Oak Arbor New Church Sunday School - Lessons for Intermediate Level

Lesson 21: SPIRITS LEARN ABOUT THE HEAVENLY SUN

Five Memorable Relations

READING:

One day, some angels were showing new spirits around in the spiritual world.

These spirits were people who had just recently died and come into the spiritual world, and they were seeing how things worked there for the first time.

The new people turned their faces toward the east, and saw the sun shining brightly. When they found themselves under the warm rays of the sun, they asked the angels about it, wondering if it was the same sun they had known back on earth, since it looked so much like the earthly sun.

"If that's the same sun," they said, "aren't we still in nature, in the natural world?"

The angels answered, "This is not the sun of the natural world, but the sun of the spiritual world. Our whole universe comes from this sun. All angels and spirits have life from the spiritual Sun, and we also get our ability to understand things and be wise from this Sun. The heat from it makes us able to love, care, and do things. This sun is made out of pure Love, and the Lord Jesus Christ is in the midst of it.

The Lord is a Divine Person, but the Love coming from Him forms the heavenly Sun. This Sun's heat and light then flow out into all the heavens, making the Lord's love present everywhere. The earthly sun gets life from the heavenly Sun, and it in turn sends light and heat onto the earth, keeping earthly things alive. But the earthly sun cannot cause people to love or be wise. When people on earth have love or wisdom, they are getting it from the heavenly Sun."

When the new people from earth heard these things from the angels, they were filled with joy. "We feel our hearts exulting with joy," they said, "like they never have before!"
"This," replied the angels, "is because you are feeling the Love which flows out from the spiritual Sun."

Five Memorable Relations (paragraphs 16 and 17)

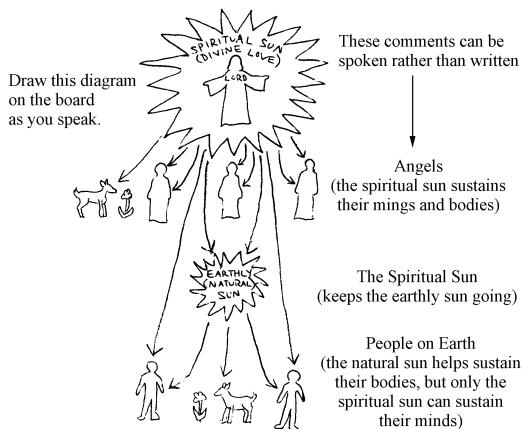
DISCUSSION:

Use the following questions and diagram for discussion:

- 1. Who is in the midst of the heavenly, or spiritual, Sun? (The Lord Jesus Christ. Sometimes the angels see Him in His Human form, but at all times they can see His Sun in the sky.)
- 2. What is the heavenly Sun made out of? (The Lord's Divine Love. There is no darkness or night in heaven, because the Lord's Love is always shining in the sky.)
- 3. Why is the earthly sun important? (Nothing on earth could survive or grow without light or heat.)
- 4. And what keeps the earthly sun going? (The heavenly Sun so all earthly light and heat come from the heavenly Sun, too.)
- 5. What all does the spiritual Sun, or the Lord's Love, keep alive? (EVERYTHING plants, animals, people in heaven and on earth.)
- 6. Just the bodies of people?

(No – also their minds. From the spiritual Sun, which is the Lord's Love, comes the kind of light that can make people understand things, and the kind of heat that can make people love.)

Diagram:



PROJECT The Sun of Heaven (with a quote)

Supplies:

piece of construction paper (large) or piece of poster board for each child glue or rubber cement

tissue paper (or colored paper) in 4 colors: white, shades of yellow and orange pattern template(see page 7)

scissors

gold pens, and/or photocopies of the enclosed quotes about the Sun of Heaven

Procedure:

- 1. Start by cutting out 4 tissue/colored paper circles: 1 white; 2 yellow; and 1 orange, using the template on p. 7 as a guide. (*Note*: If you have a short class time, doing this for students ahead of time will help you finish earlier.)
- 2. Fold each circle in half three times in the *same* direction $(1/2, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8})$.
- 3. Fold each circle in half again one more time in the *opposite* direction. The circle will now be 1/16 of its original size.
- 4. Place the 4 pieces together to form a quarter of a circle with white tissue on the left, going in color order from the darkest to the lightest color as shown in photo 1.



Photo 1



Photo 2

- 5. For the next steps demonstrate how to do the project while having everyone following along with you. Cut out the pattern piece shown on the template as shown in photo 2.
- 6. Place the pattern of the serrated edge across all 4 wedges and trace around the pattern, transferring the design on to all 4 wedges as shown in photo 3.



Photo 3



Photo 4

- 7. Cut out the pieces along the traced lines as shown in photo 4.
- 8. Open up each cut piece and smooth out the fold lines.
- 9. Glue the cut pieces of tissue/colored paper on to the upper area of the construction paper or poster board, gluing the piece with the smallest hole in it (white) first.
- 10. Glue down each layer to the construction paper to create a poster in order of the size of hole as shown in photo 5.
- 11. Choose a quote from the *Project Quotes* pages. Choose whether to cut the quote out and glue it to the page, or copy the quote on to the poster using a gold pen.



Photo 5

Project Quotes

The children can choose from the following statements to write beneath their tissue paper sun, in gold lettering:

The essence of the Sun of heaven is pure Love; and the Lord Jesus Christ is in the midst of it.

The Sun of heaven is always in its rising and its power.

The Lord is indeed in the Sun which appears to the angels in the heavens.

Our sun corresponds to the Lord's love.

The light in heaven is from the Lord, who is the Sun to them.

When someone who thinks deeply looks at the sun, he thinks about the Lord.

The first period of a church is compared to the rising of the sun.

The Sun of heaven is not like the sun of the world, which rises and sets. Instead, it appears constantly.

The light of the heavenly Sun has in it wisdom and intelligence.

The Sun in the heavens, that is, the Lord, is never darkened.

The Sun in heaven, which is the Lord, is always rising, and never setting.

Each and every thing in heaven comes forth and exists from the Sun, which is the Lord.

The Lord is the Sun from which is all the light in Heaven.

Our sun represents the Lord. The fire of our sun represents the Lord's Divine Love.

The heat from our sun represents the good that flows from the Lord's love.

The light from our sun represents the divine truth that comes from the Lord.

It is the fire of the heavenly Sun which gives life to every person.

The Lord is above the heavens; for He is the Sun of heaven; but still He is present in heaven by means of the light and heat.

When the angels are in a state of love, it is morning with them, and then the Lord appears to them as a rising Sun.

Though the Lord is a Divine Person, His Divine Love takes shape in heaven as a Sun.

The angels constantly turn their faces to the Lord as a Sun.

The Sun of the spiritual world is pure Love from Jehovah God, who is in the midst of it.

Project Template

