

United Tribes: Lenten Lessons
Jesus' Commandment and Gifts of Lent
2-3 Florida Gators West Wing
4-5 Peace People Youth Room
K-1 United Marines Room 9

United tribes will celebrate Lent by studying the life of Jesus and developing some Lenten rituals to remind them that this is a time of learning, reflection, and loving one another. They will hear the story of the life of Jesus and learn a song to be sung as a prayer for Lent. They will hear Jesus' commandment to love one another and they will make Lenten Gift boards to share their gifts with others weekly. They will hear how Jesus healed a bent over woman and participate in role plays. They will follow the way of the cross through the holy days of Jesus' life and make palm crosses.

Supplies: (Heidi will provide all supplies and they will be waiting for you in the classroom).

- Craft sample
- 5 Envelopes for each child
- Week Labels
- Glue
- Markers
- Top Label
- Bottom Label
- Cards to write Lenten Gifts on
- Pens
- Markers
- Stamps
- Stickers for Decoration.
- Scissors
- Bibles

I. Transition

Guide holds up flag/clip board with class sign and greets each child in the Sanctuary and then walks them to their assigned rooms.

II. Opening (9:45)

- Invite the group to get their name tags and sit in a circle on their rugs or the couches. Take role, and check in with the kids.
- Have the kids do their cheer. They will be demonstrating it before the church in a month.
- **IMPORTANT** Ask the kids to share if they were able to use the song prayer this week during Lent. Let the kids that have used the song prayer share how they did it.

III. Guest Teacher (10:00 am)

Introduce yourself to the kids.

Ask them to share with you about 1 or 2 of their charms on their lanyards and how they got them.

Tell the children that you are there to teach them about Lent.

Ask the children, "What things do you know about Lent?"

Last week they learned about Lent meaning spring, that for Christians it marks the period before Easter, at UCC we use this time for reflection and learning. They also heard an overview of the life of Christ.

Ask the children, "Do you remember what the name was for the people that Jesus kept close to him, the people who helped him?" (Disciples).

Tell the children, "A group of men and women traveled with Jesus. He chose twelve friends called disciples, to help him teach his ideas to others.

Ask the children, "What are some of the things Jesus did with his Disciples?" (taught people to forgive, cured people who were ill).

Tell the children, "Jesus was at the Passover Supper with his Disciples and he knew he was going to die, he gave his Disciples one commandment."

Ask the children, "What do you think his commandment was?"

Tell the children to look in up in their Bibles.

Tell them, "You can find it in your Bible John 13: 34-35." (Children grades 2-5 have their own Bibles, younger children share the class copies).

Read the commandment aloud.

"And now I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another".

Tell the children, "Last week you learned that Lent is a time of prayer and reflection. You learned a special prayer to sing. This week we learned a reflection, something to think about. Think about how Jesus' calls us to be his disciples and how he calls us to love one another.

VI. Activity by Guest Teacher (10:10 am)

Make an Envelope Chart

Using the sample as a guide.

Give each child a row of Envelopes. Have them write across the top Label Lenten Gifts.

Have them write across the bottom Love one Another.

Each envelope gets labeled with a week number glued on.

Each envelope gets one card with a gift the child will give during that week.

Examples of Lenten Gifts:

Read to my sister.

Share my Wii.

Draw a picture for my crossing guard.

Take cookies to my neighbor.

Help mom make dinner.

Thank my teacher.

Write a letter to my grandmother.

After the children have written or drawn reminders of what gifts they will give they can decorate the envelopes with the markers and stickers.

To use the brayer work on top of a stack of newspapers or scratch paper.

The child rolls the brayer across the ink pad and then rolls the brayer across the row of envelopes.

Instruct the children that they are to share one of their gifts each week and that we will check in with each other the next time United Tribes meets to see how they are doing with sharing their Lenten gifts.

V. Closing circle (Lead by Guides 10:40)

IMPORTANT Sing Spirit of a Living God, the prayer we are singing for Lent. Thank the teacher for volunteering today.

VII. Dismissal

Please have the children take their envelopes with them to activity time and set them on the table provided outside of room 9. Please have the children line up and walk nicely out to activity time. Children should be dismissed to the playground no earlier than 10:30 and no later than 10:45.

Lesson created from 2010 UCG Children's Lenten Brainstorming Team composed of Vince Amlin, Tracy Bachman, Larry Reimer, Sandy Reimer, and Heidi Stein