

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Matthew 12:43-45; Luke 11:24-26

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that unbelief hardens the heart.

Materials: Rock, Clay, Paper, Crayons or Colored Markers

Memory Verse: "Happy is the man that feareth always: but he that hardeneth his heart shall fall into mischief." (Proverbs 28:14).

Lesson Summary

In Matthew 12:43-45 Jesus tells of an unclean spirit leaving a man. The spirit goes and gets seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and the spirits enter into the man to stay there. The man is worse off than ever before. Jesus had been performing many miracles including healing the blind, but most of the Jewish people refused to believe Jesus was the Son of God. Jesus tells the story in Matthew about evil spirits to show that those who would not believe in Him would become more evil than they were before He came. Like the unbelieving Jews, if someone chooses not to believe in Jesus, his/her heart can become hardened, and the devil can have more control in someone's life. What does it mean for a heart to be hardened? Who do you want to control your heart? Jesus is the Son of God, and He wants to be your Lord and Savior.

Bible Point:



Ideas to Illuminate:

Have a round piece of clay and a rock covered in clay. Show students and explain if we don't believe in Jesus how our hearts can become hardened like the rock covered in clay. Stress how our hearts need to be soft like the ball of clay to allow Jesus to mold us into the Christians we should be. Also, Have students draw a self portrait with a heart drawn on his/her shirt. Have students write Jesus in the hearts. Also have the students write the memory verse on their papers.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. Who is the Son of God?
2. What can happen to our hearts if we don't believe in Jesus?
3. Who should we let be in control of our hearts?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: John 19:30; 17:4; 20:21, 22; 14:12; Mt. 28:18-20

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that Jesus came to establish here on earth, the church of God in the bible

Materials: Map or globe, paper, crayons

Memory Verse: "As my Father hath sent me, even so I send you." (John 20:21).

Lesson Summary

Easter is a time of reflection on Jesus and how he died on the cross to free us from our sins. Although this is true, it was just the beginning of the great work God sent him to do. Jesus ultimately came to establish, on earth, the church of God of the Bible. He came to preach and teach the word of God and establish people in the faith to continue the work of the church. This great work could not be done by sinners. Therefore, Jesus became the final sacrifice, making a way for us to be free from sin and to be holy before the Lord. Thus, allowing us to be worthy to carry out the work of the church. While Jesus was hanging on the cross he said, "It is finished". (Jn 19:30) He had glorified the Father on the earth and finished the work God sent him to do. (Jn 17:4) After Jesus arose on the third day, he met with his disciples. They were afraid when they first saw him in the flesh, but Jesus said, "Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so I send you". He then breathed on them and said, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost". (Jn 20: 21,22) This gave the disciples authority to act as directors of the church of God. Jesus came and established the church but it is up to His people to continue the work of the church until He returns. He said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you he that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." (Jn 14:12) Before Jesus ascended to sit at the right hand of the Father he gave his disciples the great commission of the church. "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world". (Mt 28: 18-20) Are you ready to carry out the mission of the church and complete the work God sent you here to do?

Bible Point:



Ideas to Illuminate:

Tell the children about the church and our world mission. Use a map or globe to show them the different countries the church is established in. Give the children a piece of paper and crayons and have them write, or draw pictures, of how they can help spread God's word in their own community.

1. Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What has to happen to us before we can help build God's church?
2. How did Jesus make a way for us to live sin free and holy before God?
3. What did Jesus come to establish on earth?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 8:5-8; Matthew 13:3-8; Mark 4:3-8

Lesson Objective: The student will learn that hearers respond to preaching in different kinds of ways.

Materials: paper crayons, glue or tape, seeds extra activity: small cups, soil, seeds, markers

Memory Verse: "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves." (James 1:22).

Lesson Summary

If you went out to plant seeds, would you want birds to come down and eat the seeds? Why? Would you want the seeds to fall on rocky ground? Why not? What about on ground that has a lot of thorns? Why not? On what kind of ground would you want your seeds to fall? In the parable of the sower, seeds fell by the wayside, on rocky ground with no room for roots, among thorns that kept fruit from growing, and on good ground where more and more fruit could grow. The story teaches us that people respond to God in different ways. The words of Jesus are like seeds planted in our hearts. Some people refuse the teachings of Jesus. Others believe and obey but only for a short time. Some begin to want other things more than they want to serve God. But some stay committed to God and become more and more like Jesus in their lives. What kind of ground do you want your heart to be like? Do you want to believe for a little while and then eventually want other things more than God? Our desire should be to grow good fruit and be more like Jesus as we serve Him!

Bible Point:



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Have students divide paper into four squares and illustrate the four types of ground in these squares. Give each student a few seeds and have them glue or tape the seeds on the type of ground they want their hearts to be like.
2. Extra activity- Provide students with a small cup filled with soil and seeds to be planted. While students plant their seeds, talk about how the seeds are being planted in good ground. Have students write the Bible point on their cups.

3. Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What are the words of Jesus like when they come into our hearts?
2. Do all people let the seeds take root in their hearts?
3. What kind of ground do you want your heart to be like?

Teacher Preparation

Readings: Luke 13:1-9

Lesson Objective: The student will learn unbelief is dangerous.

Materials: Paper, crayons, fruit, actual tree branches or pictures (one dead and one lively)

Memory Verse: "Seek ye the Lord while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near." (Isaiah 55:6).

Lesson Summary

Have you ever visited an apple orchard or picked fruit from a tree? Would you go to a tree that was full of fruit or a tree that had no fruit? A tree with no fruit, that is supposed to have fruit, doesn't seem like it is all it should be, right? In Luke 13, we read about a barren fig tree. A man had a fig tree, and he looked for fruit on the tree but didn't find any. For three years he looked for fruit on the tree and found none. He told the person taking care of the tree to cut it down. But the caretaker asked to work on it one more year to see if it would produce fruit. If it still did not produce the fruit, it would be cut down. The man had the fig tree planted because he wanted fruit. We are like the fig tree. God made us and wants us to have fruit. In other words, God wants to see good behavior in our lives. He wants us to love Him and to love our neighbor in all that we do. The only way we can do that is by turning to Jesus and believing Him. If we don't believe Him, we are like the fig tree that did not have any fruit. We are unable to do what God wants us to do. If we continue to not believe in Him, we will be forever lost and unable to have God's love in our lives. Do you have Jesus in your heart today? What kind of tree do you want to be, a living tree with fruits or a tree with no fruit at all?

Bible Point:



Ideas to Illuminate:

1. Show each student a piece of good fruit. Then show a branch full of life with leaves and a dead branch. Have students imagine the branches are a tree and have them decide which one they think the fruit came from and why.
2. Have each student trace his/her hand (leaving the wrist area open to draw a tree trunk connected to the hand). Have students decorate the tracing as a lively tree with fruit. Also have the students copy the memory verse onto the same piece of paper.

Questions for Class Discussion:

1. What kind of fruit do you want to have?
2. If we have good fruit, who does that show we have living in our hearts?
3. Why is it dangerous to not listen to God?