

Sunday between November 6 and 12 – year C

Preparation

Read [Luke 20:27-38](#). Pay attention to the words or phrases that jump at you. Read over the lesson so that you are familiar with what is intended to happen. Gather the materials that you will need for each section of the lesson. For deeper thinking or for ways to extend the lesson take a look at the following websites:

<http://www.textweek.com/yearc/properc27.htm>

http://www.sermons4kids.com/in_heaven_forever.htm

<http://www.ebibleteacher.com/children/lessons/TrickQuestions.htm>: not the same question that

Jesus gets in this story – but has helps on how to approach the issue of the questioning

<http://www.word-sunday.com/Files/c/32-c/K-32-c.html>

http://www.episcopalchurch.org/109452_115801_ENG_HTM.htm:

scroll down the page to find the one for this Sunday

Gathering

Materials needed

- Small table or end of one table
- Candle
- Candle lighter
- Bible and bookmark
- Green cloth
- Newsprint and markers
- Riddle website: <http://azkidsnet.com/riddles.htm>
(before the lesson, check out this page and choose two or three different riddles to use)

Print up the prayer on the newsprint so that the readers can say the prayer with you.

With the children place the cloth on the table. Have them help you place the Bible on the cloth.

Light the candle. Pray the following prayer together:

Loving God, creator of us all, be with us today.

Loving Jesus, friend of us all, show us the way.

Loving Spirit, helper of us all, stir us with love everyday. Amen.

Blow out the candle. Start off by asking the children if they know what a riddle is.

Explain that it is a tricky question that doesn't always have the answer we expect it to have.

Now share with the children the riddles that you have chosen for today – enjoy the chuckles that they give you. Explain that in today's story some people come to Jesus with a tricky question – not a riddle but Jesus still gives them an answer that they are not expecting.

Story Time

Instructions

- Get settled together in a comfortable way to hear and tell today's story.

Jesus had healed a lot of people while teaching the people about God's way of love. Jesus had even raised people from the dead – people like the widow's son, people like the daughter of Jairus, people like his good friend Lazarus. Jesus had also been doing a lot of talking about his own coming death and how God was going to do something amazing and raise Jesus from the dead in a new way. This new way is called resurrection.

Now there were a group of people in Israel, called the Sadducees, who weren't sure about resurrection. Some of the leaders from this group came to Jesus with a question. They were really trying to trick him.

The question they asked Jesus was long and complicated. This is what they asked:

Teacher, the great prophet Moses said that if a man's brother die and leaves a wife and no children then the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. Now, suppose, that there had been a man who had seven brothers, the first married a woman and died childless, and then the next brother married her and then died without any children, and the third, the fourth, the fifth, the sixth and the seventh. Finally the woman died. In the resurrection whose wife will she be as she was married to all seven of them?

Jesus just stood there for a moment. Those listening were quite amazed at the question. They wondered how Jesus would answer the question. Jesus said to them:

Those who live here and now get married and have families. Those who are part of God's family and will be part of the resurrection will not marry. They will not die anymore for they are the children of God. They are like the angels. Remember that Moses showed us the resurrection of the dead. When God spoke to Moses in the burning bush, God says that God is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. All of them were dead in their bodies at the time. Remember that God is the God of the living and not the God of the dead. All are alive to God at all times – those here on earth and those in the next world with God.

Those were listening were amazed by Jesus' answer because they knew that he spoke the truth and shared God's word with everyone.

Response

Project Idea 1: Child of God Puppet

These puppets will be a way for the children to connect with being a child of God.

Materials needed

- person image at the end of the lesson
- construction paper
- scissors
- craft sticks
- strong tape
- markers
- yarn, ribbons
- tissue paper bits
- glue

Instructions

Copy the person image at the end of the lesson. Make one for each child.

For all the children, glue the image to a piece of construction paper.

For younger children, cut out the person leaving a margin of construction paper around the edges. You can let older children do this for themselves. Give each child a prepared puppet.

Ask a reader to read the phrase in the centre of the puppet. Ask them what they think it means to be a child of God. Have the children decorate their puppet using the craft materials that you provide them with. When they are done help the children to tape a craft stick to the back using the strong tape. Remind the children that Jesus said that we are all children of God when we follow in the way of love. Suggest that they use their puppets to share that with others.

Project Idea 2: Family of God Poster

This poster will give a way for the children to share with others about being part of God's family.

Materials needed

- person image at the end of the lesson
- poster board
- markers
- yarn, ribbons
- glue and scissors
- markers

Instructions

Copy the person image at the end of the lesson. Make one for each child.

For younger children cut out the image. Older children will be able to do this for themselves.

Print the following in the centre of the poster board: “**We are the family of God**”.

Give each child a prepared person and have one of the readers, or yourself, read the phrase in the centre of the person. Invite the children to decorate their persons and think about what Jesus had to say about those who follow God are part of the family of God.

When they are done decorating help them to glue them to the poster. Read the phrase in the centre of poster to the children and suggest that one of the ways they can share this message is to put up the poster for the whole community to see.

Closing

Gather with the children around the worship table again. Relight the candle.
Say the prayer line by line and encourage the children to repeat it after you:

Thank you God for loving care;
Thank you Jesus for loving choices;
Thank you Spirit for loving ways. Amen.

Person Image

