

LESSON 3

The Missionary Spirit of the Early Church

I. Introduction

The aim of this lesson is to stimulate an awareness about the lifestyle and the evangelical fervour that was prevalent in the early church.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

The early church had keen interest in listening to the Word of God.

Having developed a oneness through listening to the Word of God, they started sharing everything with one another.

Their life based on the Gospel attracted many towards Christianity.

Their's was a community with the power-centre of Breaking the Bread.

In order to sanctify a day they prayed at different hours.

Even when they got scattered in the name of faith, they travelled through many continents by proclaiming the Gospel.

2. Attitude

Remains firmly united with the solidarity of the church. Live strictly according to the Gospel.

3. Habit

Will maintain the spirit of togetherness everywhere. Will help others in their need.

III. Teaching Aids:

A chart of verses that explain the zeal of the early church.

The Bible

The documents of the Second Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class by reading the verse - (Acts 2:37-39) as stated in the lesson. Also locate and read other verses from the Acts of the Apostles which point to the lifestyle of the early church. Note down the peculiarities that become evident from such verses. Emphasise the responsibility of all the members of the church to grow like the early Christians who lived in togetherness and grew in strength by breaking of the Bread and by listening to, living and proclaiming the Word of God.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in Lesson 1 and 2.

VI. Correlated Activities:

Locate and write down a few verses from the Epistles that illustrate the fervour of the early Christians.