

Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program
Preschool Lessons, Phase 2 – Lesson 11
Thanksgiving (Fruit Offering)

Theme: Thanking the Lord

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. Everything the Lord created is for the sake of people (*TCR 67*).
- B. The Lord requires that we give thanks for our own sake so that we might come into a state receptive of His love (*AC 5957*).
- C. It is good to give thanks to the Lord for all the blessings he has given us.
- D. A good person can be compared to a tree which brings forth fruit.
- E. One way to thank the Lord is by doing good things.

II. Story Circle

A. Introduce the Story

- 1. Show the children a basket of fruit. Let them see, touch, smell, and taste the fruit.
- 2. Many stories in the Word talk about the Children of Israel, and others, bringing offerings to the Lord. Do you know what an offering is?
- 3. Sometimes people in the Word bring an offering of fruit to the Lord. This is because fruit in the Word is like when we do something good.

B. Tell/Read the Story

- 1. The Lord had promised the Children of Israel that He would lead them into a land flowing with milk and honey. A place where they could build their homes, and raise their families. After many years of wandering in the desert, they were getting close to this land. One day the people were learning about the laws they would need to obey when they got to the Promised Land. They were given some instructions about making an offering to the Lord. Listen to what they were told to do.
- 2. Read Deuteronomy 26:1-11.

C. Ideas to Discuss

- 1. Coming into a new land for the Children of Israel is like growing up, and learning how to do something new. Do you remember learning something new? What did you learn?
- 2. Who helped you to learn that new thing? Yes, the Lord. Are you happy about what you have learned?
- 3. Doing the good things we have learned is like bringing fruit to the Lord. He loves to see us doing what we know is right.

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D. Further Ideas

1. It is good to thank the Lord for the things He gives us. What are some ways we can thank the Lord?
2. At Thanksgiving time, the church invites us to give a fruit offering to the Lord. Giving fruit to the Lord is like bringing to Him what we do best. And we do that to show how much we want to thank Him for the blessings He gives us.

III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. Thanksgiving songs
2. Lori's Songs: "Thank You, Lord"

B. Activities

1. A fruit feast—bring in a variety of fruits for the children to see, smell and taste.

C. Project

1. Students color the attached picture. The teacher writes on their ideas about how to Thank the Lord.
2. A Bowl of Fruit—Use play dough of different colors or salt ceramic to sculpt bowls of fruit.
3. A Cornucopia of Fruit—Give children pre-cut fruits and a cornucopia, either out of construction paper, or out of magazines. Let them assemble a colorful collage.

IV. Teaching Aids

- A. Bowl, basket or cornucopia holding a variety of fruits
- B. Pictures of fruit

V. Further Reading for the Teacher



PRAISE
AND
THANKSGIVING