

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility.

—Ephesians 2:13–14 NIV

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Welcome to the Power and Light Curriculum

The Power and Light curriculum for Kids and Youth follows the same lectionary schedule that the World Church is using through *Worship Resources*. While *Worship Resources* is theme specific for a particular date, the Power and Light curriculum has been revised as a general resource applicable to the specific lectionary year. The intent is to have a Power and Light resource for lectionary year A, B, and C for both kids and youth.

Because the *Worship Resources* is planned uniquely for each Sunday and Power and Light is now planned generically for a lectionary year, there will be some Sundays when the particular scriptures emphasized in each book are not the same. By creating a three-year cycle focused on the lectionary as opposed to specific themes, we are better able to reuse material as children pass through a specific age group and a new group of children enter.

This material is being provided as an interim measure while a team of ministers are exploring what is needed around the world to support disciple formation for all ages, cultures, and languages. In order to better meet the needs of a growing international church, we are trying to identify ways where excellent material can be reused without negatively impacting the educational value. By focusing on the three-year lectionary rotation instead of specific daily themes, we can be sensitive to this need.

How to Make This Resource Work for You!

God is not a principle you're teaching. God is a presence in your youth ministry. Ask yourself, "What is God up to? What is God doing with the youth?" When you do, your role will change from struggling to "bring" God to your youth to that of understanding God with them, helping them identify God's presence in their lives, accessing the blessings and guidance of God, and responding to God. Emphasize the experience of God more than the facts and activities. Emphasize the feeling and knowing God. Your role is about passing faith on to them, but it is also the role of the whole congregation sharing in faith together.

Look for new ways to reach youth. Consider an evening scripture study. This type of small group, home-based fellowship may be able to reach youth who do not attend on Sunday mornings. Lesson activities can easily carry over to youth ministry projects, meetings, activities, worship services, retreats, or even camps. Optional suggestions are given throughout the lessons. From the small class to the large class, the young class to the all-senior class, these suggestions will help you tailor the lessons to your specific class needs.

Contents

Lectionary Date	Page
Season of Advent	
First Sunday of Advent	6
Second Sunday of Advent.....	8
Third Sunday of Advent	10
Fourth Sunday of Advent.....	12
First Sunday after Christmas.....	14
Season of Epiphany	
Second Sunday after Christmas	16
First Sunday after Epiphany.....	18
Second Sunday after Epiphany	20
Third Sunday after Epiphany	22
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany	24
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany	26
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany	28
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany.....	30
Season of Lent	
First Sunday in Lent.....	32
Second Sunday in Lent	34
Third Sunday in Lent	36
Fourth Sunday in Lent	38
Fifth Sunday in Lent	40
Palm Sunday/Passion Sunday	42
Easter.....	44
Season after Easter	
Second Sunday of Easter	46
Third Sunday of Easter	48
Fourth Sunday of Easter.....	50
Fifth Sunday of Easter	52
Sixth Sunday of Easter.....	54
Seventh Sunday of Easter	56
Pentecost/Endowment Day	58

Lectionary Date	Page
Ordinary Time after Pentecost	
First Sunday after Pentecost	60
Ordinary Time, Proper 6	62
Ordinary Time, Proper 7	64
Ordinary Time, Proper 8	66
Ordinary Time, Proper 9	68
Ordinary Time, Proper 10	70
Ordinary Time, Proper 11	72
Ordinary Time, Proper 12	74
Ordinary Time, Proper 13	76
Ordinary Time, Proper 14	78
Ordinary Time, Proper 15	80
Ordinary Time, Proper 16	82
Ordinary Time, Proper 17	84
Ordinary Time, Proper 18	86
Ordinary Time, Proper 19	88
Ordinary Time, Proper 20	90
Ordinary Time, Proper 21	92
Ordinary Time, Proper 22	94
Ordinary Time, Proper 23	96
Ordinary Time, Proper 24	98
Ordinary Time, Proper 25	100
Ordinary Time, Proper 26	102
Ordinary Time, Proper 27	104
Ordinary Time, Proper 28	106
Ordinary Time, Proper 29	108
 Appendix	
Lectionary Scriptures Year B.....	110
Scriptures, Resources, Web sites.....	111