

WE BELIEVE ... IN GOD

**Study Guide for
Teachers-Facilitators of children
on the**

UCCP Statement of Faith

*Published and Distributed by
EDUCATION AND NURTURE DESK United Church of Christ in the Philippines
877 Epifanio de los Santos Avenue
Quezon City
1991*

FOREWORD

This volume which tries to explain our belief in *One God* is the first article in our Statement of Faith. It demonstrates for all of us how God must come first in all that we think, do and say.

We commend this book to all teachers, parents, other adults — all nurturers and enablers — of children's faith development. In the process, it is our hope that we, too, will grow in our own understanding of, and inevitably, our relationship with God.

We thank God for Ellen Briones for writing this particular article and also to the CEN staff for trying to bring it down to the children's level of understanding. We also thank Teresita de la Cruz for her contribution on the lessons on God and the Holy Spirit.

Let us keep fresh our understanding of God.

Bishop Ernie R. Camba General Secretary

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

UCCP STATEMENT OF FAITH

STUDY GUIDE

Lesson 1: There Is Only One God

Lesson 2: God Creates All Things

Lesson 3: God Made Us (Man and Woman)

Lesson 4: Everything God Created Was Good

Lesson 5: God Provides for the People

Lesson 6: God Protects and Saves Us

Lesson 7: God Gives Us Courage

Lesson 8: God Speaks Through Jesus: Jesus' Birth: Greatness of His Love

Lesson 9: Jesus Showed Us How God Cares: As a Person He Came to be With Us.

Lesson 10: Jesus Loved Everyone: He Fed the Hungry

Lesson 11: Jesus Heals All Kinds of Sickness

Lesson 12: Jesus Taught About God's Love

Lesson 13: Jesus and His Disciples

Lesson 14: God Acts in the World Through the Holy Spirit

Lesson 15: God's Spirit In and With Persons

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

APPENDIX (Songs and Hymns)

INTRODUCTION

"To believe in God. . ." is a most significant affirmation for all Christians. It is the theological proposition that divides the believers from the non-believers or the theists from the atheists.

This volume will try to explain who God is, what God does and how God is present in and through Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit.

To study the essence of this first article in our Statement of Faith and to make it comprehensible to children of all ages is a most awesome task. It will need teachers and facilitators who have first hand experience of God in their lives and an ever renewing vital relationship with God.

Let this be our continuing encounter with God through our dedication to helping others grow in their understanding and acceptance of God in their lives.

Rev. Lydia N. Niguidula
Executive Secretary: CEN

THE UCCP STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

In One God:

Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, who provides order, purpose, meaning and fulfillment to all creation.

That in Jesus Christ

God became human and is Sovereign Lord of life and history

That in the Holy Spirit

God is present in the world empowering and guiding believers to understand and live out their faith in Jesus Christ.

WE BELIEVE

That persons:

Are created in the image of God and destined to live in community with God with other persons and with all creation;

That, by disobedience,

they have become sinful, but, by grace through faith, they are redeemed in Jesus Christ;

That being entrusted with God's creation,

they are called to participate in the establishment of a just and compassionate social order.

WE BELIEVE

In the Church:

the one body of Christ, the whole community of those reconciled to God through Jesus Christ and entrusted with God's ministry.

WE BELIEVE

In the Holy Bible:

as a faithful and inspired witness to God's self-revelation in Jesus Christ and in history to illumine, guide, correct and edify believers in their faith and witness.

WE BELIEVE

That God seeks to make each person a new being in Christ, and is at work in the whole world God's Kingdom in which love, justice and peace prevail.

That the Kingdom of God is already present where faith in Jesus Christ is shared where healing is given to the sick, where food is given to the hungry, where light is given to the blind and where liberty is given to the captive and oppressed.

WE BELIEVE

That the resurrection of Jesus Christ has overcome the power of death and gives assurance of life eternal after death.

And we look forward to His coming again in all fullness and glory to make all creation new and to gather all the faithful into the Kingdom of God.

Amen.

*Revised January 1991
UCCP Faith And Order Committee*

**Study Guide for Children
on the
UCCP Statement of Faith**

WE BELIEVE

IN

GOD

by Nelinda P. Briones

Lesson 1

THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD

TEXTS

Exodus 20:1-2, 5; 6:7; 8:10

Deuteronomy 6:4-8; 6:13

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

- o Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy are about the history of the Hebrews. They are about the story of the chosen people of God who called themselves Israelites. They tell us about men and women who believed in one God.*
- o The Israelites believed that God worked in their lives and in the history of their people -- in their escape from a life of slavery, hardship and oppression from the land of Egypt; in their difficult years in the journey through the wilderness; in the gift of land promised to them; through the judges who guided them when they were still the twelve tribes of Israel; in their golden days as a nation known as the kingdom of Israel; through their kings, priests and prophets; and in their struggles, failures and defeats. In other words, they believed that God took care of them. (Exodus 20:1-2, Deuteronomy 6:20-25)*
- o The Israelites also believed that God is a jealous God. They should have no other gods but Yahweh. (Exodus 20:3) Unlike other nations and peoples during their time who worshipped many gods, they believed that this God alone is to be worshipped, or else they will suffer and be destroyed. (Deuteronomy 6:13-15)*
- o The Israelites also believed that this One God is to be loved, obeyed, and understood. Understanding God is not in terms of being, but in terms of what God's commands are and what God does. God blesses and takes care of those who obey and have faith, while God will be angry and will destroy those who do not obey or have no faith.*
- o The Israelites believed and had faith because they experienced God in their lives: helping, guiding, protecting, and giving them abundant blessings from the land. Faith and belief in one God was borne out of the experiences and life of a people who have personally encountered God.*

FILIPINO CULTURAL BELIEFS, VALUES AND TRADITION

One concept basic to the Filipino fundamental world view, as reflected in indigenous religious beliefs and traditions, is the belief that there are spirits everywhere: the supreme God and other expected divinities in sky-world; nature or environmental spirits in every circumscribed locality, controlling or at least affecting natural phenomena in the universe. There are invisible spirits dwelling in rocks, trees, fields, hills, and every awe-inspiring terrain or location.

(The Initial Encounter, T. Valentino Sitoy, Jr.)

This shows a similarity with Israel's faith, that there is a God who rules over the earth and everything in it. For the Filipino the presence of God is manifested in the existence of spirits. And these spirits have many names given by the Filipinos.

CONCEPTS		
Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * We believe in One God * God is a caring God * There is only one God to be obeyed and worshipped. * We know about God through experience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * We believe in One God * We know about God's love through our experience * There is only one God to be obeyed and worshipped unconditionally * This one God is a constant companion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * We believe in One God * We know about God through experience * There shall be no other gods aside from Yahweh. * This one God cares and accompanies us in all our experiences.
MEMORY VERSE		
Deuteronomy 6:4 — "Israel, remember this! The LORD—and the LORD alone—is our God."	Deuteronomy 6:4 — "Israel, remember this! The LORD—and the LORD alone—is our God."	Exodus 20:1-3 — "God spoke, and these were his words, 'I am the LORD your God who brought you out of Egypt, where you were slaves. Worship no god but me!'"
OBJECTIVES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To accept that God is one. * To state that God loves us. * To how God loves us. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To state that there is only one God. * To share how God's love is known in our life and experiences. * To share what happens when we disobey God. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To affirm that there is only one God. * To share how God is known in the experiences of people. * To be able to define idolatry (the worship of other gods) and its consequences.
APPROACHES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Conversation with children on what they know about God. * Story-telling * Songs about God's loving Care. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Reading of the biblical text. * Conversation with children on what they know about God. * Story-telling * Songs about God's love. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Reading of the biblical text. * Song Learning: "One God" and how they came to know God. * Sharing personal stories about God's presence in their lives. * Discussion on the oneness of God. * Prayer writing to God.

Lesson 2

GOD CREATES ALL THINGS

BIBLICAL TEXTS

Genesis 1:1-26;
cf: Psalm 19, 36:5-9; 50:10-141; 95:1-7; 148 Amos 4:13; 5:8-9; 9:5-6

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

- o *Israelites were nomadic people.* They lived in tents and moved from one place to another in search of better pasture for their sheep. Their existence and survival depended on the fruits and vegetation of the land.
- o To strengthen their community and identity, *story-telling was their way of passing on their history and beliefs* to their children and children's children. The stories include major events and-important ancestors in their history as a people. These stories were also confessions and declarations of their faith in God.
- o *The stories were reflections of a people who once raised great human questions* — where did we come from? Where are we going? What is the reason for life? What is the relationship between persons and God, persons and nature, a person and his/her fellows? And as a people who were very close to the land, they learned about God's ways and God's creation.
- o Our faith ancestors (Israelites) realized that *God is constantly working in the world*, especially in their history and in their experiences. They realized that this same God created everything in order. The rain watered the earth, the sun and the fertile soil made the plants grow, the plants gave food to animals, and so on. What God created was good.
- o *This one God is the Creator.* God created everything that was found in the universe and on earth. God created the light, day and night, the water, the sea, the land, the sky, all kinds of plants, the trees, the stars, the moon, the fishes and other sea creatures, the bird in the air, all kinds of animals and persons.

FILIPINO CULTURAL BELIEFS, VALUES AND TRADITIONS

- o To explain the origin of their physical environment, or of the various natural phenomena, as well as of persons and other living creatures, the early Filipinos used myths, an oral literary device to provide more or less an orderly understanding of these things. In Northern Luzon, the Ilocano creation myth identifies the maker of this world as a supernatural being called Angngalo. With his bare hands, he is thought to have created mountains, sometimes lifting them from one place to another, as well as valleys, some of which he turned into lakes and seas.
- o Among the Manobos of Mindanao, the supernatural creator is Kakalindug, who lived in the sky-world beyond the clouds. After creating this world of human habitations, he tied a great python to its central supporting pillar, to guard his creation against intruders. It is the movement of this primordial monster, so the tradition goes, which accounts for earthquakes. (*The Initial Encounter*, T. Valentino Sitoy, Jr.)

CONCEPTS		
Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God created all things. * God's creation is good. * God provides for our needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God created all things. * God's creation is good. * God sustains life for all (for animals and human beings) * There is order and purpose for God's creation—for life. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God created all things. * God's creation is good. * God created all things to depend on each other, giving order and beauty. * God's creation has a purpose —to give life.

MEMORY VERSE		
Genesis 1:31 — "God looked at everything he had made and he was pleased."	Genesis 1:31 — "God looked at everything he had made and he was pleased."	Psalms 95:6 — "Come, let us bow down and worship him; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker!"
OBJECTIVES		
To be able to: * tell the Biblical story of creation. * point out what is good about the things that God has created. * express their thankfulness for God's creation	To be able to: * summarize the Biblical story of creation. * point out the central affirmation of the Biblical story. * share where they can find goodness, beauty and order in creation.	To be able to: * confess that God created all things good. * point out the order, beauty, harmony, and relationship in creation.
APPROACHES		
* Story telling * Nature walk * Making a mural (discuss with the children about the things God has created. Let them cut out pictures from old magazines and paste on a large sheet of paper.)	* Story telling * Nature walk * Making a mural of God's created world (draw or cut out pictures). * Songs and games on creation.	* Review creation story * Discuss how things in creation relate to each other, and give life to each other (introduce the ecosystem or the biosystem). * Songs about stewardship of God's creation.
Genesis 1:31 — "And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good."	Psalms 104:24 — "Lord, you have made so many things! How wisely you made them all."	I Timothy 4:4 — "Everything that God has created is good; nothing is to be rejected, but everything is to be received with a prayer of thanks, ..."

NOTE: The church may sponsor a field trip for the children in the park, beach garbage areas, etc.

The following activities may be done:

- a. sharing of feelings and observations by the children.
- b. look for useless things and make them useful.
- c. the older children may do a rhythmic chorus.
- d. for worship: an open-ended prayer by all:
We thank you God for: _____
We need your help to: _____
- e. Project: A commitment to keep their surroundings clean and healthful to start on a specific day.

Lesson 3

GOD MADE US (MAN AND WOMAN)

BIBLICAL TEXTS

Genesis 1:27-31; 2:4b-22;
Psalm 8 (Cl: Psalm 144:3-4, Job 7:17-18)

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

- o *Our faith ancestors believed God created human beings in God's own image:* both male and female. Human beings, or persons, are God's special creation different from the other creatures and living things. (Gen.1:27-31 & Psalm 8)
- o *Our faith ancestors also believed that God created Man and woman for a purpose.*
 1. God created Man (male) and Woman (female) to be partners, friends and companions. (Genesis 2:20)
 2. They were both given responsibility to look after God's creation, take care of it and use it wisely.
 3. God created separate sexes (male and female, or boys and girls) in order to bring couples together in love, partnership, in mutual support, joint responsibilities, and to raise children.

FILIPINO CULTURAL BELIEFS VALUES AND TRADITIONS

A Visayan myth tells of the origin of the first man and woman,... This myth says that the chief god, Captan watched the bird resting on land, and it saw a bamboo pole on the water. The surf continuously pushed the bamboo against the bird's feet, so that the latter, sufficiently irked, began pecking on it and finally split it open. From one node stepped out the first man, Sicalac; and from another the first woman, Sicavay.

CONCEPTS		
Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God made us girls and boys. * God loves both girls and boys. * Boys and girls are to be friends. They are to take good care of and respect each other. * Boys and girls together are to take good care of God's creation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God made us girls and boys. * God loves both girls and boys for they are God's special creation. * Boys and girls are to take good care of and respect each other. * Boys and girls are to work together and take good care of the created world together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God created man and woman in the image of God. * Man and woman are both equal in God's eyes, but are different and unique from each other for the purpose of companionship, friendship and to produce children. * both are to be partners in working together, taking care of God's creation.
MEMORY VERSE		
Genesis 1:27 – "So God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female."	Genesis 1:27 – "So God created human beings, making them to be like himself. He created them male and female."	Genesis 1:27 – "He created them male and female, blessed them, and said, 'Have many children, so that your descendants will live all over the earth and bring it under their control. I am putting you in charge of the fish, the birds, and all the wild animals.'"
OBJECTIVES		
To be able to: * say that God made boys and girls.	To be able to: * show that God loves both girls	To be able to: * point out how persons are God's

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * show that God loves both girls and boys. * show how to love each other. 	<p>and boys.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * differentiate boys and girls from other living things. * show how to love each other in work in play. 	<p>special creation (as created in God's image).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * differentiate boys and girls from other living things. * point out the differences between and uniqueness of man and woman (in terms of abilities and gifts).
APPROACHES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Biblical story about the first man and woman. * Game about Adam and Eve looking for each other. * Discuss how God loves both girls and boys. * Share how they can love each other. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Biblical story about the first man and woman. * Game about Adam and Eve looking for each other. * Discussion about how God loves both girls and boys and expects them to care for God's world together. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Boys' group and girls' group: let them share in their group, "What I like in myself as a girl/boy..." * Discuss this question after the sharing: Are our differences/similarities for us to complete with and rival each other or to complement and cooperate with each other? * Song: "No One Is An Island"

Lesson 4

EVERYTHING GOD CREATED WAS GOOD

BIBLICAL TEXTS

Genesis 1:31; 8:20-22
Psalms 104; 107:8-9; 136:1-9
John 1:1-5;
I Timothy 4:4

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

- In contemplating the universe as God's work, the believer is filled with admiration and optimism. *Everything comes from God, and it exists for us.*
- Creation is good because God made it so.* (Genesis 1:25) All creation is good, for it reflects God's majesty. All creatures are good and they relate among themselves in a harmonious way. The psalmist named them one by one: from the great cosmic forces to the birds, the wild beasts and the fish.
- God planned not only a beautiful and wonderful world but a dependable and orderly universe as well.* God's creation speaks of orderliness in the universe, beauty that is unsurpassed, abundance of resources for all. And the power that created the world made it to move in an orderly way, so long as people work with the laws of the universe. When these laws are broken, disasters result.

CONCEPTS		
Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
* God planned for a beautiful and wonderful world.	* God planned for a beautiful and wonderful world.	* God planned for a beautiful and wonderful world.

* God created everything good.	* God created everything good. * We are to help God make this world good.	* There is order, harmony and abundance in God's creation. * God made us to help maintain creation's order, beauty and abundance.
OBJECTIVES		
* To express thanks to God for a beautiful world. * To point out the goodness and wonder of the flowers, trees and plants.	* To list down ways of showing gratitude to God * To list down the wonders in God's creation. * To suggest ways of taking care of God's' creation.	* To point out the orderliness, beauty and abundance of God's creation. * To identify our responsibilities in keeping the order, beauty and abundance in the world.
APPROACHES		
* Recall the field trip that was participated in by the children of the church. * Let the children talk of beautiful things in creation: flowers, butterflies, trees, birds, etc. Let them describe these, through actions, as they sing songs about creation. * Games using things in nature. * Storytelling about how children can help maintain God's creation.	* Study the poem/song: "All things Bright and Beautiful". * Enumerate things in creation and their uses/usefulness to people. * Stories (modern day) on the situation of God's creation. * Act out how to restore God's creation.	* Review Bible passages on beauty, order and abundance of God's creation. * Review news reports on the destruction of creation. * Project planning: how to help restore God's creation.
MEMORY VERSE		
Genesis 1:31 – "And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good."	Psalm 104:24 – "Lord, you have made so many things! How wisely you made them all."	I Timothy 4:4 — "Everything that God has created is good; nothing is to be rejected, but everything is to be received with a prayer of thanks, ..."

Lesson 5

GOD PROVIDES FOR THE PEOPLE

BIBLICAL TEXTS

Exodus 6:7; chapters 15-17

Deuteronomy 10:12-22; 11:1-21

Matthew 6:5-15, and verses 24-31

Luke 11:1-12

For the Teacher's meditation: Proverbs 307-9

*"I ask you God, to let me have two things before I die:
 Keep me from lying, and let me be neither rich nor poor.
 So give me only as much food as I need.
 If I have more, I might say that I do not need you.
 But if I am poor,
 I might steal and bring disgrace on you, my God."*

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

The story of the Israelites is a story of God's providence. When God brought them out of Egypt, God provided for them and guided them through the wilderness. (Exodus 15-17; Deuteronomy 10:10-22)

- When they were hungry, God provided food.
- When they were thirsty, God provided water. ,
- o *God's provisions were always sufficient.* Each account attested to the fact that God provided their everyday needs. And God was always with them in their escape from Egypt. (Deuteronomy 11:1-21; Matthew 6:24-34)
- o *God is our Parent.* When we pray, it is to a loving and merciful Parent; to one who knows our needs intimately even before we ask. (Matthew 6:5-15; Luke 11:1-12)
- o *We pray with confidence,* laying before God all our needs, even those that seem trivial as well as those that seem more important. We are confident that God will answer.
- o *Jesus taught us to pray for our daily needs.* We totally depend on the goodness and power of God for the supply of our daily needs.
- o We also recognize our weakness, that without God's help we are likely to get lost and stray from God's holy ways. We need God's help to resist temptations and to keep from falling into sin. Jesus taught us to ask for guidance from God in prayer. (Deuteronomy 11:13-17)
- o From our earliest years, we should recognize our complete dependence upon God and learn to bring our request to God in prayer. (Deuteronomy 11:18-21)

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God cares for us. * God provides for our needs. * God can be depended upon. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God cares for us by providing our daily needs. * God knows our needs even before we ask. * We pray to God to acknowledge our dependence on God. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God provides and cares for all the children. * We can pray to God for our needs. * God helps us to meet our problems and needs.
OBJECTIVES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To show how God is like a parent. * To enumerate our daily needs and how God provides for them. * To express thankfulness for God's constant provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To compare God to a loving parent. * To enumerate the many good things we receive and enjoy each day from God. * To express thankfulness in prayer for God's constant provision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To share experiences of how God provides for our daily needs. * To discuss how prayer helps us. * To make individual prayers of thankfulness to God.
APPROACHES		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Conversation: compare parents' love and care for children to God and people. * Discussion-Sharing: list daily needs and how God provides for them through products of nature and through parents. * Stories about a dependable God or show pictures that show God's provision of food, clothing and shelter. * Songs about God's care: example, "Can A Little Child Like Me." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Conversation: compare parents' love and care for children to God and people. * Discussion-Sharing: list down needs and how God provides for them through products in nature and through parents. * Stories about a dependable God or show pictures of birds, flowers, etc. (Ask the children how God takes care of each of these creatures.) * Songs about God's care. * Prayers of thanks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Story-telling by children: how God provides for our needs. * Creative Activity: Collage-making of the needs that God provides for us. * Groups Discussions (see next page) * Open-ended Prayer: "We thank you God for providing us with rain, _____, _____, _____, and _____. Amen. * Liturgy Making (see next page).
MEMORY VERSE		
Deuteronomy 11:12- "The LORD your God takes care of this land and watches over it throughout the year."	Matthew 5:26a -- "Do not be worried about the food and drink you need in order to stay alive, or about clothes for your body."	Matthew 6:8b-13 -- "Your Father already knows what you need before you ask him. This, then, is how you should pray..." (The Lord's Prayer)

GROUP DISCUSSIONS

- A. Study the stories in Exodus 15-17:
 1. Divide the class into three groups to study the following references: Group I-15:22-27; Group II--16:1-16a; Group III-17:1-7.
 2. Ask each group to read the reference to find out how God provided for the needs of the Israelites. Then let them share what they have discovered with the rest of the class.
 3. Then as a whole group let them discuss how God takes care of us today.
- B. Another possible discussion: the meaning and value of prayer through Action/ Reflection:
 1. Divide the class into two groups to study the texts: Group I - Matthew 6:5- 15; Group II - Luke 11:1-13.
 2. Let them answer the following questions:
 - a) What should we do when we pray?
 - b) What shall we pray for?
 - c) What will God do?
 3. Share the answers to the whole group.
 4. Individual prayer making and sharing.

WRITING A LITANY

With the help of your pastor or deaconess or CE director write a litany of thanks for the many ways that God takes care of God's children. You may use one of the following for a response: Psalm 118:1a; Psalm 138:1a. Use the litany during your Junior worship time.

Lesson 6

GOD PROTECTS AND SAVES US

BIBLICAL TEXTS

Genesis 45:1-11
 Exodus 2:1-10; chapter 3;
 Deuteronomy 26:5-10
 Psalm chapters 25, 61, 62 and 91

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

When Israel was still a family headed by Jacob, they experienced difficulties and suffered through famine that struck the land. But God saved them through Jacob's son, Joseph.

Joseph was sold by his jealous brothers as a slave to the Egyptians. But God protected Joseph while he was a slave. Because of God's guidance and wisdom, Joseph became a prince and a governor of Egypt. When famine struck, Joseph was there to save his people, including his own family. Then Jacob's family moved to join Joseph in Egypt. There they were fruitful and increased greatly and were called Israelites.

But years later, when Joseph died of old age, the new Pharaoh was alarmed when he saw the Israelites becoming numerous and strong:

"These Israelites are so numerous and strong that they are a threat to us. In case of war, they might join our enemies in order to fight against us, and might escape from the country. We must find some way to keep them from becoming numerous." (Exodus 1:9-10)

Because of this fear, the Pharaoh decided to make all Israelites slaves. There the Israelites suffered indignities, exploitation and death. They cried out for help to God. And God heard their groaning and God knew their conditions. God chose Moses. God protected him even when he was just a baby, and took care of him through the wisdom of her sister Miriam and of his mother, as he grew up under an Egyptian princess' home. Moses saw the suffering of his own people and killed an Egyptian who was beating a fellow Israelite. Because of this, Moses fled. That was when God commissioned him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt in a great exodus. (Read Exodus 2:23-24 and 3:7-10)

EMPHASES

- o The Exodus (mass departure) from Egypt is the most significant event in the history of Israel.
- o It was through this historic event that God demonstrate the power to redeem and save a suffering and exploited people.
- o The Creator-Redeemer God cares for and is concerned with human sufferings and acts to save them from their difficulties and hardships.

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God, like a parent, protects and guides us. * God wants us to be happy. * God helps us when we are sad and unhappy. * God uses people who love us to help us. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God, like a parent, protects and guides us. * God wants us to be happy and not make others unhappy. * God helps us when we are sad and unhappy. * God uses us to help other people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God is our Savior and Redeemer. * God wants all to be happy and not make others unhappy. * God uses people to help us with our problems. * We can be God's helpers, too.

OBJECTIVES		
<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * point out similarities between God's care and protection and their parents and loved ones. * share unhappy experiences and identify who helped them. * express thanks to God and parents for their protection and care. 	<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * compare God's protecting care with other people who love them. * Identify people whom God uses to protect God's people today. * suggest ways where they can help others, too. 	<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * point out God's saving acts from Bible stories and from our own experiences. * explain the Exodus event creatively. * give suggestions on how they can be agents of God's protection and salvation today.
APPROACHES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Story of Moses or Joseph. * Share experiences where their parents or older people cared for them and protected little children. * Songs about God's protection or God's helpers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Study the story of Moses or Joseph and discuss how God helped them and their people. * Share unhappy experiences and discuss how God helps us today. * Brainstorm on how we can protect and help each other. * Frieze-making (details on next page). * Songs about God's protection or God's helpers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Study the Exodus event and role-play it using a similar contemporary event in our country. Discuss how God helps our people. Use this is your Junior Worship. * Brainstorm on how we can help protect and care for our people. * Make prayers for wisdom and courage for them to be used in helping others. * Learn the song: "Let My People Go!"
MEMORY VERSE		
<p>Psalm 62:1 - "I wait patiently for God to save me; I depend on him alone."</p>	<p>Psalm 91:23 - "You are my defender and protector. You are my God; in you I trust."</p>	<p>Psalm 91:14 - "God says, 'I will save those who love me and will protect those who acknowledge me as Lord...'"</p>

FRIEZE-MAKING

A frieze is a series of pictures illustrating a story or an idea. Starting at left it extends as far as the wall space permits or the subject demands. Plan what illustrations to include in the frieze. Divide the paper into blocks of spaces to accommodate the number of pictures chosen. Pictures may be drawn directly on the long strip of paper or on separate sheets of paper to be pasted together in a series. Guide the children as they draw but let it be their own ideas and concepts. You may illustrate the life of Moses.

Lesson 7

GOD GIVES US COURAGE

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

BIBLICAL TEXTS

Joshua 1:1-9

Judges 6:11:40; 7:1-25

I Samuel chapter 3 and 17:1-54 Psalms 23 and 27

Daniel 6

Many Bible stories tell about the courage and bravery of persons who had faith in God. They became famous because of their faith in God and the courage that they gained from it. The stories show and affirm that it is God who gives us courage when it is needed. Joshua, Gideon, Samuel, David, and Daniel are some of the famous Bible characters who had this courage and faith in God.

Joshua took over the leadership from Moses. Their people, Israel, was about to cross the Jordan river and enter the promised land. But the promised land was occupied by what appeared to them as fierce and evil people. They had to fight their way into the promised land. God promised to be with them, and urged them not to be afraid.

Gideon was called by God to lead the people of Israel against a stronger army invading them., Their enemies were the Midianites and the Amelikites. With Gideon's leadership, guided by God, Israel was able to frighten and defeat a greater army.

Samuel, while still a young boy, was called by God. As a grown man and with God's guidance, he was able to lead the people of Israel back to God. He was not afraid to tell the truth, and trusted God for wisdom. (I Samuel 3:15-21)

David, while still a youth, demonstrated to the people of Israel what faith in God can do to help defeat a stronger and bigger enemy. The Philistines were invading Israel's lands, and they had a giant leading them named Goliath. But with David's small sling and prayer to God for the right aim, he was able to kill Goliath. The people of Israel took courage and were inspired to defeat and drive away their enemies.

Daniel, also a youth, did not forget God in the midst of insults, persecution, and other temptations. Because of this, Daniel found favor with the King of Babylon. Israel at that time was exiled to far away places from their own land. Many forgot God and followed foreign ways. But Daniel did not. Though Daniel's faith led to his being persecuted and tested, he endured and God helped him, even in the lion's den.

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God makes us brave and strong. * When we trust God, we will not be afraid. * God is always with us in times of trouble. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Courage and bravery is found in trusting God. * We are not afraid for we know God is with us. * Courage and bravery is needed to help others in their time of need and trouble. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Courage and bravery is found in trusting God. * Fear is overcome when we know God is with us. * We can solve problems and help others when we turn to God for guidance and courage.
OBJECTIVES		
<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * show their trust in God. 	<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * give examples from the Bible or 	<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * to explain how God gives us

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * explain why they should not be afraid when trouble comes. * name Biblical characters who were brave and courageous. 	<p>from experience how God gives us courage and strength.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * cite instances when God showed great protecting love at home, school, or in other places. * express ways of sharing God's gift of courage with others. 	<p>courage and strength.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * to share experiences of courage and fear. * to explain why courage and strength is needed to help others in their trouble, difficulties and in correcting evil.
APPROACHES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Story telling: David, Daniel, Samuel or Gideon. * Creative Movements: Gather the children in a circle. Throw a ball around and whoever gets the ball must show fear. Reflect on the activity. * Learn the song: "Whisper A Prayer" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Dramatic reading of text and discuss the feelings of each character and what God did for them. * Share experiences of fear and courage: What happened? Why did you feel afraid? Did you overcome it and how? * Make a prayer asking for courage and strength. (see sample at the end of lesson) * Learn the song: "Christ In My Vessel." 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Dramatic reading of text. Then discuss the following: How did the characters of the story feel? What did they do? How did God help them? What do they teach us? * Contemporize the story of Daniel with Filipino leaders whose faith gave them courage even in the midst of opposition. Ex. Ninoy Aquino or UCCP Leader: Atty. Al Surigao. * Learn the song: "Dare To Be Brave"
MEMORY VERSE		
2 Samuel 2:79 - "Be strong and brave."	Joshua 1:9 - "Do not be afraid or discouraged, for I, the Lord your God, am with you wherever you go?"	I Cor. 16:13 - "Be alert, stand firm in the faith, be brave, be strong. Do all your work in love."

SONGS TO LEARN

"Whisper A Prayer"

Whisper a prayer in the morning
Whisper a prayer at noon
Whisper a prayer in the evening
'Twill keep your heart in time.

"With Christ In My Vessel"

With Christ in my vessel I can smile at the storm,
smile at the storm, smile at the storm.
With Christ in my vessel I can smile at the storm,
Until He guides me home.

Sailing, I'm sailing home, Sailing, I'm sailing home.
With Christ in my vessel I can smile at the storm.
Until He leads me home.

"Walking with Jesus"

*Walking with Jesus, walking everyday, walking all the way.
Walking with Jesus, walking with Jesus alone.
Walking in the sunlight, walking in the shadows,
walking everyday, all along the way.
Walking in the sunlight, Walking in the shadows,
walking with Jesus alone.*

"Dare to be Brave"

*Refrain: Dare to be true, Dare to be brave,
Christ is your brother, Faithful to save.*

*Dare to be brave, dare to be true;
Strive for the right, for the Lord is with you;
Fight with sin bravely, fight and be strong;
Christ is your captain, fear only what's wrong.*

*Dare to be brave, dare to be true;
God is your Parent, God watches o'er you:
God knows your trials; when' your heart quails,
Ask God to help you; God's grace never fails*

*Dare to be brave, dare to be true;
God grant you courage to carry you through;
Try to help others; ever be kind;
Let all the erring a friend in you find.*

PRAYER FOR COURAGE

We thank you God for protecting us from _____. Help us from being afraid of bad dreams, of the dark, _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____. In your protecting name we pray. Amen.

Lesson 8

**GOD SPEAKS THROUGH JESUS
JESUS' BIRTH: GREATNESS OF HIS LOVE**

BIBLICAL TEXTS

Isaiah 7:10-16
Jeremiah 30:8-9
Matthew 1:18-25
Luke 2:1-22
John 1:148
I John 4:7-10

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

Years before Jesus was born, the prophets of old prophesied that God would send a Messiah who would save the world from its sins. (see Isaiah 7:14 and Jeremiah 30:9). This was fulfilled in the first-born son of Joseph and Mary. The story of Jesus' birth was characterized by *humbleness* and *simplicity*. Jesus entered the world quietly. He was welcomed by his parents: Mary, a peasant woman and Joseph, a carpenter; the animals; and a handful of poor and dirty shepherds.

"Wrapped in swaddling clothes" indicates first of all that Jesus was truly an infant needing and receiving motherly care from Mary. Helplessness and limited freedom are implied in the swaddling clothes: *Jesus* shared the condition of every baby.

Inns were places for travellers. What Luke was referring to was probably a building with rooms for people along three sides with a wall and gate on the fourth side. The enclosure in the middle of this building was for the animals used by the guests. In front of the rooms were posts for tying up the animals and troughs and mangers to feed them. The rooms were fully occupied so Mary and Joseph had to make *use* of the area outside with the animals. Even though he is King, Jesus was subject to the limitations of every human being.

The angel (Luke 1:11,26) appears to proclaim the good news to the shepherds. The work of shepherding was considered very low. It was to a shepherd in Bethlehem, however, that God once gave the crown of kingship (I Samuel 16:1-13), and now to these shepherds God gives a sign of the great king, Christ the Lord. Though this birth causes the heavens to sing, the sign given to the shepherds is so humble, so much at their level, that they marvel at it.

The birth of Jesus and its humble character give glory to God in heaven and bring God's place to humankind. In Jesus, God has taken the world to himself and those who believe in him receive the benefit of God's salvation.

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Christmas is the birth of Jesus Christ. * Jesus was born to show us how much God loves all of us. * Jesus was born in a humble and simple way. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Christmas is the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ * Jesus was born to show us God's great love for all. * Humility and simplicity characterized Jesus' birth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Christmas is the day God came into the world in Jesus. * Jesus' humble and simple birth reflects the greatness of God's love and glory. * We celebrate Christmas in humble thanksgiving for God's salvation through Jesus Christ.
OBJECTIVES		
<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * state what Christmas is. * in their own words state the real meaning of Christmas. * make simple but meaningful Christmas presents. 	<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * point out the biblical view of Christmas. * share and evaluate how they celebrate Christmas today. * suggest ways of making Christmas meaningful. 	<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * give the biblical meaning of Christmas. * share and evaluate modern-day celebration of Christmas * suggest creative ways of celebrating Christmas in today's situation.
APPROACHES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Telling the story of Jesus' birth. * Creative Activity: make greeting cards for parents, brothers, sisters, friends, etc. * Learn Christmas song that have the teal message of Christ's birth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Let the children retell the story or do a dramatic reading of it. * Sharing and discussion: how are we celebrating Christmas today? Where is Christ in our celebration? * Creative Activity: Make 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Dramatic reading of the story * Share and discuss how Christmas is celebrated today and compare them with the first Christmas: Where is Jesus in our celebrations? * Role-Play/Simulation — How

* Acting out the Christmas spirit: Let each child hug each other or share food and toys.	Christmas presents from recycled materials. * Learn the song: "Love Came Down at Christmas" or "Oh the Real Meaning of Christmas"	would Christ be born today in our situation? (use this in the Junior Worship) * Learn the song: "Love Came Down at Christmas"
MEMORY VERSE		
John 3:16 — For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, and whoever believes in him shall have eternal life.	I John 4:9 — And God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we might have life through him.	John 1:14 — The Word became a human being and, full of grace and truth, lived among us. We saw his glory, the glory which he received as the Father's only Son.

Lesson 9

JESUS SHOWED US HOW GOD CARES AS A PERSON HE CAME TO BE WITH US

BIBLICAL TEXTS (See the following)

<u>Feelings</u>	<u>Stories</u>	<u>References</u>
1. Pity	The feeding of 5,000 people	Mat. 14:13-14
2. Anger	Jesus goes to the temple	Mat. 21:12-13
3. Hunger, Anger	Jesus curses the fig tree	Mat. 21:18-20
4. Sorrow	Lazarus dies	John 11:28-37
5. Fear, sorrow	Jesus Prays in Gethsemane	Mat. 26:36-40
6. Tired	Jesus Calms A Storm	Mat. 8:23-25
7. Lonely	Jesus on the Cross	Mark 15:33-34
8. Love for Enemy	The Good Samaritan	Luke 10:24-37

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

Jesus was a human being just like us. He also experienced such feelings as anger, hunger, pity, and tiredness. Jesus did not appear as a superhero or a superman. Jesus did not use his divine powers to attract the people. His feelings moved him to act, to do something for the good of the people. His feelings of pity moved him to feed many people. He himself felt hungry so he knew how it really felt when a person is hungry. "Jesus ... knew all men and needed no one to bear witness of man, for he himself knew what was in man." (John 2:24-25).

When he was sorrowful over the death of Lazarus, he wept and it moved him to bring his friend alive. Jesus was afraid when he knew that his death was forthcoming so he prayed in agony at Gethsemane.

Jesus, as a hardworking man, got tired so he rested and slept on a boat. When he was crucified in Calvary, he felt thirsty. All his disciples, friends and the people he helped deserted him and left him all alone in Calvary, so he felt lonely. He cried out with a loud shout. "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?"

Jesus' feelings prodded him to action in a loving and responsible concern for others which he also wants us to follow. This is the message of Jesus. One serves God by serving others. This is his message for us too, to be more concerned also for other people. As Jesus said in Mark 12:30-31,

"Love the Lord your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. Love your neighbor as you love yourself. There is no other commandment more important than these two."

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Jesus was a person just like us. * Jesus felt tired, hungry, lonely, afraid, angry. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Jesus was a human being just like us. * Jesus could feel like we do: angry, hungry, lonely, afraid, etc. * Jesus felt for people always. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Jesus was a human being just like us. * Jesus felt the same human feelings of anger, fear, hunger, loneliness, etc. * Jesus' human feelings led him to act in service to people.
OBJECTIVES		
<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * identify various human feelings. * show when Jesus shared the same human feelings. * share how we can make Jesus happy today. 	<p>To be able to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * identify our own human feelings. * identify Jesus' different feelings in different situations. * point out ways we can do to make Jesus either happy or unhappy today. 	<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * compare our human feelings with Jesus' feelings. * discuss how feelings must move us to action.
APPROACHES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Game/Creative Movements: Teacher says a feeling and children make appropriate expressions on faces. * Bible/Picture Study: Have pictures of the biblical references ready. Let the children identify the story/ event. How did Jesus feel at that instant? * Act of Commitment: How to make Jesus happy today. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Word Listing: What are the different feelings that we feel at one time or another? Beside the word list, write the causes of these feelings. On another column, what did you do? * Picture Study of some Bible Stories (use references cited): How did Jesus feel in this picture? What did he do? Conclude: What can we do to make Jesus either happy or unhappy? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Word Listing and Comparison: List down feelings we feel at one time or another. What are their causes? What do we do about it? * Compare with Jesus' feelings (use text cited): What were their causes? What did he do about it? Conclude: "Feelings are to move us to action. As shown by Jesus, we should act to help others! * Discuss: What are the things today that Jesus would be angry about? What can we do about them? * Make a Prayer of Commitment.
MEMORY VERSE		
<p>Mark 12:30 -- "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."</p>	<p>Mark 12:30-- "Love your neighbor as you love yourself."</p>	<p>Luke 10:27 -- "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind; and love your neighbor as you love yourself."</p>

MATERIALS (*Prepare pictures/illustrations*)

1. Jesus feels pity for the 5,000 and feeds them with 5 loaves of bread and 2 fishes.
2. Jesus was angry at the Temple and overturned tables and stools.
3. Jesus was hungry and he saw a fruitless fig tree.
4. Jesus was in sorrow when Lazarus died.
5. Jesus' praying in Gethsemane.
6. Jesus is sleeping on the boat.
7. Jesus is all alone on the cross.
8. The good Samaritan helping the wounded man.

Lesson 10

JESUS LOVED EVERYONE: HE FED THE HUNGRY

BIBLICAL TEXTS

Matthew 6:24-34; 15:32-39; Mark 8:1-10

Luke 12:22-31; 16:13

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

How important our food is! Without it we should not be able to live at all. Everyday we must eat, for only so can we become strong and healthy.

In the feeding of the hungry, we see the mercy and compassion of Jesus to the people. There is his sheer considerateness. Jesus looked at the crowd; they had been with him for 30-days -- he remembered that they had had a long walk and were hungry. With compassion and pity Jesus responded to their needs.

Jesus was a man of action. He showed his love to people by meeting their needs. (see Matthew 14:13-14; and 15:32-39)

Whenever Jesus thought of this world, he always thought of the Heavenly Father, who made it and cared for it. Jesus saw that God gave the trees, and birds, and the animals what they needed. God knew that they needed to eat; so God made this world with lots of things which they could eat and enjoy.

God helps the birds to find their food, but are we not much better than the birds?

Jesus did not want people to worry about where their food would come from. Of course, Jesus did not mean that we are to sit down and ask God to send us what we need --without our working for it. He expects people to work in order to grow food, to earn money to buy food and to prepare for what we need.

Jesus wanted the people to trust God, for he knew that God loved them and would help them. This means that we ought to trust in our heavenly Father-- "Who knows what things you have need of, before you ask Him."

He also expects us to help each other, because when people do this, there will be enough for all.

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
* Jesus knew hunger. * Jesus has pity for the hungry. * He wants us to share things in creation so no one will go hungry.	* Jesus knew hunger. * Jesus has pity for the hungry. * He wants us to share things in creation so no one will go hungry.	* Jesus knew hunger and was compassion ate to the hungry. * There is enough in God's creation to feed the hungry. * Jesus wants us to help each

	* We thank God for helpers who produce food for us.	other so there will be enough for all.
OBJECTIVES		
To be able to: * tell the biblical story of the feeding of 5,000 people. * describe how it feels to go hungry. * state that Jesus does not want anyone to go hungry.	To be able to: * state the message of the story of the feeding of 5,000. * describe the country's situation of poverty. * identify and be thankful for people who help produce food today.	To be able to: * state the message of the feeding of the 5,000. * describe and share facts about the situation of poverty in our country. * suggest ways of sharing with those who have less.
APPROACHES		
* Picture Study about depressed areas, people who lack food -- malnourished children, people sharing; and Jesus feeding the 5,000. * Story telling of the feeding of the 5,000 focusing on the effect of the little boy's sharing of his small provision. The little boy set the example of sharing. * Agape meal: share some foodstuff with a depressed area.	* Picture Study of depressed areas, malnourished children, abundance of food, people sharing, and Jesus feeding the 5,000. * Dramatic reading of the text "feeding of the 5,000." Let them describe the feeling of the characters. What was the effect of the little boy's sharing of his "baon"? * Discussion: How does God feed the people today? (Acknowledge farmers, workers, and nutritionists as God's co-workers)	* Dramatic reading of the text: let them describe the feelings and attitudes of the characters. What is the message of the story? (sharing of food) * Group Dynamics: (see below for details) * Project Planning: to share some foodstuff with a depressed area. * Discussion/Sharing: Do the Filipinos have to be hungry? or open forum on poverty and economics.
MEMORY VERSE		
Matthew 6:33 -- Be concerned above everything else with the Kingdom of God and with what he requires of you, and he will provide you with all these other things.	Matthew 14:17 -- "They don't have to leave," answered Jesus. "You yourselves give them something to eat!"	Matthew 14:17 -- "They don't have to leave," answered Jesus. "You yourselves give them something to eat!"

GROUP DYNAMICS

Divide the class into two groups, with one group twice as many as the other. To the bigger group give half a piece of bibingka. To the smaller group give a whole piece of bibingka. Then let them partake of the bibingka. Afterwards the whole group gathers and shares/discusses the following:

- 1) What did each of you do?
- 2) How did you feel?
- 3) Relate to Philippine situation ...
- 4) If God provides for our needs, why is it that many people still go hungry?

Example: the problem of poverty.

It would be good to cite the irony of realities: the ones who produce food are the ones who usually go hungry. Why?

Lesson 11

JESUS HEALS ALL KINDS OF SICKNESS

BIBLICAL REFERENCES

Illness	Stories	Reference
1. Blindness	Jesus Heals Two Blind Men Jesus Heals a Blind Man	Mat. 9:27-31 John 9:1-12
2. Leprosy	Jesus Heals Ten Lepers	Luke 27:11-19
3. Lameness	Jesus Heals Many People	Mat. 15:29-31
4. Dumbness	Jesus Heals a Dumb Man	Mat. 32:34
5. Epilepsy	Jesus Heals An Epileptic	Mat. 17:14-18
6. Demon Possession	Jesus Heals 2 men with Demons	Mat. 8:28-33
7. Deafness/Muteness	Jesus Heals a Deaf-Mute	Mark 7:31-37
8. Sickness	Jesus Heals a Sick Man	Luke 14:1-6
9. Hemorrhage	The Woman Who Touched Jesus' Cloak	Luke 14:1-6
10. Paralysis	Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man	Mat. 9:1-8
11. Being Crippled	Jesus Heals a Crippled Woman	Luke 13:10-13

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

This lesson focuses on the healing ministry of Jesus Christ. The Jewish people believed that sickness was caused by the sins committed by their parents and ancestors. Those who got sick usually were labeled as sinners. But Jesus said otherwise (see John 9:3). He not only freed them from their physical illness but also from their condemning misconceptions. Jesus did not heal their physical illness only but their whole being as well. Some of the people he healed praised God. They praised God for God's healing touch that changed their lives as in the case of the crippled woman (Luke 13:13) ... "And they praised the God of Israel" (Matthew 15:31).

Jesus also corrected their interpretation of the Jewish law. The Jewish leaders observed strictly the Sabbath law saying that no one should work on that day. But Jesus healed people even on a Sabbath when He felt there was a great need for healing. He said: "If anyone of you had a son or an ox that happened to fall into a well on a Sabbath, would you not pull it out at once on Sabbath itself? (Luke 14:5).

Jesus came healing, restoring people to wholeness in body and spirit, wholeness of . the person and wholeness of the society. After Jesus healed them, the people became happy and praised God.

There were cases of persons who seemed to be well physically, but were downcast in spirit. Later on they developed a "psychosomatic illness". They acquired sickness like skin disease. What a person thinks and feels affects his body and his whole being, too! "Being cheerful keeps you healthy. It is slow death to be gloomy all the time" (Proverbs 17:22).

So Jesus in his time was a Great Physician and a Psychologist. He expounded new spirituality -- the wholeness of persons and society. It was away of acting that would produce a truly meaningful life." And most important of all, Jesus is the Great Healer ever known on earth.

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Jesus is a healer. * He heals those who are sick in mind and body. * Jesus wants everyone to be healthy always. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Jesus is a healer in mind and body. * Jesus wants everyone to be healthy always. * We should also care for and be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Jesus heals human infirmities -- mental/psychological and physical. * Jesus' healing means the healing of the whole person including his/her surrounding.

	concerned about others' health just as Jesus was.	* Jesus calls on us to help heal the sick people and our sick world today.
OBJECTIVES		
To be able to: * praise God for the gift of health. * cite ways of helping keep one's self healthy. * identify today's healers.	To be able to: * praise God for the gift of health. * cite ways of helping keep oneself healthy. * thank God for today's healers.	To be able to: * explain the meaning and purpose of Jesus' healing. * cite ways of helping in the healing process of our community.
APPROACHES		
* Story telling (choose a text from above) * Discussion/Conversation (with picture display): Who helps Jesus in healing the sick today? How can we be Jesus' helpers in keeping ourselves healthy? * Learn the song: "Jesus Went About Doing Good."	* Dramatic reading of a text (choose from above): What was wrong with the person physically and spiritually? What did Jesus do? What happened to the sick person? * Share and Discuss: Who are the healers of today? How can we remain healthy physically and spiritually? * Game: Finding the pair. (see below for details)	* Dramatic Reading of Text: What was person's illness (physical and spiritual)? What did Jesus do? What happened to the sick person? * Picture Study (from news-magazines about health): Share and discuss who are the healers of today? How can we remain healthy physically and spiritually? * Situation study (use pictures of depressed areas): What causes sickness? How can we avoid it? What can we do for the sick?
MEMORY VERSE		
Matthew 8:16 — "Jesus ... healed all who were sick."	Proverbs 17:22 — "Being cheerful keeps you healthy. It is slow death to be gloomy all the time."	John 9:4 — "As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me; night is coming when no one can work."

GAME: FINDING THE PAIR

Write each of the following words on a small piece of paper. These words always go together.

1. rice – fish
2. pot – stove
3. water -- 8 glasses a day
4. guava – diarrhea
5. cold -- Vitamin C
6. salabat — juice
7. doctor – injection
8. hilot -- herbal medicine
9. flower – bee
10. rest -- food

Roll the small pieces of paper and place in an empty milk can or box. Call the children and let them pick one rolled paper each. Everyone has to go around and find the partner of the word she/he picked.

Lesson 12

JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT GOD'S LOVE

BIBLICAL TEXT

Mark 12:28-30
 Matthew 5: 43-47
 Luke 6:32
 John 15: 12-13

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

Love is the greatest thing in the world. How sad this world would be if there were no love in it. What would our homes be like if we did not love one another? If there were no love, we would not have friends at all. If there were no love, who would care for the poor? And the sick? And the people who are in need? No, we could not get along very well without love.

A religious leader asked Jesus about the greatest commandment. Jesus answered by combining two commandments from two different books of the Old Testament (Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Leviticus 19:18). Jesus made these commandments the most important. This means that in Jesus' teaching, love is central and primary.

Loving God without loving others is meaningless and even, a contradiction of terms. Loving your neighbor without commitment to love God is far from complete.

Loving God with all one's mind, heart, soul and strength is to love God completely, unreservedly.

One must therefore love the Lord God completely and wholeheartedly. This must be shown in one's life, by the way one thinks, and by the way one acts. And one must love one's neighbor in the same way that one loves him/herself.

The people of the Old Testament believed in a vengeful God but Jesus came to show the people a more compassionate God that forgives and loves. They believed that God cared only for the Jews but as a result of Christ we learned that God's love is for all people.

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God loves us. * God wants us to love Him. * God wants us to love our friends and neighbors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God loves us and is concerned about us. * God wants us to love Him. * We can show our love for God by loving others. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * God loves us and cares for our needs. * God wants us to show our love to him by the way we think and act. * Our love to God must be shown by loving our neighbors the way we love ourselves
OBJECTIVES		
To be able to:	To able to:	To be able to:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * express that God loves all people. * give examples of how we can show love to others. * thank God in prayer for the gift of love. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * express God's love for all. * cite ways of loving others as God loves us. * thank God in prayer for the gift of love. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * describe how God's love is shown to us. * act out ways of loving God in the way God wants.
APPROACHES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Song analysis: "Love, Love, love, love. /The gospel in one word is love./ Love your neighbor as yourself/ Love, love, love." * Prayer/Poem Analysis: * Story-telling about loving the neighbor as one's self. * Encourage the children to talk about people who show love to them and how they show love to others. * Art work of somebody helping another person (showing love for that person) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Study a Poem: "Friends of Jesus". Talk about the Poem: What characteristics do the friends of Jesus have? In what ways do we show our love to God? * Word collage: what other words can be used to describe loving acts words that describe helpful acts. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Sharing in Pairs: "How do you show love to God?" Follow with group sharing-discussion * Bible Study (use suggested text for this lesson) Answer same question. * Role-play/Mime: How God wants us to show love for him.
MEMORY VERSE		
<p>John 15:17 -- "Love one another."</p>	<p>Ephesians 4:32 -- "And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another."</p>	<p>I John 4:11 – "Beloved, if God so loved us we also ought to love one another."</p>

SONGS AND POEMS

*Savior dear, in heaven above
We Thy children humbly pray,
Fill our hearts with faithful love
For all people everyday.*

*Help us love them great and small;
Help us kind and friendly be;
Help us serve them, one and all.
Help us do this just for thee. Amen.*

A Poem:

*Friends of Jesus must be kind
Friendly too with loving ways;
So he was thru all his days,
Friends of Jesus must be kind.
Friends of Jesus must be brave,
Help to give and work to do;*

So he was his whole life thru,
 Friends of Jesus must be brave --

A Round Song

Love, love, love, love
 The Gospel in one word is love
 "Love your neighbor as yourself"
 Love, love, love.

Lesson 13

JESUS AND HIS DISCIPLES

BIBLICAL TEXTS

Matthew 4:18-22;10:5-15

Mark 3:13-19

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

This lesson emphasizes the work of Jesus which began when he called his first twelve disciples. *Christ prepared his disciples to carry on his work.* The original twelve disciples were Simon Peter, James, John, Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James (the son of Alphaeus), Thaddeus, Simon the Patriot, and Judas Iscariot. He taught his disciples to continue His work -- preaching the kingdom of God, teaching and healing.

Christ chose twelve disciples because of the relevance of twelve as a symbol to the people of Biblical times. The twelve tribes of Israel were headed by men which made it necessary to have twelve disciples. Any changes would have made the symbol incomplete and the people of the time would have been unable to recognize it.

It is therefore important to realize that in addition to the original twelve disciples, there were other followers who Christ taught to carry on and teach his ways. Christ called 70 others to go out and continue his work (Luke 10:1-12,17-20; John 14:12). There were others who became disciples along the way and that there were women among those disciples (Luke 8:1-3, 10:39).

Jesus taught a new life style -- a way of giving, serving and loving other people. He was concerned most with the poorest of people, the outcasts in society, the oppressed, the sick and other people with all kinds of needs.

The people who believed the teachings of Christ became His followers. Christ instructed His followers to go out into all the world to preach the Good News about Jesus as the Savior of all humankind. They were also told to heal the sick and drive out demons.

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Jesus had helpers to work with him. * We too can become friends and helpers of Jesus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Jesus had helpers to work with him. * We too can become friends and helpers of Jesus. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Jesus needed friends and helpers to help him do the great task of leading people to know God. * Jesus taught them a different lifestyle of serving and loving people. * We too can take part in the work which he started.
OBJECTIVES		

<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Name the 12 disciples of Jesus. * Give examples of the different ways the disciples served Jesus * Give examples of how they can help Jesus. 	<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Name the 12 disciples of Jesus. * Give examples of the different ways the disciples served Jesus. * Suggest ideas of how they can help to serve Jesus. 	<p>To be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * express the reasons for Jesus' need for friends and helpers. * Describe the kind of lifestyle Jesus taught his disciples to live. * Give examples of how we can be disciples today.
APPROACHES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Prepare: Pictures of Jesus and his disciples. Seaside scenes. Cut-out names of the disciples and post on the board. * Learn songs (make out some actions for the children to follow and enjoy) * Story telling: "Jesus Chose His Friends" (see reference) * Prayer: Lord Thank you for friends and for your love. Amen. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Learn the song: "There Were 12 Disciples" and discuss it (see guide questions below) * Game: Matching Game (see below) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Word Meanings * Role-play * Verse Hunting (See next page for details and supplements).
MEMORY VERSE		
<p>Matthew 4:19 —</p> <p>"Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."</p>	<p>Matthew 28:19 --</p> <p>"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the son, and of the Holy Ghost:"</p>	<p>John 14:12 --</p> <p>"He who believes in me will do the works that I do, and greater works than these he will do."</p>

SUPPLEMENT FOR PRIMARY CHILDREN

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How many disciples were there?
2. Who were these disciples?
3. Explain the meaning of "disciple"

GAME: MATCHING GAME

Write the names of the disciples and their descriptions on a small piece of paper or cardboard.

Peter	--	the Rock
Andrew	--	brother of Peter
Thomas	--	said: "God is love"
James	--	son of Alpheus
Judas Iscariot	--	betrayed Jesus
Simon	--	the Patriot
Matthew	--	tax collector

Shuffle the cards and place them on the table or chair. Call 16 pupils and let each child pick a card. Tell them to match the name in the proper description.

The first to find the description shall display their cards on the board. The others shall follow.

GAME: The Twelve Disciples

Let the children form a circle. After forming a circle, let them sing: "There Were 12 Disciples". The teacher shall stay in the middle of the circle.

While they are singing, pass a clean stone or marble around. When the teacher says "STOP" everybody has to stop singing. Look for the child who holds the stone or marble. The child holding it shall name a disciple. If he can't name one after the count of 3, he will be the "IT" and he shall stay in the center. The game will go on, until all the names of the disciples are mentioned.

BIBLE STUDY: The Twelve Disciples of Jesus (see the reference)

1. Present the story with pictures.
2. The work of the disciples before Jesus called them.
3. The work of Jesus—healing, teaching, preaching.
4. The disciples increased in number.
5. The disciples were to carry out Jesus' work.
6. Instructions of Jesus to his disciples.

Guide questions:

1. Who were the 12 disciples of Jesus?
2. Tell the occupation (if it is known) of each disciple before Jesus called them.
3. What is the work of Jesus all about?
4. Why did Jesus teach His disciples to do His work?
5. What instructions did Jesus give to his disciples.
6. How did the disciples serve the people?
7. Are there people today who follow Jesus' way of serving and loving? Who are they?

VALUE-SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

Prayer: Thank you, Lord, for reminding us that Jesus needs followers to carry on his task. Help me to become a follower of Jesus in loving and caring for other needy children. Amen.

PROJECT:

List down names of persons/organization who, like Jesus, preached the gospel, fed the hungry, accepted sinners, helped the sick and poor, etc.

SUPPLEMENT FOR JUNIORS

A. Preparation:

- o Lookup the meaning of the word "disciple". (Study the biblical materials)
- o Gather pictures: "Jesus calling His Disciples". "Seaside Scenes."
- o List down the names of the 12 disciples on the board (Luke 6:14-16)
- o Reading of scripture passages which describe the 12 disciples.
 1. Peter -- Matt. 14:18-20; Luke 4:31,38; John 1:40-42; Acts 2:14; 3:1-6
 2. Andrew -- Matt. 4:18-20; Mark 1:16-18; John 1:40-42; John 12:20-22.
 3. James -- Matt.4:21-22; Mark 1:19-20; 3:17; Luke 5:10
 4. John -- Matt. 4:21-22; Mark 1:19-20;3:17; Luke 5:10; Acts 3:1-6
 5. Philip -- John 1:43-45; 12:20-22
 6. Bartholomew -- John 1:45-49
 7. Thomas -- Matt. 10:3; John 11:16, 20:24-29
 8. Matthew -- Matt. 9:9; 10:3; Mark 2:14; Luke 6:27-32
 9. James, son of Alphaeus -- Mark 3:18; 15:40; Luke 6:15
 10. Simon the Zealot -- Mark 3:18; Luke 6:15
 11. Judas Iscariot -- Matt. 10:14; Matt. 26:14-16, 20-25, 47-49; Mark 3:19; John 12:4-6
 12. Thaddeus

- o Discussion:
 1. Describe each disciple based on the scripture passages.
 2. What kind of lifestyle did Jesus teach them to follow?
- o Role-Playing:

Role play how Jesus called his disciples. Choose from the twelve.
- o Value-Spiritual Development

Hymn: "Jesus Calls Us O'er The Tumult"
- o Meditation:

Jesus needed friends to help him. He chose simple men and women to do his work. But many times we are deafened by the loud noise the commercialism in the world. He does not force anyone, but He still calls, "Come, follow me."

SONGS

I will make you fishers of men, fishers of men, fishers of men.

I will make you fishers of men, If you follow me.

If you follow me. If you follow me

I will make you fishers of men, If you follow me.

Hear Christ calling, come unto me, come unto me, come unto me.

Hear Christ calling, come unto me,

And I'll give you rest, And I'll give you rest,

And I'll give you rest,

Hear Christ calling, Come unto me and I'll give you rest.

Lesson 14:

GOD ACTS IN THE WORLD THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT

BIBLICAL TEXT:

Genesis 1:1-2

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

In the Genesis account, we see the Spirit of God acting in creation. After having created the heavens and the earth, there was darkness and void until God's Spirit hovered over the water. The picture drawn before us of the Spirit 'hovering' is like a bird at a standstill or lingering over the unruly waters and the darkness until the waters were calmed and light appeared. This is why spirit is often referred to as "Power" or like a "wind".

The spirit gives life to all creation. Over whatever is waste and void the Spirit moves - moves broodingly and creatively according to a holy purpose which nothing can be strong enough to turn aside. The world and all that is in it came into being by God's creative act. It is through the Spirit as it were from God that all things were made, that humanity and the whole creation receive the gift of a new life. It is through the life-giving presence of the Spirit that creation - and all that is called into being by God - is sustained... Kept alive.

For us Christians, central to our view is the conviction that the world and all creation belong to God. Creation is not to be possessed by humanity for that is a gift from God. Hence, we rejoice. There are passages in Job and Psalms (see, for example 19 and 104) where all creation is involved in singing the praise of God. This wisdom tradition projects a more harmonious view of creation which can serve as a corrective to the more human-centered understanding of creation in the Bible.

In the New Testament there is a vision of the Reign of God as the fulfillment of God's intention in creation. However, this intention is somehow always ignored by us. The healing stories of the Gospels are to be seen as the healing of creation which has been and is being destroyed by human sin. The redemptive work of Jesus Christ through his teaching and modeling is towards a 'new creation' and the Spirit of God as a renewing agent helps bring it about. There is within each one of us 'something' that moves us, that makes us uncomfortable with the wrongs we do. So we repent and we change. This is a manifestation of the work of the spirit. In same manner, there are some elements in creation that refuses to die and therefore struggles to survive and will survive if allowed!

In Romans 8 Paul shows the intimate connection between the salvation of human beings and the renewal-transformation and re-ordering of the whole created order in Christ's redemptive work. The repentant quits her/his destructive and selfish acts and may even work for recreation. This 'new creation' has become a reality in Christ. But its full realization is in the future: and it will embrace all things and all people.*

That is why, our calling for the right ordering and preservation of what God has made means a call to repentance for our failures to see our calling in its wholeness. We must commit ourselves to the work of upholding the integrity of creation. We are called to a caring partnership with the Spirit of God in the work of recreating our world.

It is the Spirit that reminds us, empowers us to respond, and upholds us in our efforts to be faithful as God's stewards.

This is what it means to acknowledge the presence of God through the Holy Spirit within and around us.

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * We believe in the God-made world. * God's Spirit gives us life. * This Spirit of God is at work in us and in the world. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * We believe in the Holy Spirit as God's Spirit. * The Spirit of God gives life to all. * The Spirit gives us energy to do good. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * We believe in the Holy Spirit as God's Spirit in and through Jesus Christ. * The Spirit is active and present in all of creation. * This Spirit helps us in all our efforts to make a happy, world. * Gods Spirit has a purpose to give life.
OBJECTIVES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To confess that the Holy Spirit is one with God and Christ. * To point out how the Spirit cares for and accompanies us. * To express their thankfulness to the guidance of the Spirit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To confess that the Holy Spirit is one with God and Christ. * Share the goodness of the Spirit of God in their experiences. * Point out what happens when we ignore the presence of the Spirit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To confess that the Holy Spirit is one with God and Christ. * To point out the beauty of relationship with the Spirit of God. * To show how the Spirit of God is known in the experiences of people.
APPROACHES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Biblical story about the Spirit of God acting in creation. * Conversation with children on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Biblical story about the Spirit of God acting in creation. * Discuss how the Spirit of God 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Biblical story about the Spirit of God acting in creation. * Discussion on the oneness of

<p>what they experience with the Spirit of God.</p> <p>* Discuss how the spirit of God guides both boys and girls.</p> <p>* Acting out through dance and motion the Spirit as wind.</p>	<p>relates to them in their day-to-day life.</p> <p>* Sharing personal stories about the presence of the Spirit in their lives.</p> <p>* Acting out through dance and motion the Spirit as wind.</p>	<p>God, Christ and the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>* Discuss from their experience how the Spirit of God relates to them and gives life to each other.</p> <p>* Acting out through dance and motion the Spirit as wind.</p>
MEMORY VERSE		
<p>Genesis 1:2</p> <p>"... the Spirit of God was moving over the water."</p>	<p>John 4:24</p> <p>"God is a Spirit and they who worship him must worship in Spirit and in truth."</p>	<p>John 4:24</p> <p>"God is a Spirit and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and in truth."</p>

Lesson 15:

GOD'S SPIRIT IN AND WITH PERSONS

BIBLICAL TEXTS:

Acts 1: 8; Acts 2: 44-45

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

In the Old Testament the Spirit represents God's universal presence which is both a present reality and a promise for the future when God will pour out the spirit on all flesh (Joel 2:28-32; Ezek 37). In the New Testament the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of the Pentecost is seen as the event that gathered the believers as a community of faith. The early church experienced the Holy Spirit as the source of their faith, hope and joy and as the power at work among them. The early church is a forecast of a spirit-filled community characterized by its faith in God and commitment to one another. The Holy Spirit enables the Church to live a life of self-giving and inspired them for a transformation of values and attitudes as to set their hopes in God's purposes for the world.

The Spirit gathers together, but it also throws things into confusion. We confessed the Holy Spirit as one with the Father and Christ, undivided, embracing the whole created order within the life-giving, reconciling and redemptive love. Yet, we recognize, too, the need for discernment and the danger of speaking too easily and quickly about the presence of the Spirit, or identifying the Spirit with our own priorities and programs, even our own wills.

The purpose of God according to the Scripture is to gather the whole creation under the Lordship of Jesus Christ in whom, by the power of the Holy Spirit, all are brought into communion with God (Eph. 1). Many things have been done and remain to be done on the way towards that communion and that unity. The Holy Spirit, as promoter of unity, gives to the community of faith that is now divided, the thirst and hunger for full unity and remains restless until it grows, according to the prayer of Christ that those who believe in him may be one (John 17:21) The presence of the Holy Spirit in each person helps that person in her/his search for peace, harmony and, hence, community.

As St. Augustine has said, "Our souls are restless until they find rest in thee." And that restlessness pushes us to seek out relationships and in constantly making that relationship meaningful. Hence, the Holy Spirit is not absent in our daily conflicts and struggles. In fact it opens our eyes to see the injustice within ourselves, in our church and in the world. We are made to confess that things are not right. And this is why not how we can understand why, when Jesus started his ministry, he put as his priority the giving of opportunity especially to the despised and the outcasts, And so We also participate in God's continuing act of making this world truly the one for all people. In Acts 2:32-34 the emphasis is sharing and the context of such sharing is the community. There is a clear emphasis on the acknowledgement of God's lordship over the community, and everyone in that community will have his/

her needs sufficiently, efficiently and effectively met. That lordship is possible only as each one and the whole community acknowledge the presence and the work of the Holy Spirit

"Bin the Spirit often speaks to us in the silence, in the quiet of our ordinary life. Signs and wonders are not necessarily the norm. The Spirit is present with us as we live our lives from day to day, and not only in times of crisis and in the events that seem to make history." (Come, Holy Spirit, p.19)

When God as Spirit created us, we became spiritual beings, too, indwell, surrounded, empowered by the Spirit of God. Our spirits are to be constantly attuned to God's Spirit.

Pre-School	Primary	Juniors
CONCEPTS		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The Holy Spirit like a mother and a father and other caregivers guides us. * The Spirit helps us when we are sad and lonely. * The Holy Spirit uses people who love us to help us. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The Holy Spirit like a mother and a father and other caregivers guides us. * The Holy Spirit wants us to be happy and to make others unhappy. * The Spirit uses us to care for other people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The Holy Spirit is our Sustainer. * The Spirit moves and uses people to help us with our problems. * The Holy Spirit wants us all to be happy and make others happy, too. * We can be the Holy Spirit's helpers too.
OBJECTIVES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To show the Holy Spirit is like a parent or caregiver. * Discover how through unhappy experiences the Spirit of God helped them. * Be able to express thanks to the Holy Spirit and parents for their guidance and inspiration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To compare the Holy Spirit to a loving parent or caregiver. * To enumerate the many good things we enjoy each day through the inspiration of the Spirit. * Identify people whom the Spirit guides and inspires to lead people today. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * To share experiences of how the Holy Spirit inspires us everyday. * Give suggestions on how they can be agents of the Spirit's protection and inspiration. * To make individual prayers of thankfulness to the Holy Spirit's guidance, protection and inspiration.
APPROACHES		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Biblical story: Life among the early believers. * Learn songs: I've Got Spirit in my head that Is Keeping Me Alive. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Conversation: share experiences where their parents or the Spirit inspired them or protected little children. * Share unhappy experiences and discuss how the Holy Spirit comforted them. * Brainstorm on how we can protect and inspire each other. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Study the life among the early believers and discuss how the Spirit inspired and guided them. * Point out the Holy Spirit's inspiration and protection and our own experiences. * Role-play it using contemporary events in our churches/country. * Learn the song: "God's spirit is in my heart..."

MEMORY VERSE		
Matt. 19: 13 “Let the children come to me.”	Matt. 18: 20 “For where there are two or three gathered in my name, there I am in their midst.”	Acts 2: 24 “All who believed were together and had all things in common.”

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This particular volume has been through many months of making. Rev. Nelinda Briones had submitted her manuscript over a year ago but Ms. Teresita L. de la Cruz added the final sessions to complete the Trinity through the help of WCC's volume, *Come Holy Spirit*.

Leomyr de Jesus, Mirzah Rodriguez and Lydia Nigidula have provided additional paragraphs to it as well as revisions. Genoveva Cadoma-Wallbank has searched for songs to enrich this volume, and Sancho Opina as well as Gerson Castrodes have assisted in its encoding. Leomyr also finalized the lay-outing.

And now, we offer this volume to you readers, teachers, parents for its final consumption of our children through the guiding of the Holy Spirit.

Rev. Lydia N. Nigidula
Executive Secretary: CEN