Lord keeps the New Church safe from harm. He sends Michael and his angels to fight the dragon and make it go away.
3. You can help the Lord keep the New Church safe! Learn from your parents and the Word what the Lord wants you to do. The evil spirits want us to do what is wrong; they want the dragon to win. But when we do what is right, we send the dragon away and help keep the New Church safe in our hearts.

III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. "Great Red Dragon," *Lori's Songs II*, Side 1, last song. (Teach children just the chorus. Listen to the song on the tape and join in for the chorus. Note: Last chorus changes to a line about Michael and his angels.)

B. Activities

Preschool Sunday School Lessons: Phase 1 – Lesson 37

C. Project

1. Materials needed for each child:
 - a. 9" x 12" piece of bright blue construction paper
 - b. Precut figure of the woman from white construction paper
 - c. Precut sun and moon from gold metallic paper
 - d. Twelve stars
 - e. Tissue paper in bright colors: yellow, white, orange, and red
 - f. Felt markers
2. Procedure
 - a. Children glue the sun on the blue construction paper.
 - b. Glue the woman over the sun, leaving room at her feet for the moon.
 - c. Glue the moon below her feet.
 - d. Make her face and hair with felt markers.
 - e. Tear pieces of tissue paper, then glue on the woman to "clothe her with the sun." (Children may need help tearing the tissue, and they will need to be generous with the glue.)
 - f. Then place the twelve stars around her head.
 - g. (Optional: Give children a precut figure of the baby to be glued near one of the top corners to indicate that the Lord took the baby to a safe place.)
3. Description for the back of the picture

The New Church is seen in heaven as a beautiful woman clothed with the sun. The moon is under her feet, and around her head is a garland of twelve stars. Her baby is like the wonderful truths of the Lord's new Word, which we call the Writings.

IV. Teaching Aids

- A. Flannel board with the felt New Church Day figures
- B. Pictures from the Revelation coloring book
- C. Pictures of other symbols: Christmas tree, flag, birthday cake
- D. A copy of *Heaven and Hell* (Tell children that it is part of the new Word, and it tells us all about heaven.)
- E. A copy of *Conjugal Love* (Tell children that this book, too, is part of the new Word, and it tells us about the special love the Lord wants to give people who are married.)

V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. Dole's *Bible Study Notes*, Vol. 6, "The Woman and the Dragon", pp. 257-271.
- B. *Apocalypse Revealed* 532-565.

A Retelling of Revelation 12:1-9, 13-17

The Woman Clothed with the Sun

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a garland of twelve stars. She was about to have a baby.

And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great, fiery red dragon having seven heads and ten horns, and seven diadems [like crowns] on his heads. His tail knocked down many of the stars of heaven and threw them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

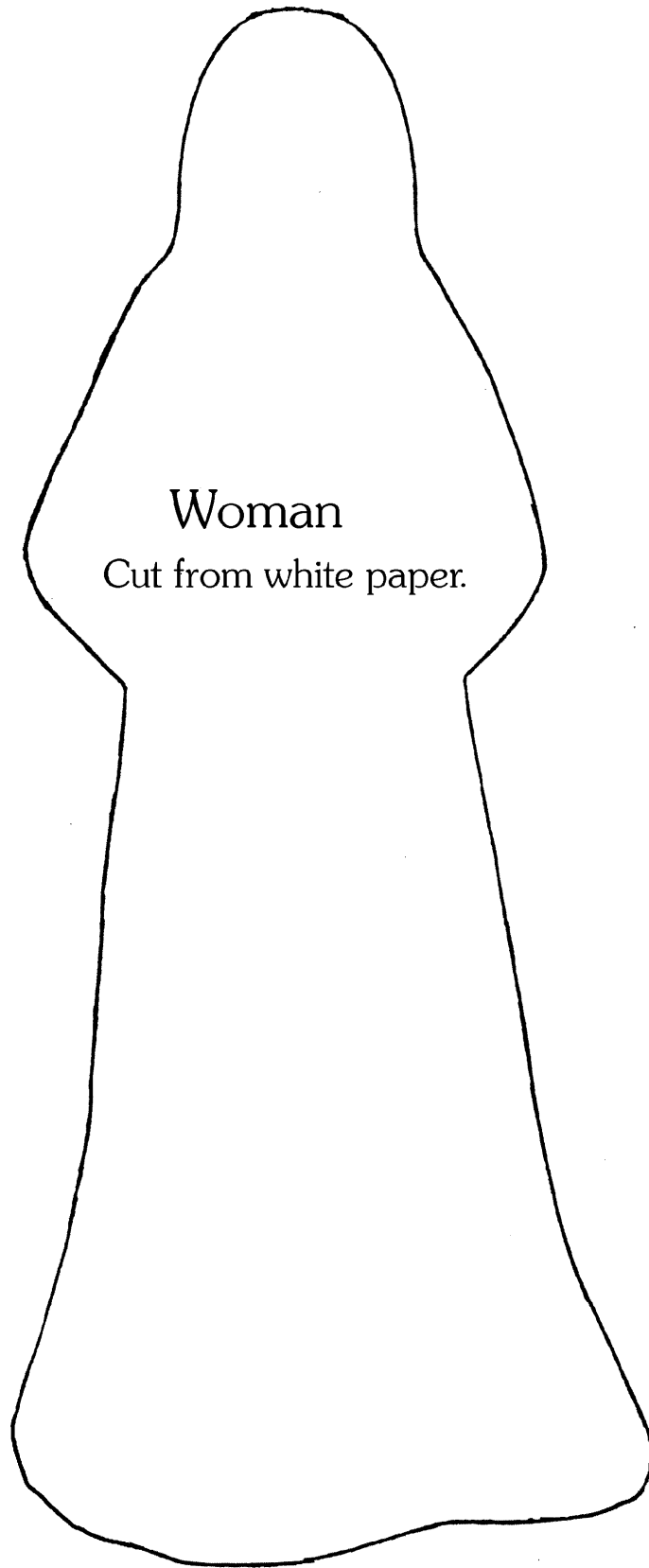
She had a boy Child, and her Child was taken up to the Lord. Then the woman ran away to a safe place, which the Lord had made for her.

Then there was a war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. Michael and his angels won, and they sent the dragon away.

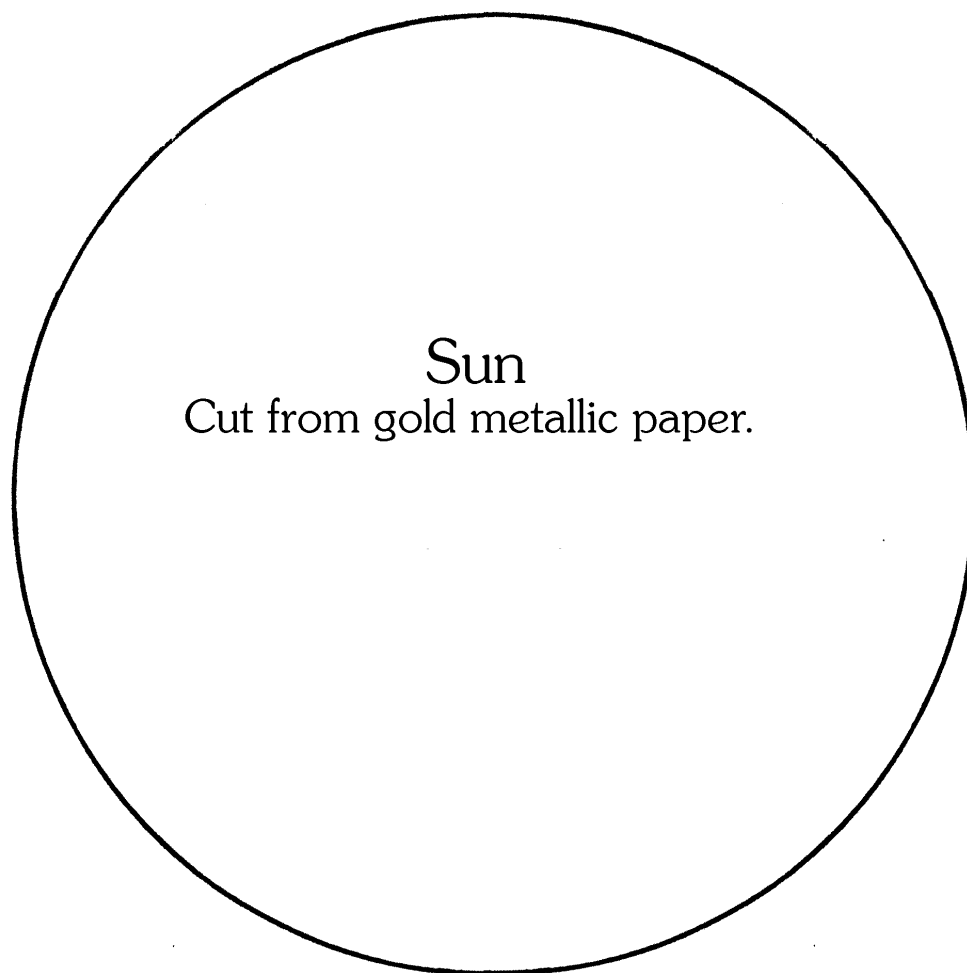
Then the dragon went to hurt the woman. But the Lord gave the woman two wings of a great eagle so she could fly to a safe place. Then the dragon sent a flood of water out of his mouth to hurt the woman, but the earth helped her and swallowed up the flood.

And the dragon was mad at the woman, and he went away to make more trouble.

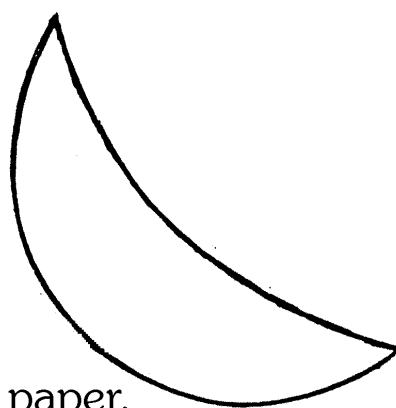
Woman Clothed With The Sun — Patterns For Project



Woman Clothed With The Sun — Patterns For Project



Sun
Cut from gold metallic paper.



Moon
Cut from gold metallic paper.

Preschool Sunday School Lessons: Phase 1 – Lesson 37

Text Slips for Back of Project

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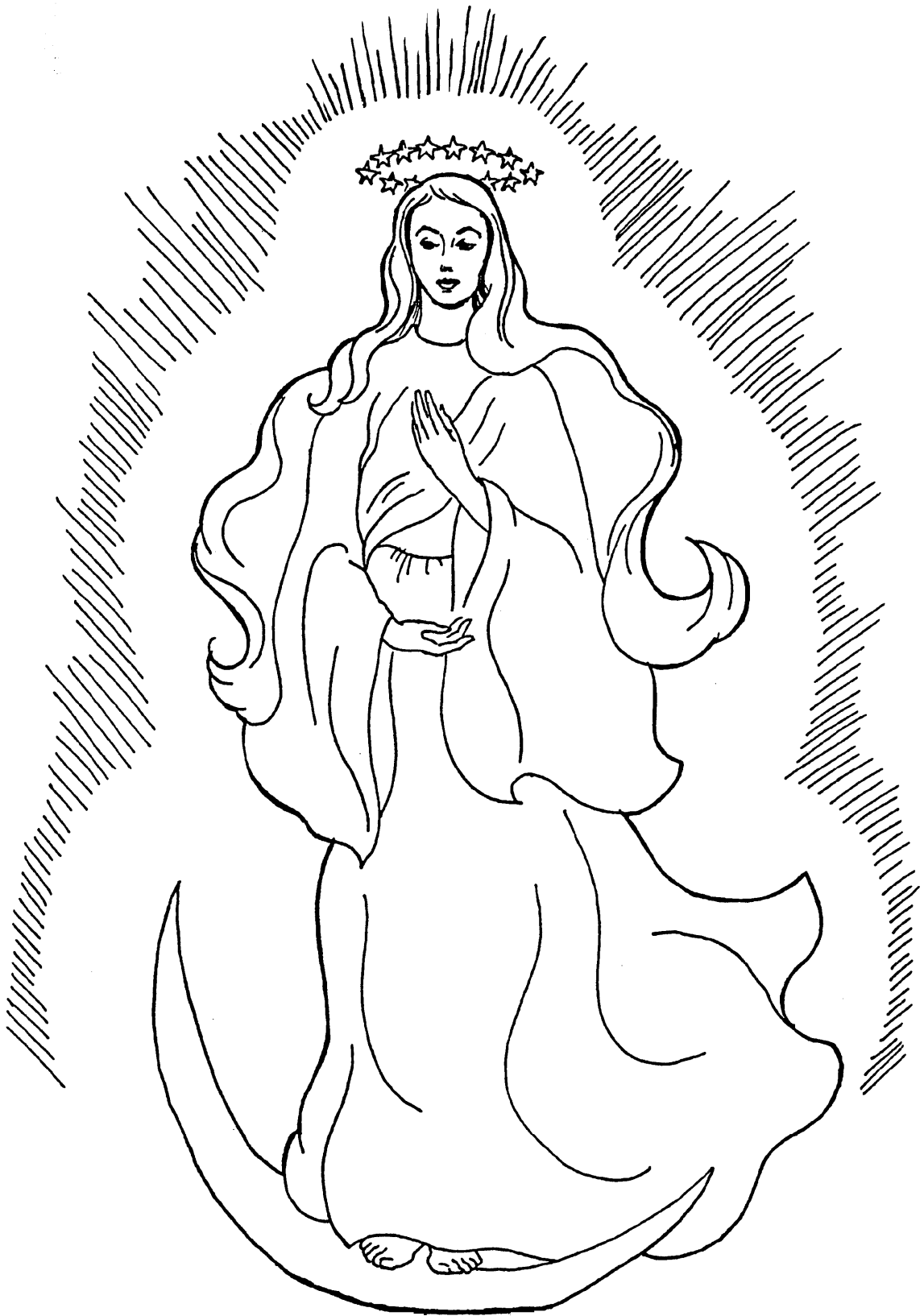
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