

**GLENVIEW NEW CHURCH SUNDAY MORNING PROGRAM**  
**Primary Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 8**  
**Introduction to Life After Death**

**I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher**

- A. There is no death, for life is eternal.
- B. Heaven is a wonderful place where good people go to live.
- C. Hell is a dismal place where evil people go to live.
- D. The world of spirits is where people stay for a while before they go to heaven or hell.
- E. It is the Lord's will that all people go to heaven, but He leaves us in freedom to decide for ourselves.
- F. The Lord will lead us to heaven if we look to Him and follow the teachings of His Word.

**II. Story Circle**

- A. Introduce the Story
  - 1. (Optional: Shut your eyes) Imagine a beautiful place: wonderful trees and flowers; great smells (use real fragrances— optional); gentle animals, beautiful people who are very nice and good; lovely homes for them to live in. You are imagining what heaven is like. Good people go to heaven.
  - 2. Now imagine an ugly place, perhaps a swamp or desert. It smells awful. There are ferocious animals. And ugly people who are very bad. The people have shacks to live in. You are imagining what hell is like. Bad people go to hell.
  - 3. There is a place between heaven and hell called the world of spirits. Let's imagine that. It's a lot like our world: plants and animals; houses and other buildings; some people who love the Lord; some people who love only themselves. People stay in the world of spirits for a while before they go to heaven or hell. The Lord gets their homes ready for them, and He gets people ready for their new homes.
  - 4. Where do you think you would like to live, in heaven or hell? Everyone is happy in heaven, but everyone in hell is unhappy and frustrated. The Lord wants all of us to go to heaven so we can be happy.
  - 5. Is it hard to go to heaven? What do you need to do to go to heaven? Let's read the Lord's Word to find out the answers.

## Primary Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 8

### B. Ideas for Presentation and Discussion

#### 1. Micah 6:8: Read and discuss

a. We all want to go to heaven, don't we? And the Lord tells us what we need to do if we want to make heaven our home forever. In our first reading, the Lord is telling us how easy it is to get to heaven. There are only three things He requires of us:

- To do justly (to be fair with people)
- To love mercy (to be kind as well as just; we shouldn't be harsh)
- To walk humbly with our God (to know that everything good comes from the Lord, not ourselves).

#### 2. Matthew 19:16-21: Read and discuss.

a. In our second reading, a young man asked Jesus how he could get to heaven. He said, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?"

b. What did the Lord answer? (Keep the commandments)

c. Then the man asked Him which commandments. Can you name some of the commandments the Lord said? (You shall not murder; you shall not commit adultery— hurt marriage; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness - life; honor your father and your mother – be obedient; you shall love your neighbor as yourself.)

d. The man said that he had obeyed the commandments all along. He asked what more he should do. What did the Lord answer? ("If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.")

- The man was bragging about how good he was. The Lord knew that he needed to think more about others than himself and to realize that all good is from the Lord.
- The Lord doesn't want us to sell all of our things and give everything to the poor. But He hopes that we will treasure good things and true ideas more than money and fine possessions.

### C. Further Ideas

1. Is it hard to get to heaven? (No, not really. The Lord makes us ready for heaven if we try to do what He tells us in the Word.)

2. We will be talking more about heaven next time and for many times after that. We are going to talk about what angels do, where they live, about their clothes and their food. We'll learn more about the world of spirits and hell. And we'll talk about some more ways to get to heaven.

## Primary Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 8

### III. Enrichment Activities

#### A. Music

1. "You Shall Love the Lord Your God With All Your Heart and Mind,"  
*First Songs for Little Children*, p. 7.

#### B. Activities

#### C. Project

1. An abstract representation of heaven, hell, and the world of spirits (see attached project description).
2. If time permits, make a group mural with crayons or markers. Let children contribute appropriate details to sections allotted for heaven, hell, and the world of spirits.

### IV. Teaching Aids

#### A. Pictures

### V. Further Reading for the Teacher

#### A. *Heaven and Hell*

#### B. *The Spiritual World* by Hugo Oehner

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### PROJECT FOR LIFE AFTER DEATH UNIT Lesson #8: Introduction

#### *An Abstract Representation of Heaven, Hell, and the World of Spirits*

##### **Materials:**

9X12 red or yellow construction paper  
Gray or (pea) green torn tissue paper  
White torn tissue paper  
Glue  
Crayons

**Advance teacher preparation:** You may want to draw lines on the yellow (or red) construction paper to divide the page into thirds.

##### **Method A:**

1. Provide a background sheet of yellow or red construction paper and divide into thirds, representing heaven (top), world of spirits (middle), and hell (bottom). The red or yellow color of the paper is to symbolize that Lord's love is present with all, both good and evil!
2. Use torn pieces of white tissue paper to represent good people (in heaven & world of spirits).
3. Use torn pieces of gray or (pea) green tissue paper to represent evil people (in hell & in world of spirits)
4. Glue a combination of gray (or green) and white torn tissue in the center section to represent the world of spirits. Both good and evil people are there, having recently arrived from the world.
5. Glue white torn tissue (good spirits, angels) in the top section.
6. Glue the gray or green torn tissue in the bottom section to represent evil spirits in hell.

**Advance teacher preparation:** You may want to draw lines on the yellow construction paper to divide the page into thirds and provide templates for circles and squares.

##### **Method B:**

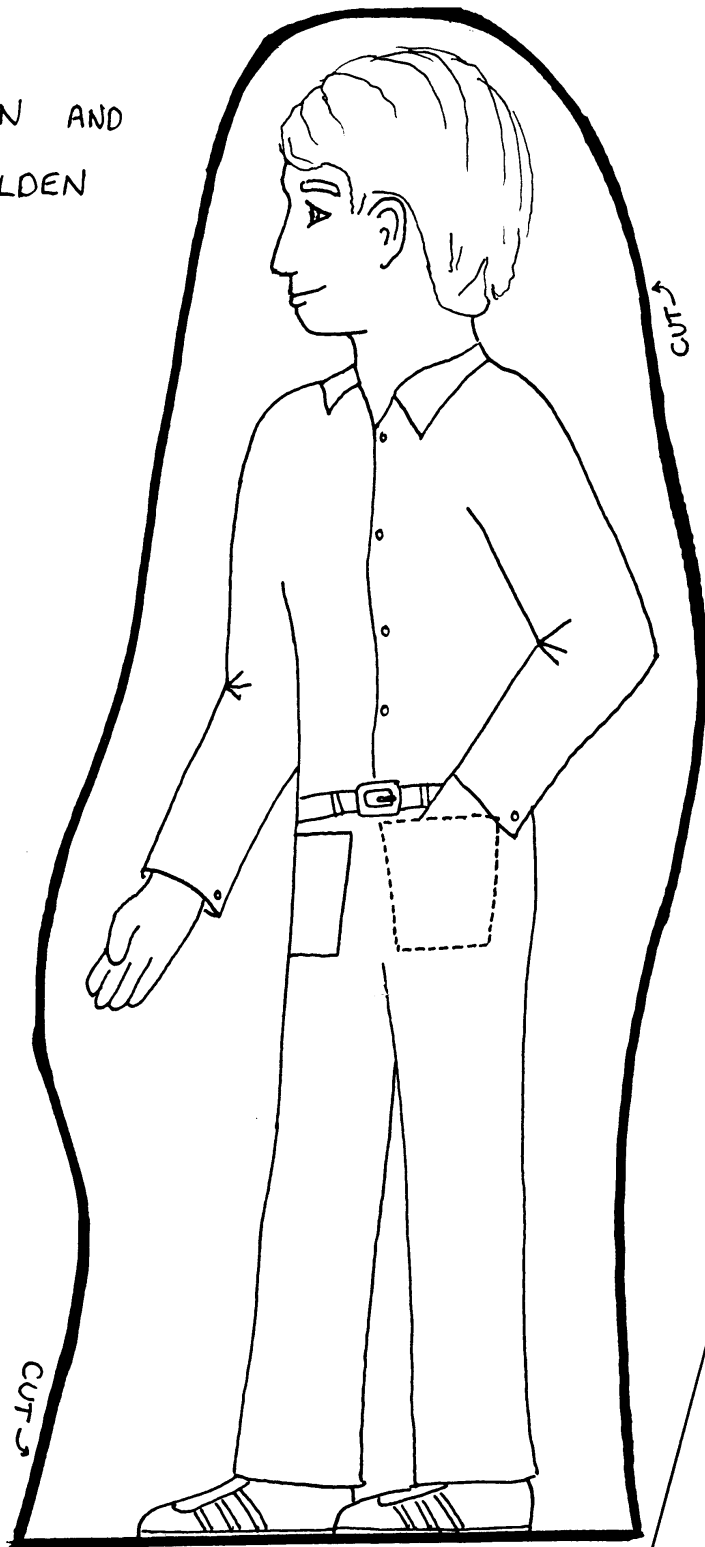
1. Provide a background sheet of *yellow* construction paper and divide into thirds, representing heaven (top), world of spirits (middle), and hell (bottom). The yellow color of the paper is to symbolize that Lord's love is present with all, both good and evil!
2. Draw white circles in the top section to represent good people in heaven.
3. Draw gray or pea green squares (or triangles) in the bottom third to represent evil people in hell.
4. In the middle section, draw some white circles and some gray or pea green squares (or triangles) to represent the mixture of good and evil people in the world of spirits.

**Primary Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2, Lesson 8**

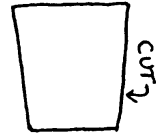
**Alternate Project Idea: Aaron and the Golden Coin**

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AARON AND  
THE GOLDEN  
COIN



AARON'S POCKET



FOLD

