



Sabbath Teacher's Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 4
November/December 2005
WINTER ISSUE

The Church Of God International

TEEN INSPIRATION

Is my life a song?

While reflecting on the Feast of Tabernacles I always wonder if I set the right example. Not just in church or during socializing, but when I am out in the world.

Does my light shine? Do I show kindness and patience when those around me are neither? Is my faith strong enough to comfort those in need? Most importantly, "Do others see Jesus in me?"

While passing through this world of sin, and others your life shall view, Be clean and pure without, within;

Let others see Jesus in you!

Your life's a book before their eyes, they're reading it through and through; Say, does it point them to the skies,

Do others see Jesus in you?

Then live for Christ both day and night, be faithful, be brave and true, and lead the lost to life and Christ.

Let others see Jesus in you!

Song: LET OTHERS SEE JESUS IN YOU - B.B. McKinney, 1886-1952

STN Issue Dates (4 per yr)

Spring issue: January

Summer issue: May

Fall issue: September

Winter issue: November

Faith & Loyalty

by Lissa Palmatier, Ontario

This year's lessons for the Feast of Tabernacles were based on the book of **Ruth**.

In Niagara Falls, Canada, we had a total of 28 young people participating in our activities throughout the Feast. Our lessons were actually more like an interactive bible study!

One the most interesting activities involved making a harvest wreath with real

wheat. The children were actually able to see how the grains were removed from the stalks and we were gleaning right there in the classroom! Children learn best with visual aids and this activity certainly invoked participation.

This year's lessons really helped the children to understand how important it is for God's people to sup-

port each other and to stand strong together in the faith. Unfortunately, the rest of the congregation was unable to see how well the children helped each other every day. The older students joyfully assisted all of our younger children with their activities and the classroom was always filled with enthusiasm and laughter!

Song Leading and Teaching

by Lu Copeman, Ontario

Song leading is not my forte. But through experienced parents with musically gifted children, I have learned that the musically inclined child will encourage the others through their exuberance, to learn and enjoy the song.

Song Teaching Tips

Preparation and *creativity* are the keys to successful song leading and teaching.

1. Be sure to memorize the melody and lyrics so you may maintain eye contact with the children. Then instruct the children to watch you for direction while performing the song.
2. Play or sing the melodic lines of the song so the children can clearly hear it.
3. Make copies of the song to hand out. Read aloud the words and have the class repeat it back.
4. Use actions or instruments to help the children remember the

words.

5. Break up difficult or long songs to allow time to absorb and accurately remember each portion.
6. Take advantage of the beautiful sound of children's voices and consider having them sing a capella. Search out instrumental sound tracks or have a musician from the congregation accompany the children.
7. Establish a regular schedule for practise.
8. Have Fun!

Anatomy of a Good Youth Song

1. Praises God and His great blessings
2. Can be easily sung with music or a capella
3. Is easily learned
4. Is fun and rewarding for the children
5. Captivates and uplifts the audience

A HARMONY OF PRAISES

The music of the wind rustling...
the leaves of trees and ripe
fields of grain;
The song of birds tweeting and
honking;
The hushed humming of the
night insects;
The angelic tune played by
calling whales;
The loud claps and booms of
applauding thunder:
These blessings from God sing
their praises to all.
Mankind forms notes and words
to answer the call.
In harmony with nature we sing
the old story,
To God, "Praise be the glory."

Did you know?

The first creature/being mentioned in the bible is the whale. Genesis 1:21
"And God created great whales... and God saw that it was good."

Project: Let's Participate

Pass-Along Cards

All registered classes and families will receive a Project Packet with directions, craft materials, inspirational quotes, and a sample card.

Please send in your completed Project: Pass-Along Cards to either our US or Canadian Office for distribution.

DEADLINE DATE: January 31, 2005

PROJECT GOAL: To complete 2 cards per child, one for a friend, and one for the group project.

LESSON: Spreading the gospel through kind words, acts and faith.

CRAFT: 3-1/2" x 2" card stock double-sided, stickers and/or drawings, a meaningful message (e.g. Mercy, peace and love be yours in abundance. Jude 2). Using only a small space

of the card, write the child's **first** name and country.

RESULT: Encourage your class to spread the gospel by giving their cards to other members of the congregation, to family, or to friends at school. Send the second card to our office and you will receive cards from another class/family.

Most importantly, Have FUN!!

"that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel." Eph. 6:19

MAY/SUMMER ISSUE: Report on Project: Pass-Along Cards

Teacher to Teacher

CHRISTIAN SONGS FOR CHILDREN -Lu Copeman, Ontario **FROM THE EDITOR** -Ruth Kerr, Alberta

Sing-along music, Instrumental music for performances, fun Action songs! We want to hear your review on your favorite Christian album for children.

It seems there is a large selection of music for children on the CD shelves these days. And I'm guessing, many of you have found a favorite already. In this issue we are looking for some advisement on purchasing Christian music for children. So, if you have reviewed some of the newly available albums, or have an old standby, please send us the title/artist and recording company name for cataloging. Your opinion or review is much appreciated. If the response is good, we will compile a list of Children's Christian Albums and report back in a future issue.

Email your reviews, ideas and stories to Ruth at:

rakerr2@telus.net or mail them to either address in the right hand column and we will publish your ideas in the next issue.

FROM THE EDITOR...WHO ARE WE?

We have received some inquiries about STN from readers who are not familiar with the Church of God, International.

We are a group of people who observe the 7th-day Sabbath, as well as the Biblical festivals, and are committed to the teachings of Jesus Christ.

Our newsletter is produced in Ontario, Canada and is primarily a "forum" for those who teach Sabbath school. For more information on our Sabbath school, or the parent newsletter "SKY", log onto www.cgi.org/sky.

The Sabbath School Newsletter is devoted to creating a forum for Sabbath teachers to communicate and learn skills to develop their talents for teaching. Each issue is dedicated to providing instruction and guidelines for teachers, articles of personal experience, and words of encouragement. Our long term goal is to create an enjoyable learning atmosphere for the student, as well as uniting the teachers and children around the world, that share the same Christian beliefs.

FROM OUR READERS...

From Kathy Oden, Texas

"I cannot find the words to tell you how excited I am about finding your Sabbath School newsletter. Thank you so much for your reply. Yes, we have been acknowledging the festivals. But this fall, during the Fall festivals, God started really dealing with us about fully keeping them as well as understanding them.

My spiritual call is teacher and I minister every Thursday night. I have been teaching some very interesting lessons about the fall festivals. Through my research, and study...I learned so much and it was a joy to teach about all that I learn."

WANTED Project: Let's Participate PARTICIPANTS

To date we have 4 congregations, and 2 families signed up for the next project.

If your class or family gets excited about cool crafts, enjoys receiving mail and has a desire to participate -GET INVOLVED!

It is our goal to co-ordinate a number of group projects that will create awareness and unite the small Sabbath groups and classrooms that stretch beyond our own borders and waters. The STN staff will match your class with another class of similar size and age, and pass your project along to them.

To register your Sabbath class for the upcoming projects contact our office at the address/email listed below.

Please provide a mailing address and email (if available), the average number of students in your class (e.g. teens=5, youth=11), and your congregation location. Small groups and families are also welcome.

From Madalitso Siyabu, CGI-Central Africa
"Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord and Saviour."

The Name Game: "We often meet many people, for this reason, remembering names is sometimes difficult. I have noticed that a person is generally pleased to give his or her name if asked to do so. However if he/she has to do this the second or the third time, it becomes very embarrassing. I am advising you to always repeat the name. If the name is strange, inquire just how the name is spelled. This all helps to fix the name in your mind.

After meeting several people, you can make a list of names on a notebook and review them. While sitting on the platform, study the congregation and see how many names you can remember. By concentrating on this you can know the names of the majority of the people within a week."

The Church Of God International

PO Box 223675
Carmel CA 93922 USA

PO Box 33034
1299 Oxford Street East
London ON N5Y 5L4 CANADA

E-mail: rakerr2@telus.net