

General Church Education



The Lord Is Our Heavenly Father

Luke 18

Lesson 1

Jacob's Ladder Religion Lessons

Level 1: The Lord Is Our Creator

For ages 6-7 years

THE LORD IS OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

LUKE 18:15-17

Today's story tells of the Lord blessing the children and is recounted in three different Gospels. (Matthew 19:13-15, Mark 10:13-16, Luke 18:15-17)

In the story, Jesus was surrounded by a crowd of people eager to hear what He was teaching. The disciples were still only learning the true nature of Jesus and did not yet understand that He came into the world to show that He cared for all people as a loving Father cares for His children. The threefold telling of this story would seem to emphasize the importance of this message. The Lord will always make Himself available to each one of us when we ask for His presence.

IDEAS FOR PARENTS & TEACHERS

- As parents and teachers we can remember that we must become as little children, willing to follow the Lord, in order to enter the kingdom of heaven. In addition, children may learn important lessons by our example as we turn to the Lord for guidance.
- The Lord wants us to bring our children to Him. We can do this by teaching them about Him, leading them to worship Him, to love Him and to obey His Word.
- Our lives are often too full of things that need to be done. Is the Lord giving us an example to make time for our children?

FROM THE WRITINGS

By "little children" is signified innocence, because with little children there is innocence, and because those who are innocent appear in heaven as little children. No one can enter heaven unless he has some measure of innocence. *Arcana Coelestia* 5608

By "infancy" is meant the innocence of intelligence and wisdom, which is such that they acknowledge that they have life from the Lord alone, and that the Lord is their only Father. *Arcana Coelestia* 2035

THE LORD IS OUR HEAVENLY FATHER

IMPORTANT IDEAS

There is one God who is the Lord God Jesus Christ.
He loves each person and takes care of each of us.

Today's story helps us to understand that the Lord loves all people. He wants us to learn about Him so that we can follow Him and live with Him in heaven.

When the Lord lived in the world He did many miracles. He also taught people how to live their lives so that they could go to heaven. People were excited to listen to what the Lord said and to see His amazing acts of healing. Large crowds of people, including children, often followed Him so that they could be near Him.



In the story you are about to hear, there were a lot of people close to the Lord listening to Him teach. In the crowd were parents who wanted to have the Lord touch their children to bless them. The disciples didn't yet understand that the Lord loves everyone. They thought the Lord was too busy to pay attention to children. Listen to the story to see what the Lord said when parents brought children to Him.

Read Luke 18:15-17.



DISCUSSION

- Do you think that the Lord wanted to touch the children to bless them? What did He say? (*“Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them.”*)
- In the story, the Lord said that everyone needs to “receive the kingdom of God as a little child” in order to be able to enter it, or go to heaven. The Lord is the Heavenly Father for all people who live everywhere. He wants everyone to obey Him. Then He can gently lead them and be with them, both in this world and in heaven.
- Jesus is the name that the Lord used when He was living on the earth. Re-read the story to hear another name of the Lord (*God.*) Do you know anyone who has more than one name? (*Possible example - Mommy, Mrs. ---, Ann, Aunt Ann, Annie.*)
- Can you think of other names that the Lord used for Himself in the Word? (*Jesus, Christ, Savior, Shepherd, Messiah, King, Redeemer.*) Even though the Lord has many names, He still is the one and only God of heaven and earth. Each of His names tells us something special about Him, just as our names can tell us something special about each one of us.



THE LORD IS OUR HEAVENLY FATHER | Activities

Recitation

- Learn the recitation.

But Jesus called them to Him and said,
"Let the little children come to Me, and
do not forbid them; for of such is the
kingdom of God."

Luke 18:16

When the recitation has been learned, give
children the recitation picture on the last page of
this lesson, and a sticker, e.g. a star, to decorate
it.



Song

- When He Cometh -
Listen at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/song-when-he-cometh/>

Video

- Two Little Eyes to Look to God (song)
Watch at <https://www.newchurchvineyard.org/resource/video-two-little-eyes-to-look-to-god-song/>

Projects

- The Lord Has Many Names Wheel Project
- Picture to color

Additional Activity

- Brainstorm all the names you can think of for the Lord (e.g. Heavenly Father, Lord, Jesus, Christ, Savior, Redeemer, King, Shepherd, Prince of Peace, Creator, etc.) You might like to write some of them down and hang them where you can see them.

The Lord Has Many Names Wheel Project

This project helps children identify various names of the Lord and think about His many qualities.

Supplies needed

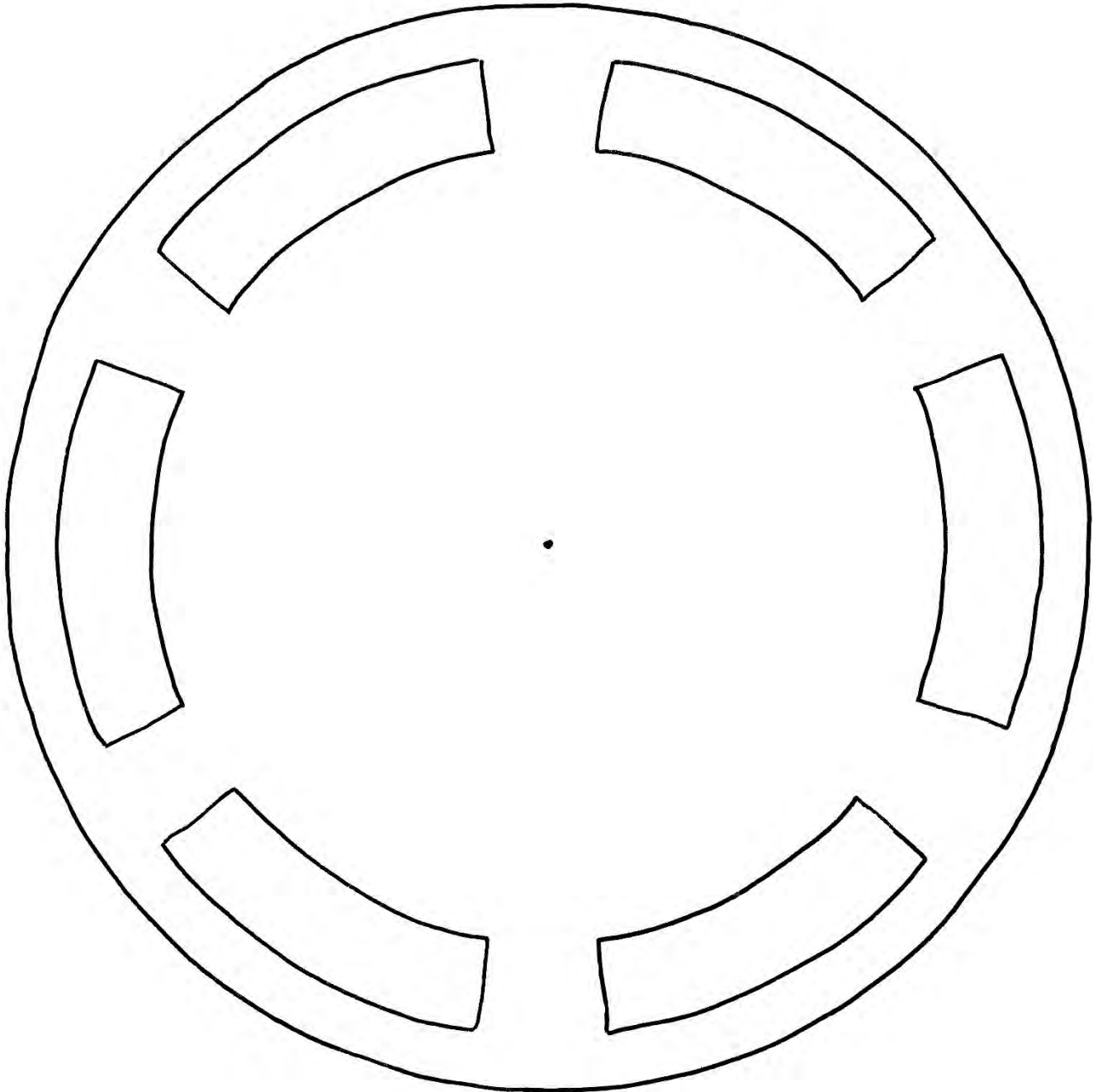
- 1 piece stiff white paper approx. 8½"x11" (21cm x 28cm)
- 1 piece stiff red paper approx. 8½"x11" (21cm x 28cm)
- 1 brass brad (paper fastener)
- oil pastels or crayons
- scissors
- pencil

Directions

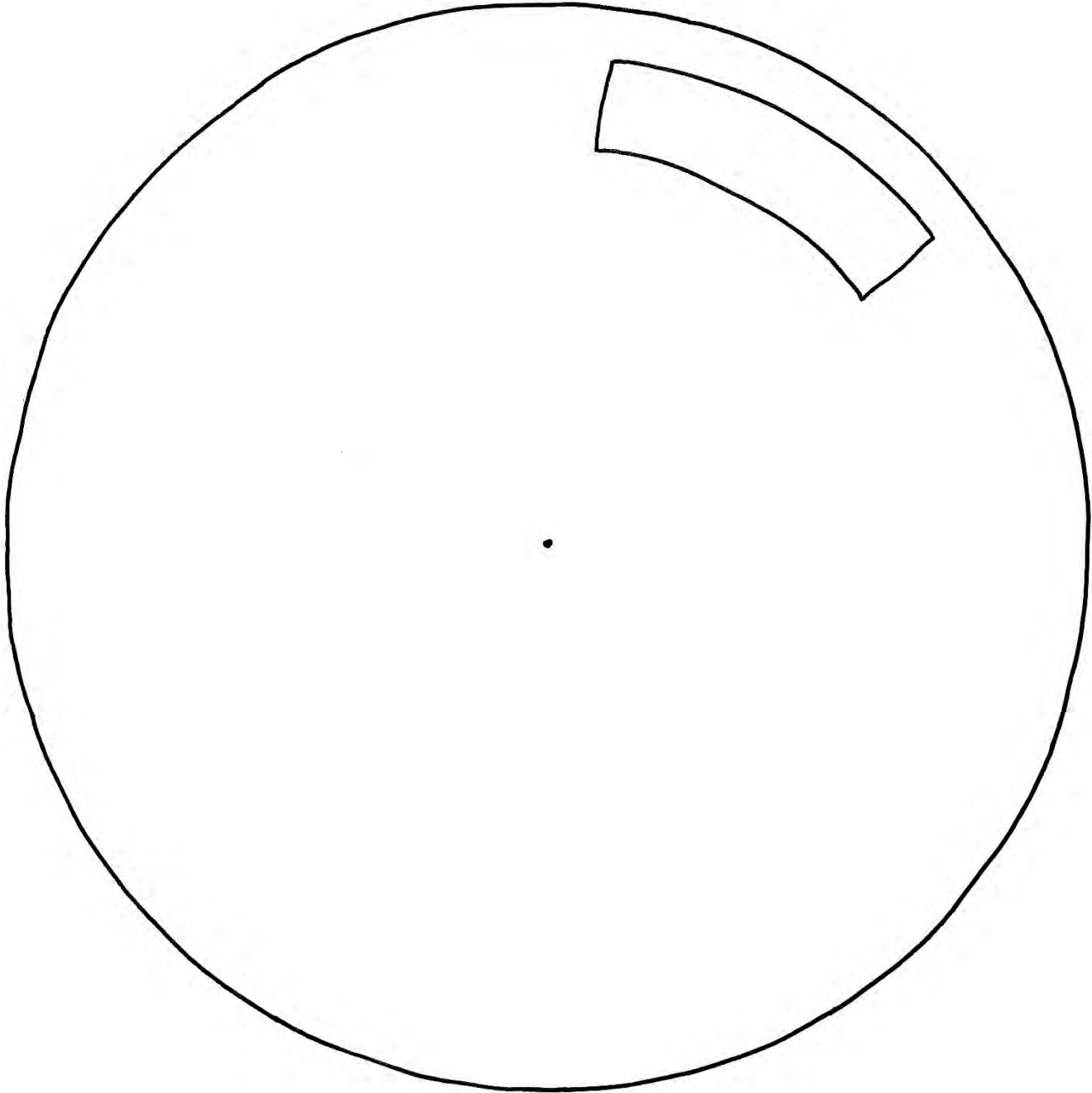
1. Copy the Names of the Lord Page Template on to stiff white paper.
2. Copy the Circle Template on to stiff red paper.
3. How many names can you think of for the Lord? Make a list of them, for example Lord, Jesus, God, Christ, Messiah, Heavenly Father, King, Shepherd, Creator, Savior, Redeemer, Almighty, etc. Choose six of these names. Using a pencil, write each name in a space marked on the stiff white paper.
4. Cut out the window marked on the stiff red paper.
5. Cut out the circles of stiff red and white paper.
6. Place the red circle on top of the white circle and attach them in the center using the brass brad (paper fastener).
7. With crayons, make a picture of the Lord in the center of the red circle. The fastener can be part of the waistband.
8. Now you can turn the red circle around and show the names of the Lord you have learned.



Names of the Lord Template to copy on to stiff white paper



Circle Template to copy on to stiff red paper





Recitation Award | Lesson 1

