

Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program
Preschool Lessons, Phase 1 - Lesson 36
Sending Out the Twelve Disciples (Matthew 24:31; TCR 4, 108, 791)

Theme: The New Church - June Nineteenth

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. It was necessary to start a New Church because the Christian church had divided God into three persons: "the Father", "the Son," and the "Holy Ghost."
- B. The apostles therefore went throughout the spiritual world teaching the truth that the Lord is one God. (TCR 4)

II. Story Circle

- A. Introduce the Story
 - 1. Long ago there was no New Church.
 - 2. When the Lord lived on earth He said He would come again, but people didn't understand how that would be.
 - 3. The Lord came again in the new Writings for the New Church by Emanuel Swedenborg.
 - 4. In heaven a wonderful thing happened to celebrate this. We'll read about this special time.
- B. Tell/Read the Story
 - 1. Enclosed
- C. Ideas to Discuss
 - 1. How did Swedenborg see the spiritual world? (With his spiritual eyes)
 - 2. What did Swedenborg do when the Lord taught him things? (Wrote them down)
 - 3. What day did heaven celebrate the first birthday of the New Church? (June 19, 1770)
 - 4. What did the Lord do on that first birthday? (Sent out His 12 disciples into all of heaven)
 - 5. What did the disciples tell everyone? (The Lord God Jesus Christ reigns and that His kingdom shall be forever)
- D. Further Ideas
 - 1. We celebrate that the Lord was born on earth at Christmas time. That is like His birthday.
 - 2. We celebrate when the Lord was born again on the 19th of June. This is like the church's birthday.
 - 3. How do we celebrate the church's birthday? (The church gives the children presents, picnic, pageant, special church service)

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III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. "Happy Birthday to You" to the New Church
2. "This Little Light of Mine"
3. "The 12 Disciples" (Lori's Songs; tape 2, side B, song 12)

B. Activities

1. Trace the letters: "The Lord God Jesus Christ Reigns!"
2. Act out the story: Teach the children the verse "The Lord God Jesus Christ Reigns!" and have them "go out" and spread the news. Perhaps they could have a chance to act this out for the grownups after church.
3. Birthday party for the New Church

C. Projects

1. Color in a picture of the 12 disciples spreading the news
2. Decorate the tracing activities (B. 1 above). Use stickers, glitter, and markers. Perhaps mount it on colored paper.

IV. Teaching Aids

- A. See enclosed color illustration of the 12 disciples by Mir Synnestvedt
- B. Felt board & figures of the Lord & disciples, if available.

V. Further Reading for the Teacher

