



Lemont United Methodist Church Sunday School



Notes to Parents

Dear Parents,

March 2015

This Lenten season, I've been reflecting on my relationship with God. Is it "good enough?" And is that sufficient? Thinking back to when my children were playing baseball and cheerleading, if they weren't good enough to make the team, they sought out special instruction and practiced. Even after they made the team, kept working hard to get a starting spot and become the best that they could be. They weren't satisfied with just being "good enough."

My faith is important to me, I regularly talk to God, I'm active in the church, and I have been very blessed...perhaps that is good enough. Still, I can't help but wonder...could there be even more? What would happen if I intentionally worked to strengthen my relationship with God, just like I would work to strengthen my body or my mind? James 4:8 tells us, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." Surely if I draw nearer to Him, He will draw nearer to me! If anyone would like to join me in trying to strengthen your faith, here are some tips I've adapted from www.beliefnet.com:

1. **Choose**—Don't wait until you are in a slump to reach out for God. Be proactive and do something every day to connect with Him.
2. **Maintain**—Do whatever it takes to keep your body & soul healthy so you can be in a positive position to receive God: listen to music, workout, eat your veggies, get enough sleep, and choose to have a good attitude.
3. **Reevaluate**—Are your thoughts and activities bringing you closer or further from God? Intentionally expose yourself to situations that have the potential to strengthen your relationship with God.
4. **Look**—There is evidence of God everywhere, everyday. Find and rejoice in these small positive reminders that God is with us.
5. **Receive**—Take some time to just stop for a moment so you can let God come to you: pray and listen for his answer; go to church and feel his presence; let him move you through song, prayer, and scripture
6. **Practice**—As we learned last month, the best way to feel God's love is to show it to others! So get involved with a cause and "love one another."
7. **Trust**—Accept that God has a plan for you and it will be better than anything you can imagine. Give up your stress and worries...just trust God.
8. **Deepen**—Don't be satisfied with "good-enough." Get closer to God and have more!

Your children are witnesses to your relationship with God, so one of the best ways to help them build their faith is to strengthen yours. May God Bless your efforts. Happy Parenting!

Yours in Christ,
Karín Peraíno



Mark Your Calendar

- ✓ 4/05 = Easter. No SS; Easter Egg hunt at 10am
- ✓ 4/12 = No SS due to Spring Break

Prayer Connect

This month's
theme is **Passion for
God** (Psalms 63:8)



Dear Lord,
Please instill in my
children a soul that
follows hard after You.

Amen

GROW



You can learn more about our curriculum at www.growproclaimserve.com.

One Room Sunday School Schedule 2013-2014 (GROW Curriculum)					
Teacher	Helper	Date	Session	Bible Story	Scripture
Winter 2014-15					
Unit 3: Miracles					
Bible Point: Jesus can do Great Things					
Key Verse: In his defense Jesus said to them, "My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working." ~ John 5:17					
		3/08	10	<i>Jesus Walks on Water</i>	Matthew 14:22-43
		3/15	11	<i>Feeding 5,000</i>	John 6:1-14
Spring 2015					
Unit 1: Preparing for Easter					
Bible Point: God is with me in difficult times					
Key Verse: My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth. ~Psalm 121:2					
		3/22	4	<i>The Garden</i>	Mark 14:32-42
		3/29	5	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	John 12:12-19
Unit 2: Easter and Beyond					
Bible Point: Jesus is with me now and always					
Key Verse: But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God's Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name. ~John 20:31					
		4/19	6	<i>Easter</i>	John 20:1-18
		4/26	9	<i>The Great Commission</i>	Matthew 28:16-20

(Note: Jr. High will be holding discussion based on various religious materials;
HS Breakfast Club will be holding a series of discussions based on the movie, "To Save a Life")

Breakfast Club Dates: 3/08, 3/22, 4/19, 5/03, 5/17



Thought for the Month

"For God so loved the world that He gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish
but have eternal life." ~John 3:16

Kidz Korner



Happy February Birthday
to our Sunday School friend!
Christopher Smith 3/26



EASTER IS COMING! JESUS LIVES!

Did You Know?

✝ Easter is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection and His promise to us of Eternal Life ✝
Early Christians continued to celebrate Passover, but eventually began to celebrate Easter instead.
Although the exact date is not recorded, we do know that Easter is the oldest Christian holiday.

✝ The date of Easter changes based on the cycle of the Moon. ✝

We use eggs at Easter as a symbol of new life. Historically, no animal products could be eaten during Lent—including eggs—so there would have been a lot of eggs left over by Easter.

Here's a picture for you to color. It reminds us that there are great treasures awaiting us in heaven if only we put Jesus first while we're here on earth.

"But store
up for
yourselves
treasure
in heaven,"
Matthew 6:20

