



Community of Christ

Online Adaptations for Children's Lessons, Reunion 2020:

Online video conference platforms are great for sharing stories and even doing simple crafts and activities together. It might not be possible to include all of the ideas that you would have included in an in-person setting, so choose the ones that you feel are most important and most engaging. You might not be able to include all of the snacks, games, and additional crafts listed in the original resource.

Many of the ideas in the lessons can be used with only slight adaptations for an online setting. Below are some key concepts and activities from each lesson that can be presented. Refer to the original lesson for more details about discussion questions and crafts. You will need to communicate with families ahead of time about any craft supplies that are needed.

Lesson 1:

- Welcome the children and allow them to introduce themselves and tell something about themselves.
- Read Luke 10:25-37 (The Good Samaritan)
- Talk about "who is my neighbor?" (see "Engage" and "Respond" section)
- Make houses out of any materials kids have available: paper, recycled boxes, etc. If you do this together while on a video conference, you can talk about Blessings of Community and parts of a community as you work.
- Hold up completed houses and share them with each other. In what ways are we still a community even when we are far apart physically? How are we like a neighborhood?
- At-home activity: Go for a walk around your neighborhood and say prayers for the people who live there.

Lesson 2:

- Welcome children. Talk about the at-home activity from the previous lesson.
- Read Luke 24:13-35 (The Road to Emmaus)
- Discuss (see "Respond" section)
- Make binoculars together (toilet paper rolls, paper, and string)
- Talk about Continuing Revelation
- At-home activity: Take your binoculars outside. What parts of God's creation do you see when you look through them? Where do you see God around you?

Lesson 3:

- Welcome children. Talk about the at-home activity from the previous lesson.
- Read Luke 7:37-50 (Woman washing Jesus' feet). Consider having children draw as you tell the story, as described in the "Engage" section.
- Discuss (see "Engage" section)
- Challenge children to use any materials they have at home to build a "table." Who would they want to welcome at their table? Who would Jesus welcome at his table? Talk about Worth of All Persons. Alternate craft idea: Have children fold an index card or a piece of paper in half to create a tent-shaped place card to use at a table. They can create one for each person in their family, and use the place cards to make the family members feel special at a meal.
- Play "All My Friends" game (see Games, Day 3, page 41). Adapt the game so everyone who agrees with the statement raises their hand instead of switching seats.
- At-home activity: Share a special meal with someone. It could be as simple as a bowl of cereal, but how can you make it special? Consider turning off electronic devices, lighting a candle, eating outside on a picnic blanket, using special placemats, etc. Thank God for the food and for the people you are with.

Lesson 4:

- Welcome children. Talk about the at-home activity from the previous lesson.
- Read Matthew 4:18-22 (Jesus calling the disciples). Consider playing sound effects of a lake or projecting an image of a lake as you tell the story.
- Discuss the story and the Enduring Principle of All are Called (see "Engage" and "Send" sections).
- Play "Who is the Leader?" (see Games, Day 4, page 42)
- Build a boat challenge: Use foil, foam, paper, recycled materials, etc. to build a boat.
- At-home activity: Test your boat and see if it floats! Take a photo or video and share it with the group.

Lesson 5:

- Welcome children. Talk about the at-home activity from the previous lesson.
- Read Luke 19:1-10 (Zaccheus)
- Do guided drawing while kids hear the story (see "Engage" section)
- Make paper trees. If paper bags are not available, have children get creative with the supplies they have. They could make a tree out of plain paper by twisting the paper into a tree shape.
- Talk about Sacredness of Creation. Consider reading "Wangari's Trees of Peace." (see "Respond" and "Send" sections). You might consider sharing the video with children ahead of time so they can watch it before the online meeting. Discuss.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=08PbLwOtZJA>
- Do yoga tree pose (see "Bless" section)
- At-home activity: Find a need in your community and find a way to help.