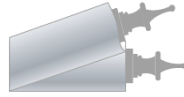




CHURCH EDUCATION

The Holy Bible
The Book of Mormon



'...and they shall become one in thine hand.' Ezekiel 37.17

LESSON TITLE

Blessing Little Children

UNIT 4 – Church Structure and Ordinances

GRADES Preschool - Kindergarten

HOLY BIBLE

Mark 10:16, "And he took them up in his arms, put *his* hands upon them, and blessed them."

THE BOOK OF MORMON

3 Nephi 17:21, "And when he had said these words, he wept, and the multitude bare record of it, and he took their little children, one by one, and blessed them, and prayed unto the Father for them."

OBJECTIVES

Participants will be able to:

- Explore examples of Jesus showing great love for little children, Numbers 6:23-27. Matthew 19:13-15. Mark 10:13-16.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- How do you know that Jesus loves little children?
- How did Jesus show love for little children in the Bible?
- How does Jesus show His love for you in our church?

MATERIALS

Holy Bible and Book of Mormon

Picture: Jesus blessing children (Page 3)

Video: [Jesus and the Children](#), 1:17 mins.

Coloring pages: [Blessing a Child \(Ordinance\)](#) [Jesus Blessing Children](#) (Teacher's choice)

Song: [Jesus Loves Me](#), 1:41 mins.

Crayons/ markers

TEACHER NOTES

30-minute lesson

To prepare for this lesson, study the scriptural references listed in **OBJECTIVES**.

Q = Teacher asks question

Note: The Church of Jesus Christ uses the Authorized King James Version of The Holy Bible and The Book of Mormon published by The Church

Definitions:

Blessing *n.*- God's favor and protection.

Favor *n.* - An act of kindness.

PROCEDURE

Motivation/Introduction (3 minutes)

1. Engage students in a discussion on the meaning of, "God bless you." (Numbers 6:24-26)

Q: Have you ever heard someone say, "God bless you?"

Q: Can you think of what "God bless you" means? (To ask God to protect and take care of someone).

Goal: We will explore a time when Jesus showed great love for little children by blessing them.

Lesson Development (20 - 25 minutes)

1. Share a retelling of Jesus blessing little children (Use an illustrated story book, display a picture (Page 3), watch a video, and/or use "Story Map").
2. Discuss the first two Essential Questions (Page 1).
3. Lead children in singing, "Jesus Loves Me."
4. Portray and relate how we follow Jesus's example in The Church of Jesus Christ:

Q: Who has seen a baby or small child blessed in our church?

- a. Hold two pictures side by side in front of students: Jesus blessing children (Page 3) and an minister blessing a child (Click [here](#)).
 - b. In our church, parents bring their little children to the ministers (Men chosen to lead Jesus's Church) to be blessed, just like in Jesus's time. The minister holds the child in his arms and asks God, our Father in heaven, to always take care of and protect the child.
5. Discuss the remaining Essential Question (Page 1).
 6. Give students a coloring sheet of blessing a child (Link page1) and crayon/markers.

Key words: structure, ordinance, blessing, child

Story Map: Jesus Blesses Little Children

This true story of Jesus blessing children is found in the Bible. One day long ago, when God's Son, Jesus, lived on the earth, many mothers brought their children to Him, seeking a blessing. The mothers love their children and want Jesus to ask God to take care of them.

Jesus's disciples scold the mothers, saying "Jesus is busy. Don't bother Him." Jesus scolds His disciples for sending the children away. Jesus says, "Bring the children to me. I love little children. They are welcome in heaven." Jesus held the children in His arms, one by one, and prayed to His Father in heaven asking Him to bless them.

