

LESSON 7

Church: The Community of People who share

I. Preface:

The early church surprised all the others in the way its members shared whatever they had. There are verses which state that there was nobody among them who suffered from poverty. Their love for the others was so deep. Even today the church continues this sharing through its charitable activities. When those who are opposed to the church falsify what the church is doing our children should not be misled by them. Rather, they should be proud to belong to the church and join in its charitable activities. This is the message that the children should get from this lesson.

II. Objectives of teaching this lesson:

1. Conviction

- The early Christians were enthusiastic in imbibing the teachings and examples of Jesus and also sharing the same with others.
- Since everything was considered as common property and was shared according to each one's needs, there was none among them who suffered from poverty.
- The Holy Mass and our belief in resurrection motivate us to share.
- The church continues its sharing through its deeds of charity.

2. Attitude

- Share one's riches, talents and time
- Take pride in the deeds of charity that the church is doing, join in such activities.

3. Resolution

- I will make full use of the opportunities to share my wealth, talent and knowledge.
- I will participate in the deeds of charity that the church undertakes.

III. Teaching Aids:

Pictures of the charitable activities of the church, The Bible, Biography of St. Damian, St. Vincent De Paul and Bl. Mother Teresa, Pictures of the activities in the mission centers, Paper cuttings, Verse-cards, Documents of the Vatican Council, 'Bharatha Sabha Charithram'.

IV. Presenting the lesson:

Begin the class by showing the pictures of charitable activities of the church followed by a discussion. Tell the students about the examples set by the early church. Ask them to find out and write down verses that motivate us to share.

Discuss about the biographies of St. Damian, St. Vincent De Paul and Bl. Mother Teresa.

V. Lesson-based activities: (Same as in the 1st lesson)

a. Know the Mother Church:

Read 'Bharatha Sabha Charithram' (Malayalam) by Rev. Dr. Xavier Koodapuzha Chapter 5 pages: 196 & 197.

b. Answers

1. Page 45
2. Page 45, 46
3. Page 46
4. Page 46, 47
5. Page 47

VI. Supplementary activities:

1. Find out through discussion what the children can share with others and make a chart.
2. Visit an institution of the church which is engaged in charitable activities.