Theme: Easter

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

A. The Lord is always God, even if we forget or can’t see Him all the time.

II. Story Circle

A. Introduce the Story
   1. Easter is a celebration of the day that the Lord rose from the tomb.
   2. Some bad people killed the Lord, but He rose on the third day. He appeared to His disciples and other followers.
   3. The people who loved the Lord when He lived on earth were very sad when He was killed. How do you think they felt when they got to see the Lord after He rose from the tomb?
   4. Today we are going to learn about one of the times that the Lord was seen by people who loved Him. Two men were walking to a town called Emmaus, and the Lord joined them and walked along with them. It took them a while to know that He was the Lord.

B. Tell/Read the Story
   1. Luke 24:13-36 (you may need to retell the story, summarizing key points)

C. Ideas to Discuss
   1. Who joined the two men (followers of the Lord) while they walked to the town of Emmaus? (The Lord)
   2. Did they know it was the Lord when He first appeared? (No)
   3. The Lord asked them what they were talking about. What did they tell Him? (They told Him all about the Easter story, about the Lord being killed, and that Mary had seen Him at the sepulcher.)
   4. When did the men know that the stranger was actually the Lord? (When He sat down to eat with them, and broke the bread and blessed it.
   5. What did the men do next? (They ran back to Jerusalem to tell everyone else about this wonderful thing, that the Lord was still alive.)

D. Further Ideas
   1. Sometimes we feel sad because some people hated the Lord and wanted to kill Him. But the Lord had finished His work here on earth.
   2. Think how surprised and happy the people were when they saw the Lord again. It was hard for them to believe their eyes. The Lord showed them that He is always with us, taking care of us, even though we can’t see Him.
III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music
   1. Sing Easter songs about “The Lord Is Risen!”

B. Activities

C. Project
   1. A pair of sandals
      a. Materials needed: heavy paper (like brown grocery bags), sturdy cardboard, 3 yards of yarn or cord for each child, glue, scissors. (Double-sided carpet tape may be used instead of glue. It is easier and quicker, but more costly.)
      b. In class: trace each child’s foot on the strong paper, cut out two shapes, trace on the cardboard, and cut it out. (Or, you can cut out generic feet shapes before class.)
      c. Cut two pieces of yarn 18” long and two pieces 36” long for each child.
      d. Put a line of glue across the heel part and the pad part of the cardboard foot shape. Lay the 18” pieces of yarn over the pad part of the shoe, and the 36” pieces over the heel part of the shoe.
      e. Spread glue all over, lay the paper pieces on top, and press under weights.
      f. When glue is dry, wear sandals. Tie short cord across toes, and long cords around ankles.
      g. You could fasten text slips to the sandals, or send them home loose with the children: “Two of the disciples went to a village called Emmaus. …And when they talked together, Jesus Himself drew near, and went with them. But they didn’t recognize Him. …And when they stopped to eat, the Lord broke the bread and blessed it. And their eyes were opened and they knew Him; and He vanished. Then they quickly returned to Jerusalem, and told the other disciples: The Lord is risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” (parts of Luke 24)

   2. Clothespin figure of the Lord
      a. Materials needed: clothespins, (stands and heads can also be used to make a more stable and real looking figure) pipe cleaners, small pieces of cloth, markers, glue is sometimes helpful.
      b. Before class: cut material to size and shape of clothing, if using heads and stands assemble figures
      c. In class: Each child can make arms using the pipe cleaners, then can clothe their figure of the Lord.
3. Footprints  
   a. Materials needed: Construction paper, scissors, glue, text slips  
   b. In class the children stand on a piece of colored paper and you or they can trace their feet. Cut out the foot shapes and glue them on another piece of colored paper. Put “The Walk to Emmaus” at the top, and glue text slips on.

IV. Teaching Aids

   A. Sample project

   B. Illustration of the Easter story, and the walk to Emmaus

V. Further Reading
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