

Summer Sunday School for Elementary Age Children: “Sundae Sunday” Lesson in a Bag

Are you looking for easy, inexpensive summer “Faith Exploration” lessons which require little to no set up time for teachers?

What you will need:

- ❖ 1 extra large zip-lock bags for each week
- ❖ a Bible story for each week (Secular story books with spiritual or religious themes could be used as well.)
- ❖ a craft idea or game for each week
- ❖ necessary supplies or directions where to find them
- ❖ popsicles or Hoodsie ice cream cups (optional)

How to use this resource:

(One person or a committee of people can put these bags together...)

For each week of the summer that you will have Sunday school:

1) Select a story to read to the children.

- a) Find a book at the library, ask for donations from the church people, purchase inexpensive bible story books (Concordia Publishing www.cph.org sells “Arch” bible story), use the Family Story Bible, Lectionary Story Bible, Children’s Illustrated Bible, etc.

2) Find an art project or a game which compliments the story.

- a) Use the internet to find art and game ideas. Here are some suggested sites:
 - i) http://www.makingfriends.com/bible_crafts.htm
 - ii) <http://www.dltk-bible.com/craft-index.htm>
 - iii) <http://mssscreats.com/crafts/>
 - iv) <http://familycrafts.about.com/od/biblecrafts/>

3) Find books with art projects or games which compliment the story.

- a) “52 Crafts for the Christian Year”
- b) “52 More Crafts for the Christian Year”
- c) “Downright Upright: And 50 Other Bible Games for Elementary Children”
 - i) (all of these resources are available through Amazon.com – consider saving money by buying used copies)

4) Put into the large zip lock bag the story to be read, the instructions for the art project and necessary supplies (or a description of where to find them.)

5) Create an instruction sheet for each week which includes suggestions for greeting time, prayers, story time, suggested discussion questions, activity/game instructions, ice cream time, closing prayer.

Sunday mornings might look like this.

- 1) The two teachers would arrive and pick up the pre-packaged lesson in a bag.
- 2) When Sundae Sunday starts, children arrive, attendance is taken, a prayer is offered, offering is received, etc.
- 3) The story is read to the children.
- 4) Have a brief discussion about the story using “I wonder” questions.
- 5) Do an art project or play a game relating to the story.
- 6) 5-10 minutes prior to the end of class offer each of the children a popsicle or ice cream cup.