

“Let the Children Come”

Lessons and Activities for Vocational Awareness

GRADE: THREE

**Using Our Gifts and Talents
To Give Glory to God and to Help Others**

GRADE THREE LESSON

USING OUR GIFTS AND TALENTS TO GIVE GLORY TO GOD AND TO HELP OTHERS

Objective: To understand that all have been given gifts and talents by God to share with others. To have a thankful heart for the gifts given us and for the gifts given to others.

Teacher's Notes: Each person is a gift from God and God has given to every person gifts and talents to build up His Church and to make this world a better place. God wants us to share our gifts and talents with others. We are not to compare ourselves with others or think that we are better than or less important than anyone else. We are to thank God and give God the glory for the gifts we have. It is also important to recognize the gifts God has given to others and to praise God and give Him thanks for them.

Materials:

Small Lamp (extension cord)

Box (bigger than the lamp)

Activity Sheet 3a My Gifts and Talents (on the back is the second Activity Sheet)

Activity Sheet 3b "I Share My Light..."

Bible

Procedure:

Have students sit in a circle; place the lamp in the middle of the circle. Have the box next to the lamp. Ask the students what they could do with the lamp and the box.

Scripture: Share with the students the following

- Let's listen to what Jesus says about a lamp in the Gospel of Matthew.
 - Read Matthew 5:14-16.
 - ⇒ After reading the passage; have one student turn on the lamp; have another student turn off the room lights; have a third student place the box over the lamp.
 - ⇒ Q. Is it any good to have a lamp on when it's covered up. What is the wiser thing to do with it.
 - ⇒ Have a fourth student uncover the lamp and place it on top of the box.
- Now I'm going to reread the Scripture passage and I'd like you to listen carefully and think about how we are like a lamp. (Reread Matthew 5:14-16 slowly)
 - ⇒ How are we like that lamp.
- Who can name good works that each one of us can do?
- Why should we let others see our good works? (*To give praise to God!*)
- How are our good works like the light in the Bible?
- When we let our light shine, are we supposed to show off?
- How can we let others see our good works, yet not show off?

Have the students return to their seats and hand out **Activity Sheet 3a My Gifts and Talents**

- ⇒ Have them write down all the ways that God has given them gifts (what they can do naturally) and talents (what they have learned to do) to give God glory and help others.

- When students have finished filling out the Gifts and Talents portion; have them select one gift or talent that they have listed, turn the sheet over and fill it in the "I Share My Light by...."
 ⇒ When they finish, have them get with 1 or 2 other students and have each one share one thing they've written on the I Share My Light Worksheet.
- Collect the worksheets to post around the classroom at a later time.
- When the sharing time is over; place the lamp on the box turn it on. Turn off the room light.

Closing Thought:

God has given each one of us special gifts and talents to use for others and for God. We should be thankful to God for all the many different gifts and talents that we have been given and for all the gifts that God has given to others. Together, if we use our gifts for the good of all, we will be pleasing to God and make the world a better place.

Closing Prayer and Reflection:

Let's ask Jesus to help us let our light shine in the right way. By using our gifts and talents to help others we give praise to God. Jesus tells us that He is the light of the world. (Read John 8:12)

Thank you Jesus for being the light of the world and showing us how to use our gifts and talents to make this world that You created a better place for everyone. Help me to be a light for someone else today and help me to see your light as You show me how to live my life for You and to follow You in faith. In Jesus name we pray: AMEN!

ACTIVITY SHEET 3A
MY GIFTS AND TALENTS

What things are you good at doing? _____

What do you like to do with your time? _____

Make a list of the ways you use your gifts or talents to help others:

ACTIVITY SHEET 3B

SELECT ONE GIFT AND TALENT FROM WORKSHEET 3A TO SHARE WITH EVERYONE

