

Let the Little Children Come

Lesson 21. **REACHING OUT**

- Purpose:
- a) To review the “second and fifth day” of Creation
 - b) To acquaint the child with the similarities of movement between fish and birds.
 - c) To teach the children that people can move in water by “reaching out.”
 - d) To introduce the idea that there is a kind of water that we can't see, but can feel with our hearts.

Materials: An atomizer.

A picture of a fish.

A picture of a bird.

A bulletin board with the 6 days of Creation.

- Presentation:
- 1) Ask the children if they remember what God did on the “5th day” of Creation. (If they don't remember tell them that He made the fish and birds.)
 - 2) Tell them that fish can get from one place to another by swimming.
 - 3) Show them a picture of a fish and point out the fins. Tell the children that the fins reach out from the fish's body and help it move in the water.
 - 4) Point to the “2nd day” of Creation on the bulletin board and ask the children which kind of water the fish swims in...“the water they can see” or “the water that they can't see, but they can feel.” (Answer: the water they can see.)
 - 5) Show them a picture of a bird and point out the wings. Tell the children that the wings reach out from the bird's body and help it move in a different kind of water.
 - 6) Pointing, again, to the “2nd day” on the bulletin board, ask them which kind of water the birds move in. (Answer: the water they can't see, but that they can feel.)
 - 7) Take out the atomizer and spray some water into the air and make certain that they understand that they can feel something that they can't see.

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- 8) Ask them if the only way to “feel” things is with their hands.
- 9) Describe a situation where they see someone who needs help (e.g., working with the equipment or toys in the Sunday School room) and they “feel” like helping that person.
- 10) Give them other examples of this type of “feeling.”

(Teacher, please note: We are not talking about those times when they feel sad; we’re talking about their sensitivity to other people’s needs...i.e., when they feel like helping someone else.)

- 11) When they have the idea, tell them that this kind of feeling is “feeling with our hearts.”
- 12) And there is a very special water that comes from God. We can’t see it with our eyes, but we can feel it...not with our hands (shoot the atomizer, again) like this kind of water...but with our hearts.
- 13) But, like the birds and the fish, we have to “reach out” in order to move in this water.
- 14) And we “reach out” by feeling with our hearts...by helping someone who needs help...or by being a friend to someone who needs a friend.
- 15) When we reach out in this very special way, we are moving through this very special water. In fact, we are walking with God.

Activity: Tell the children that we are going to practice “reaching out” while we work with the equipment in the Sunday School room. Ask them to keep an eye open for any one who needs help. If they see someone, have the child ask that person if he/she would like some help. Impress upon the children that not everyone will always like to be helped...sometimes, people can best be helped by leaving them alone.

That is why we ask, first.

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If you have an assistant, you may want to give a demonstration on what to do if the person being asked says “Yes” and if the person being asked says “No.”

Song: **You Reached Out**

1. Em Am
You reached out and didn't even know it.
Em Am
Someone's touched and couldn't really show it.
Am Dm Em
But a life is changed
Am Dm
By something you have done;
Am Em Am Em Dm
And in your heart, you'll never be the same.
Em Am
2. Em Am
You reach out and never even know it.
Em Am
Someone's soul is touched and set aglow. It
Am Dm Em
Makes a world that's new
Am Dm Em
Because of what you do;
Am Em Am En Dm
And life will never be the way it was.
3. Em Am
You reached out and didn't really know it.
Em Am
Someone's touched and couldn't even show it.
Am Dm Em
Not a shout was heard;
Am Dm Em
Without a single word,
Am Em Am Em Am
You've changed the whole of that which ever was.