

**GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM**  
**Primary Lessons: Phase 1 – Lesson 15**  
**The Widow of Nain (Luke 7:11-17)**

**I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher**

- A. The Lord performed miracles for two reasons: to strengthen and confirm the faith of those who wanted to believe in Him, and for the sake of the Word.
- B. Each miracle is really a parable teaching us of some good work which the Lord can perform in our souls if we believe in Him and ask His help.
- C. Every disease in the Word corresponds to some weakness or deformity in the soul.
- D. Only the Lord has power over life and death.
- E. Basic correspondences: a widow = a good desire which has lost the truth which belongs with it.

**II. Story Circle**

- A. Introduce the Story
  - 1. While the Lord was on earth, He did many miracles. Do you remember what a miracle is? (A wonderful thing that the Lord does to teach us a spiritual lesson)
  - 2. So far this year we have learned about 3 miracles, which the Lord did while He was on earth. Can you remember what they were? (Water turned to wine at the wedding at Cana [Lesson #8]; healing the leper [Lesson #14]; and healing the centurion's paralyzed servant [Lesson #143])
  - 3. Last time we learned that after the Lord had finished His Sermon on the Mount, He went to the city of Capernaum, and that is where He healed the leper (outside the city) and the centurion's servant.
  - 4. Today's lesson is about another amazing miracle that the Lord did the very next day. Let's find out what it was.
- B. Tell/Read the Story
  - 1. Read aloud Luke 7:11-17.
- C. Ideas to Discuss
  - 1. What was the name of the city to which the Lord went? (Nain)
  - 2. Who went with Him? (Many of His disciples and a large crowd)
  - 3. As they came near the city gate, what did they see? (A dead man being carried out)

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4. What do we know about the dead man? (He was the only son his mother had.)
5. And what do we know about his mother? (She was a widow - that is, her husband was dead.)
6. What did the Lord say and do when He saw her? (He told her not to weep, touched the coffin [a box to hold a dead body], and said, "Young man, I say to you, arise.")
7. What happened next? (The dead man sat up and began to speak.)
8. There was a large crowd of people watching all this. How did they feel now? What kinds of things did they say? (They felt fearful. They said, "A great prophet has risen among us," and "God has visited His people.")

### D. Further Ideas

1. In ancient times it was very difficult for a woman to be left without a husband or a son, because the men were the ones who earned the money.
2. Do we have any power over life and death? No; only the Lord does. He is the One who gives us life, and He never takes that gift away. And He is the One who decides when it's time for us to leave this world and to go on living in the spiritual world instead.
3. In today's story it looked like the dead man's life was gone. But Jesus showed everyone that He really was the Lord by using His power to give back the man's life in this world. Only the Lord can do that!

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### III. Enrichment Activities

#### A. Music

1. "See the Savior in the temple," HYMNAL #166.
2. "Heal Me," LORI'S SONGS V, WONDERFUL!

#### B. Activities

1. The teacher or a student plays Jesus. Everyone else lies down on the floor, pretending to be dead. "Jesus" touches each child, saying, "Little child, I say to you, arise", and the children respond by sitting up. Ask the children how it might have felt for the man who was brought back to life. The Word says that he spoke. What might he have said?
2. Briefly discuss the Lord's words, "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain." (John 12:24) (When a seed is planted, it dries out or dies, and then grows into a plant with flowers and new seeds. When a person dies, he or she can become an angel who "produces much grain", or, does many wonderful things for other people.) As an activity to follow up on this idea, provide pots or plastic disposable cups, potting soil, and seeds for the children to plant.

#### A. Projects

1. Make a Butterfly--see attached project page from *Sunday School Projects and Activities* created by Lori Odhner, Wendy Hoo, and Sonia Werner.
2. By the Town Gate – See project described in the *General Convention Sunday School Activity Book* for Lesson 126 (in white volume).

### IV. Teaching Aids

- A. Illustration of the Lord bringing the widow's son back to life (attached)

### V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. Dole's BIBLE STUDY NOTES, Volume 5, "The Widow of Nain," pp. 212-225.

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And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." And he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.

(Luke 7:14-15)

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## RELIGION PROJECTS

Designed by Lori Odhner, Wendy Hoo, and Sonia Werner

Text: John 11: 1-46

Subject: The Raising of Lazarus

Dole Notes: Volume: 6 Chapter: 143 Page: 110

Age Group: Primary, 6-8

Basic supplies:



materials:

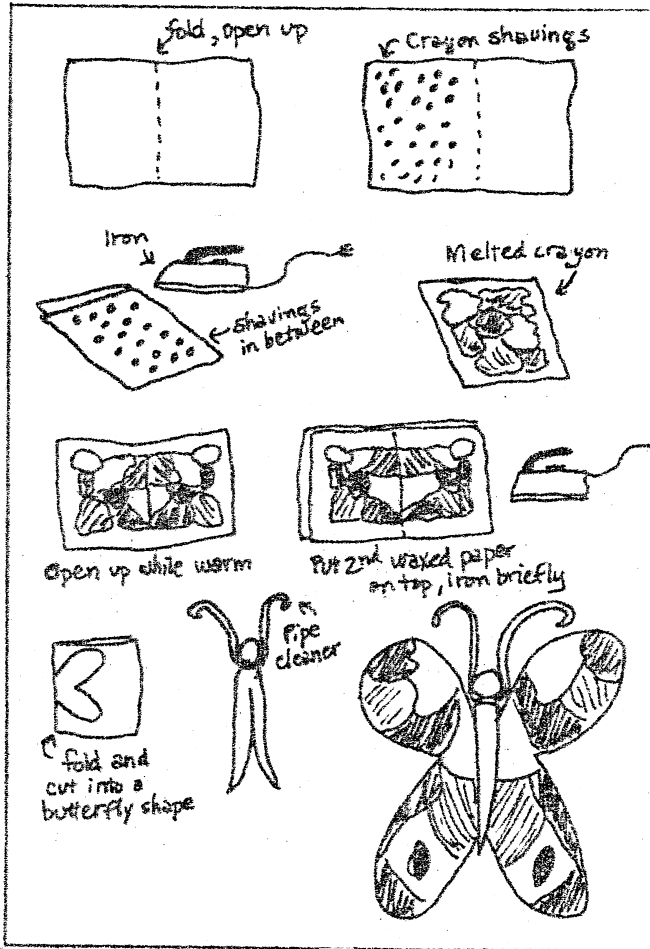
- waxed paper
- old crayons, peeled
- scissors, glue
- clothespins, pipecleaners
- paint, brushes, smocks
- iron, newspapers

teacher preparation:

- make sample
- set up newspapers to iron on
- cut waxed paper into pieces, 2 each (6" to 10" approx.)
- you may want to read or show them the book *Papillon* by Chauncey Giles (General Church Book Center)

procedure: • paint clothespin, let dry

- fold one piece of waxed paper in half ~ on one half, scrape crayon shavings with a scissors (try to keep colors separate or they will blend into a gray-brown)
- fold waxed paper over shavings, iron with a warm iron
- while still warm, open up waxed paper, lay second waxed paper on top and iron again briefly
- cut into butterfly shape (while folded)
- wrap pipe cleaner around clothespin for ant
- glue waxed paper wings to clothespin body



notes: talk about how the caterpillar "dies" in a cocoon and then comes alive as a beautiful butterfly; if you had a real cocoon to show them that would be great.

MUSIC: first songs: 6, 7, 8 (bottom)

Lori's tape: You wake up

Liturgy: 463, 501