



Future-proofing our children

Religious Instruction Class 2

Lesson Title Jesus counsels us to be watchful while anticipating His coming

A Parent's Guide

Sunday School Home Schooling



Dear Parent

Welcome to the “**Jesus counsels us to be watchful while anticipating His coming**” Religious Instruction lesson.

This document provides you with a minimum guide on how to present the lesson.

How to prepare and present the lesson

Below are some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
1.	<p>Access the New Apostolic Church Website by keying-in or clicking on the following link from WhatsApp:</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3NACSSHS</p>
2.	<p>Gather the following tools to ensure that you are ready for the lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bible ● The PDF lesson that is already prepared ● Child’s workbook and pencils, crayons, etc. ● The Video Clip which is an additional optional resource tool <p>Note:</p> <p>2.1: An ideal time preferably to present the lesson is after the Sunday morning service in line with the normal Sunday School time to maintain the routine.</p> <p>2.2. Please keep the lesson as concise as possible, bearing in mind the retention span (to focus on the lesson) of our children – you know your child best. <i>Sunday School normally does not exceed 45 minutes.</i></p> <p>2.3: The lessons are class specific (i.e. SS, RI or Confirmation).</p> <p>2.4: Please contact your SS teacher if you need any of the above resources.</p>
3.	<p>Pray (see the prayer at the end of this document) and ask God to use you as a tool to present the lesson the way He would want us to present it.</p>



Present a Sunday school Lesson at Home

How to prepare and present the lesson

We continue to share some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
4.	Create a pleasant (disturbance free) learning environment where you and the children are at the same level Example: Sit on the mat or at a table
5.	Read through the lesson. Re-read the lesson so that you understand it. Watch the video clip of the lesson to get a better understanding of the lesson.
6.	Make notes for yourself on important points that you would like to remember.
7.	Understand the objective of the lesson that your child must remember.
8.	Present the lesson to your child by telling the story. You can even read the story if you like.
9.	Show your child the video and recap on the meaning/purpose of the lesson.
10.	Refer your child to the activity in the child's workbook.
11.	Pray, or ask your child to pray and close the lesson.

Available tools in terms of Home Schooling

Herewith some tools to enhance the quality of the lesson:

1. WhatsApp chat the lesson with another Religious Instruction family.
2. Discuss with other parents to obtain clarity regarding the lesson before it is presented.
3. Feel free to conduct your own research for additional information.
4. Your congregation Sunday School Coordinator and Teacher.



Lesson Title	Jesus counsels us to be watchful while anticipating His coming
Text	Matthew 25: 1 - 13
Lesson Objective	The children learn what is required in order to be prepared for Christ's return.

Lesson Summary:

- In Matthew 25: 1-13 we read about a time when Jesus was teaching His disciples about getting ready for when He returns.
- To help them understand, Jesus told them the **parable of the ten virgins**.
- The parable is based on an old Jewish custom.
- On the night before a wedding, family and friends of the bride helped her to get ready and waited for the bridegroom at her home. No one knew the time. When he came, they went to call the bride, and everyone went to the wedding feast at the bridegroom's home.
- Jesus told them: "Once there was ten bridesmaids who took their oil lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.
- Five of them were foolish and five of them were wise.
- The foolish ones took their lamps, but did not take extra oil, while the wise ones, took a container full of oil for their lamps.
- The bridegroom was late in coming, so the bridesmaids all became drowsy and fell asleep.
- It was already midnight when there was a shout: "Here is the bridegroom!"
- Then, all the bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps.
- The foolish ones said to the wise: "Give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out?"
- "No", they replied, "There won't be enough for you and us. Go to the shop and buy for yourselves."
- But, while they were gone to buy some oil, the bridegroom arrived and those who were ready went inside with him to the wedding feast. Then the door was shut.
- Later, the other bridesmaids arrived, "Lord, lord! Let us in!" But, he replied, "Certainly not! I do not know you!"
- Jesus then concluded: "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming."



What does this lesson teach us?

- The bridegroom, represents the Lord Jesus, who promised to return.
- The ten bridesmaids, represents us who await His return.
- Falling asleep is the danger of waiting a long time for something.
- No one knows the exact time Jesus will return.
- The oil in the parable represents the Holy Spirit that stimulates our faith.
- The Holy Spirit reveals God's word through which our faith is strengthened.
- We must allow the Holy Spirit to guide us and use our time until He comes wisely.

How can we act wisely today to be ready for Christ's return?

- Absorb God's word by reading the Bible and attending divine services.
- Obey God's word and put it into action, don't put it off until later.
- Don't wait to forgive and to become reconciled again after an argument or wrong doing.
- Help along in God's work and spend time with other children of God.
- Most importantly we must pray to Christ for:
 - Ø Steadfastness and faithfulness,
 - Ø Joyful anticipation of the Lord Jesus's return,
 - Ø The ability to differentiate between what is important and what is unimportant, and
 - Ø The shortening of the time to His return.

Are you ready for Jesus's return?

Do Exercise 1, 2 and 3 with your child.

Correction in the workbook in Exercise 2 – Bible text on page 45 not page 12

Answer to Exercise 3:

Matthew 26:41 – Watch and pray.



Some questions we can ask:

1. What did Jesus explain with the parable of the ten virgins?

Answer: He explained about getting ready for His return

2. The parable was based on an old Jewish custom, who was everybody waiting for?

Answer: They waited for the bridegroom to come get his bride

3. How many bridesmaids were waiting with oil lamps?

Answer: ten bridesmaids

4. Why did the five foolish bridesmaids have to go to the shop?

Answer: To buy oil for their lamps

5. What happened when they returned from the shop?

Answer: The door of the wedding feast was shut and they were not allowed in

6. Why were they not allowed in at the wedding feast?

Answer: They were not ready when the bridegroom came and it was too late for them to enter





A Prayer for Daddy and Mommy to pray before the lesson:

*Dear God, thank you for this day
Bless all parents and children
May we feel your presence
Bless the lesson we will have
Please teach us how to serve you
And help us to do your will
So that we grow closer to you
Send Jesus to fetch us
And may we be ready to meet Him
Amen*

 Notes

A prayer after the lesson:

*Dear Heavenly father
Thank you for keeping us safe.
Help me to be kind to everyone.
Thank you for being the Good Shepherd who loves and guides us.
Amen*