

LESSON # 3

TEACH AND REACH

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 22:6 It's important to teach children in the right way.
Acts 10:9–34 Peter's vision tells of God's treatment of people.
D&C 163:4c Teach children the lessons of Jesus and to help others in need.

Teach others to build communities of Christ's peace. Use the gifts of all ages. Prepare children and youth to be followers of Jesus and see with new eyes, caring for the poor, homeless, and sick. Teach them to care for the earth. Their gifts will increase if their hearts are focused on helping God's creation.

Doctrine and Covenants 163:4c adapted

OBJECTIVES

- Children will discover the importance of learning and teaching lessons about Jesus.
- Children will discuss how they see the world and what problems they think need changing.
- Children will identify ways they can reach out and help solve these problems.

MATERIALS

- an illustrated children's Bible (New Revised Standard Version)
- a children's Bible (NRSV) for each child, if possible
- transparency sheets that are different colors
- sunglasses
- blindfolds
- poster board, paper, and markers
- a copy of D & C 163:4c adapted, printed on paper for each child
- a paper bag or backpack

DISCOVERY

Proverbs 22:6 suggests that it is important to teach children. Even Jesus used stories to help children learn how to live and grow in wisdom. Doctrine and Covenants 163:4c expresses the importance of teaching new followers about Jesus so they can assist in solving the problems in the world. Being a follower means that you pay attention to the one you follow. When we follow Jesus, we can learn the lessons of Jesus and then share them with others. By sharing Jesus more people become aware of the needs and problems in the world.

Ask someone to volunteer to be blindfolded. Play a game of follow the leader having the blindfolded child be the leader. Afterwards play the game again. This time allow the leader to be able to see.

Was it easier to follow the person who could see or the one who could not? Why?

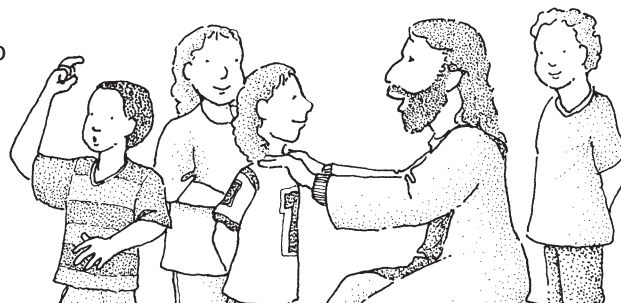
When we follow Jesus, does he show us the way?

What are some things Jesus wants us to do?



ALIYAH (ah-LEE-ah) is a new resource for children based on scripture, including Doctrine and Covenants 163. D&C 163 is an affirmation of paths taken and an encouragement of ways to move onward. ALIYAH is a Hebrew word meaning a journey toward God.

One lesson each month will be posted on this Web site to be downloaded and used for church school, junior church, or other times to connect children to the vision of the church. Parallel lessons are provided for youth and adults. Enjoy the journey together!



UNPACKING THE SCRIPTURE

PETER SEES THINGS DIFFERENTLY

In Acts 10:9–34 Peter has a vision or dream. In the dream he learns that the lessons of Jesus are for everyone and should be shared. Read this story to the children from an illustrated children’s Bible. Have the children pull their adapted copies of Doctrine and Covenants 163:4c from their backpacks to read in unison. Discuss how we “prepare” children and youth to be followers of Jesus? How does it happen? In the adapted scripture the words “poor, homeless, and sick” are used. It states we should teach peace and help our planet. Have a discussion with the children to check their understanding of these ideas.



SEEING WITH NEW EYES

Ask the children to look through the transparencies and sunglasses. If transparencies are unavailable, you might try smearing oil or butter on the lens of the sunglasses to distort their vision. Ask them if things look different. Suggest to the children that when we look at life the way Jesus does, problems may look different and we may find solutions. On poster board or a chalkboard write the words “poverty,” “disease,” “war,” and “environmental problems.” Ask the children to think of examples of each word and tell how they think the problem may be solved. (It is OK to list alternative words to make it easier for the children to understand.)

WHO DO YOU SEE?

Now that the children have listed problems and their possible solutions, have them draw pictures or list names of people they think they can help by using and teaching the lessons of Jesus. If time permits, allow them to share their creations and how they selected the people they did. Was it difficult? If so, why?

PACKING FOR THE JOURNEY

It’s time to pack for the journey ahead. Have children pack their drawings, lists, and children’s pages in their backpacks or bags. Ask what they have learned today about seeing and helping. How will they share Jesus with others? How will they help others?

ARE WE THERE YET?

To extend this lesson for a rotation model or for intergenerational or additional learning, try the following:

- Share the story of how all children should be cared for from the book *For Every Child a Better World*, (ISBN 978-0307156280).
- Collect money to build a well. Children may find a community to “adopt.” Many communities around the world lack drinkable water. Projects provided by Outreach International allow the adoption or assistance of communities to address issues related to improving lives.
- Have a congregational food drive where the children collect food for those in need.
- Research how people are affected by the problems listed in Doctrine and Covenants 163:4c. Information is available on the UNICEF Web site in the publication *State of the World’s Children*.

ALIYAH Lesson #3 Teach and Reach
© 2008 by Community of Christ.
Permission given to reproduce any pages for Community of Christ use. Other reproductions of this resource require written permission. Contact Poul Wilson/Community of Christ, kpwilson@CofChrist.org.

Unless otherwise noted, Bible scripture verses are quoted or adapted from the NRSV. “The Scripture quotations contained herein are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. and are used by permission. All rights reserved.” Other scriptures used in this resource include the following: The Doctrine and Covenants (Section 163), published by Community of Christ, Herald Publishing House. *Creative Clips* art by Jeff Carnehl (St. Louis: Concordia Publishing House), 1999. ISBN 0-570-053838. Reproduced under allowable use.

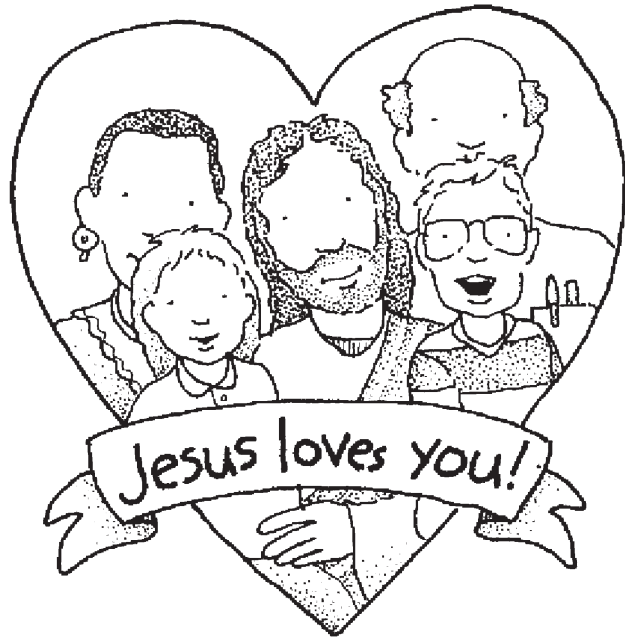


ALIYAH is a Hebrew word meaning a journey toward God. Are you ready for **ALIYAH**?

LESSON #3:
TEACH AND REACH
Children's Page

In Acts 10:34 Peter says, "I now realize how true it is that God treats everyone the same." What does this sentence mean to you?

How will you treat others this week?



WORD SCRAMBLE

Use the words:

POVERTY

DISEASE

WAR

ENVIRONMENTAL DESECRATION

After discussing their meanings create new words that may be solutions to the problems outlined in 163:4c.

Teach others to build communities of Christ's peace. Use the gifts of all ages. Prepare children and youth to be followers of Jesus and see with new eyes, caring for the poor, homeless, and sick. Teach them to care for the earth. Their gifts will increase if their hearts are focused on helping God's creation.

Doctrine and Covenants 163:4c adapted

OWNER'S GUIDE

for _____
created by _____

This week I will make the world a better place by sharing Jesus' lessons with:

Community of Christ