

Lemont United Methodist Church Sunday School



Notes to Parents

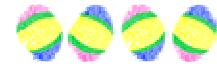
Dear Parents,

March 2010

Not long ago, I pulled out a favorite old video to watch. It was rated R, but after seeing it for the second time, I couldn't figure out what warranted that rating. That's when it hit me: society has built up a tolerance over the years. What would have been considered inappropriate a few years ago, barely raises an eyebrow today. As a result, our children are regularly exposed to graphic violence, profanity, sexual activity, and cruelty--in music, movies, TV, books, and everyday life. We bring them to Sunday School and church to impart Christian values, but those 1-2 hours each week are far outweighed by the other exposures in their lives. Is it possible to raise a Christian child in today's world? Yes! Remember that Jesus lived in a sinful world but he remained sinless. Here are some tips from Children's Ministry Magazine:

- **Be a Role Model**—remind children that what they see on TV and movies is make-believe; what they see at home is real
- **Have Open Discussions**—talk to your kids about the media they're exposed to; make sure they take away your values
- **Find the Lesson**—point out the Christian message hidden within movies, etc. (even if it's an example of what not to do). Challenge older children to find the lesson themselves.
- **Keep it in Context**—even though a war movie will contain violence, your kids are not in a war. Remind them that even though others do something, they don't need to (eg, we don't swear)
- **Explain**—sometimes young children just repeat words or behavior they've seen but they don't usually want to be bad or hurt others. Explain why something they've seen is inappropriate.
- **Don't be afraid of Discipline**—use consequences to stop bad behavior before it becomes habitual!

Easter Fun



Turn coloring eggs this Easter season into a teachable moment. Separate a raw egg into three bowls: shell, yolk, and white. Then use it to explain the Trinity—one God in three parts: God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Prayer Connect

*This month's theme is
Being the Light to
Others (Matthew 5:16)*



Dear Lord,
May my children's
light shine, may
they do good deeds
and praise you, our
Father in heaven.

We don't have to shield our children from a sinful world, nor do we have to ignore it. We can teach them to live within it...just like Jesus did. Happy parenting!

Yours in Christ,

Karin Peraino & Mary Rohrer



Mark Your Calendar

- ✓ 3/28/10 – Palm Sunday; children usher in "Jesus" at 10:45
- ✓ 4/04/10 – Easter; no Sunday School; Egg hunt at 10:00am

Please read the messages in the eggs with your children.

This year's theme is Favorite Bible Stories.

FaithWeaver

FaithWeaver Bible Curriculum – Weaving Faith Through Life!

Following is a calendar of upcoming lessons so that you may follow along with your child and review them at home should he/she have to miss a week of Sunday School.

Lesson & Date	Bible Story	<i>Scripture</i>	Key Verse	Bible Point Ages 3-5	Bible Point Grades 1-5
Spring 2010 (New Testament)					
1) 3/07	Jesus Teaches about Good Fruit	Luke 6:43-44	Matthew 5:16	<i>God helps us Grow</i>	<i>Our Christ-like actions show we're Christians</i>
3) 3/14	Jesus Tells the Parable of the Lost Son	Luke 15:11-32	Nehemiah 9:17b	<i>God is Loving and forgiving</i>	<i>God will forgive us when we sin</i>
4) 3/21	Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet	John 13:1-17	Mark 9:35b	<i>God wants us to help others</i>	<i>Jesus wants us to follow his example of serving others</i>
5) 3/28	Jesus is Tried and Crucified	Luke 19:28-40; 23:1-49	Romans 5:8	<i>Jesus died for us</i>	<i>Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins</i>
6) 4/11	Jesus Appears to Mary	John 20:1-18	Romans 10:9	<i>Jesus is Alive!</i>	<i>The good news of Easter is that Jesus is alive</i>
7) 4/18	Apostles Defend Their Faith	Acts 5:12-42	James 1:2-3	<i>Tell others about Jesus</i>	<i>Keep following God, even when it's hard</i>
8) 4/25	Saul Meets Jesus Near Damascus	Acts 9:1-20	2 Corinthians 5:17	<i>Jesus changes our lives</i>	<i>Jesus changes our lives</i>

Date	Lesson for Jr. High (Grades 6-8)
3/07	5) Topic = Lent Point: Lent helps us prepare our hearts to be forgiven
3/14	6) Topic = Easter Point: Jesus' death & resurrection allow us to be with God
3/21	7) Topic = Means of Grace Point: God wants us to be close to Him
3/28	8) Topic = 50 Days of Easter – Service Point: God wants us to serve others
4/11	9) Topic = Pentecost – Holy Spirit Point: God gave us the Holy Spirit to guide us
4/18	9) Topic = Pentecost – Self-Esteem Point: God created us & He loves His creation
4/25	10) Topic = Gifts of the Spirit Point: God has given each of us different gifts