

Children's Cell Lesson – Aug. 7th – 13th, 2011



“Making a Commitment”



OVERVIEW: Children will learn what they can do to help in the church.

PREPARATION: You will need poster board, markers or crayons. You will also need your Bible.

BIBLE STORY & VERSE: Acts 2:42, 44-47

ICEBREAKER: Ask: What are some things we use our hands for? (The list is endless: brush your teeth, scratch, point, clap, write/color, snap, pet a puppy, fly a kite, play a Wii...)

READ: “What Can I Do?” Bible Story (on the other side)

QUESTIONS TO ASK:

1. **What does the word “commitment” mean?** (Promise to do something.)
2. **Should just a few people do all the work in a church?** (No, everyone should work together.)
3. **What can you do in the church?** (You can use the suggestions or have the children make their own.)
4. **What did the people in our story do together?** (They ate together; they prayed together; they learned God's word together.)
- 5.

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE: “They spent their time learning the apostles' teaching, sharing, breaking bread, and praying together.” Acts 2:42

ACTIVITY:

Preparation before class: In advance, write the following words across the top of the poster board: “Helping Hands Working Together to Build God's Church.”

Say: God has given each of us two hands that can do many things to help in our church. On this big poster board is written— “Helping Hands Working Together to Build God's Church.” First, we are all going to trace both of our hands with the pencil on this poster. Then, choose a bright color and trace around your hand. On one hand, print your name. On the other hand, write something you can do to help in the church. Choose something from our list or something on your own that you can make a promise or commitment to do this week, or in the near future. Feel free to help your friends, as we work on this mural together. Then, we will find a place to hang it, to remind and encourage us about our commitment.

PRAYER TIME: “Thank you, Lord, for showing us ways we can work together in our church. We commit ourselves to doing what we can to help.”

RETURN: Return to the Life Group. Have the children recite the Bible Memory Verse. Have the children display their “helping hands” poster. Let them read their names and what they have committed to do and how to help others. Have the children pray with the Life Group and share in the fellowship time together.

“What Can I Do?”

(Based on Acts 2:42-47)

Today, we are going to talk about commitment to the church. “Commitment” is a big word that simply means “a pledge or promise to do something.”

Let’s read from the book of Acts 2:42-47 and discover how the early believers were committed to each other. It says they “devoted themselves” to pray and spend time together. Being “devoted” means they were committed. They promised to help each other in any way they could.

They knew they were the church and that meant sharing with each other as they committed themselves to God’s Word and prayer. These scriptures say the early Christians were not only committed to each other by praying together, but they also shared their possessions or belongings. If someone needed something (food, for example), another Christian gave their own food to help out the person who had less than they did. Everyone helped each other with what they had.

The Christians went from house to house and visited each other, encouraging one another as they shared everything. The love in their hearts for Jesus made it easy for them to share with each other. It says they shared cheerfully, with gladness in their hearts.

It takes many people working together to make a church. If you are a Christian, you are part of God’s church. You can do something to help. It doesn’t matter how rich or poor, young or old you are, you can still help.

What are some things we can promise to do, to show our commitment to the church? Let’s make a list of some things we can do to help. Remember, it is the love of Jesus that makes us want to commit ourselves to each other in love and to help each other.

Here are some suggestions of things you can do to commit

yourselves to your church.

1. Pray for the leaders and for others.
2. Pick up paper on the ground; throw away coffee cups, etc.
3. Give to others: share your time and your money.
4. Obey and listen to those in charge
5. Praise and worship the Lord.
6. Encourage others
7. Visit someone who is lonely or sick
8. Tell your friends about Jesus
9. Help someone in your Life Group
10. Invite friends and family to church
11. Write a card or send a letter to someone
12. Can you think of other things you can do to help the church and your church friends?

