



Aug 08

Vacation Church School Life of Christ # 2

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd. John 10:16

Lesson: Jesus Teaches the Nephites

Memory Verse:

Behold I am the light. I have set an example for you. III Nephi 8:49

Goals:

1. Know why Jesus came to this land.
2. Define the term gospel.
3. Know the ways they can obey the gospel.
4. List a way they can be an example to others.

Vocabulary:

1. gospel
2. Bountiful
3. disciples
4. repent
5. enemies
6. commandments
7. example

Scripture References: (Based on the abilities of your students, you may prefer to read these scriptures from the Book of Mormon in place of the story.)

III Nephi 5:11-16

"Behold I am Jesus Christ..." The people come one by one to touch his scars. Jesus wants them to believe he is God's son.

III Nephi 5:21-24

Jesus gives authority to the twelve disciples to baptize those who believe in him and repent.

III Nephi 5:29-31

Jesus wants no arguing over his doctrine. Contention is of the devil.

III Nephi 5:50-59

"The Beatitudes" God will reward those who are persecuted because of their belief in Him.

III Nephi 5:60-63

Jesus wants us to be an examples, that God will be glorified.

III Nephi 5:68-80

We are not to judge or be angry with our brothers. We need to be reconciled with each other.

III Nephi 5:81-96 We are not to swear or return evil for evil. We must love our enemies. We are to take care of the poor.

III Nephi 6:1-17

We are to trust God to take care of us. We are not to judge our brothers. Matthew 5,6,7 Christ's sermon on the Mount, supportive scriptures for the Book of Mormon sermon.

Materials:

Introduction:

- ❑ world globe or map
- ❑ Book of Mormon
- ❑ Small stickers (optional)

Story:

- ❑ Pattern for "Jesus" figure.
- ❑ Half a piece of white poster board.
- ❑ Scissors
- ❑ Markers
- ❑ Crayons
- ❑ Glue
- ❑ Paper Fasteners
- ❑ Prepare-
 1. Cut out pattern on Page 8 and 9. The pattern pieces should be glued onto poster board. Color the figure, leaving the robe white.

2. Cut out and connect the arms to the main body with the paper fasteners.
3. Tracing the pattern onto poster board would be another way to make the figure. Copy the features onto the figure yourself.
4. Cut out, color and assemble the arms.

Introduction:

Have globe or map in front of you.

Our world is very big. Today, it is full of people in many different lands. The God that loves us in Phoenix, AZ also loves the people on the other side of the world. He wants all of them to know about His son, Jesus, and to believe in him.

Child's name, will you pick a place where you would like them to know about Jesus?

Let each child pick a place. Allow students to place stickers if desired.
The people in these places do need to hear about Jesus.

This is the land where Jesus was born.

Point to Israel.

He taught the people in this land how to love God and obey His commandments. Then He died. His teachings did not stop. A short time after He came out of the grave, He came to visit the people in this land.

Show North, Central and South America.

He wanted the people here to believe in Him too. In the Book of Mormon, we can read many true stories of Jesus' visit here. In today's story we will learn what Jesus taught the people.

Story:

Over 2,000 Nephites gathered around the temple in the land Bountiful. Jesus stood before them in a white robe. They could see the scars on his hands and his feet where he had been nailed to a cross in the land far away. They had heard God say that Jesus was His son and that they should listen to him.

So, the people waited quietly for Jesus to talk. With him were the twelve disciples, the special helpers, He had chosen. They listened too. Jesus had so much he needed to teach them.

"Behold, I am Jesus Christ," he said as he stretched his hands out towards them. He wanted them to **believe** He was God's Son. He wanted them to **repent**, to stop breaking God's laws and to start making good choices. If they believed He was God's son and if they followed God's rules, his twelve disciples could baptize them. Then they would be part of Jesus' church. Jesus wanted the people to **be baptized**. He wanted them to know how to be good.

Jesus told the people to love each other. They should treat each other with kindness and not argue or fight. They should not be angry with each other or call people mean names. They should not say bad words. If they were mean, Jesus told them to go to the person and try to make things right. Not only should they treat others nice, they should think nice thoughts about them too. God would know their thoughts. Jesus told them to treat each other like they would like to be treated. They would not like to be called mean names so they should not call other people mean names. They would not like to be hurt, so they should not hurt others.

What about their enemies? What if someone treated them bad? Must they be nice even to their enemies? They should treat them good and pray for them. Some people might call Jesus' followers names or make fun of them because they believed in Him. Their enemies might even hurt them, but God would bless those that were treated mean. They would have great joy.

Jesus wanted the Nephites to take care of the poor people in the land too. If someone needed to borrow something, the people should help that person. They should be quiet about the good that they do for others. God would see all the good they did.

Jesus reminded the Nephites that they must love God and keep His commandments. It would not always be easy, but God would help them. They didn't need to worry about what they would wear or eat, God would take care of them.

Jesus was their example; they should try to be like Him. Jesus still had more to teach the people.

He taught the people for many hours. He told the people to, "Go back to your homes now and think about the things I have said. Pray to God and ask Him to help you understand," Jesus told them.

**Red words are some of the principles of the gospel:
Believe or have Faith, Repent, Be Baptized...**

Discussion:

Jesus' visit to the Nephites was many, many years ago. Many things have changed since He talked with the Nephites.

What do you think is different today? (land, buildings, people, clothes, language, technology...)

Those things are different; something in our story has not changed. Do you know what it is?

It was Jesus' teachings. All the commandments He taught them are part of what is called the gospel. Those teachings are the same today as they were in the Nephite's day. The gospel has not changed.

Do you think Jesus wants us to follow the gospel just like He commanded the Nephites to do? Yes. Jesus wants you to obey His rules, He wants you to believe He is the Son of God. How do you think you would feel if you obeyed the gospel?

We can understand what God wants us to do by reading about Jesus. He always obeyed God. When we have trouble making choices we should ask yourself, "What would Jesus Do?"

Optional Activity:

Memory Verse Activity:

- Book of Mormon
- Cut out Footsteps, use a small shoe as template.
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Prepare- Enough footsteps for each student.
- Directions-
- 1. Look up III Nephi 8:49

2. Give children footsteps. Write one word on each footprint.
3. Ask students to put the footsteps in the correct order.