

Lesson Plans that Work
Year C – Trinity Sunday
Lesson Plans for Younger Children
Revised Common Lectionary Old Testament Readings – Track One

Scripture: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Background

Today is Trinity Sunday, a day on which we celebrate the Holy Trinity: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In Western Christianity, the first Sunday after Pentecost is designated as Trinity Sunday. On this day we celebrate not a person, but instead the doctrine of the Trinity; the Three in One.

A Notation for This Week’s Scripture

This week’s text comes from the book of Proverbs, a book traditionally classified as “wisdom” literature. This book teaches us how to live good and wise lives. The passage in Proverbs 8 exalts wisdom (portrayed as a female character) and reminds us that she was with God from the beginning of creation. Furthermore, all are invited to seek wisdom, as she is found in many different places.

Theme: We Seek Wisdom

Before Class: Read the story in Proverbs 8:1-4 and 22-31 prior to the start of class. Take special note of what words, phrases, or images stand out to you as you read. Consider how this passage might relate to the themes and ideas of Holy Trinity Sunday. Read through the story script and practice the actions. You will need Children’s Bibles, paper, magazines, glue and scissors.

Beginning: Welcome the children and invite them to gather together. Sing the song “The Wise Man Built His House upon a Rock” with students.

Opening Prayer: Holy God, you are always with us. Be present with us today as we learn more about how you help us live good and wise lives. Amen.

The Story: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31 Use the actions below to teach the story to students. Invite students to repeat after you, line by line, as you read the story and model the hand motions.

<u>Line of Story</u>	<u>Action</u>
Wisdom calls and talks to everyone,	<i>Cup your hands around your mouth, like you are shouting something.</i>
She is found everywhere!	<i>Open your arms wide.</i>
Wisdom cries to everyone, so that they know how to live good lives.	<i>Cup your hands around your mouth, like you are shouting something.</i>
Wisdom was with God before the beginning of creation!	<i>Raise your hands in the air.</i>

She was there before the oceans and rivers, *Move your arms like waves.*
Before the mountains and the hills, *Use your arms to make a mountain above
your head.*
Even before God made land and plants! *Lower your hands to touch the ground.*
Wisdom was there when God created the *Reach high to the sky.*
heavens and the earth,
And seeing that everything God creates is *Open your arms wide.*
good!

You can repeat the story and motions if you wish.

Reflection Questions:

- I wonder what wisdom means?
- I wonder what it's like to have wisdom?
- I wonder who in our world is wise?
- Who are some people you know who are wise?
- Can you think of any other people in the Bible who teach us how to be wise? Who are they?
- Are there any parts in this passage that remind you about Jesus? If so, which ones?
- I wonder what it would be like to experience the time before creation. What do you think it would be like?

Activities

Option 1: Invite children to look through your favorite children's Bible or story Bible. What are some lessons we learn from different stories? How do these stories help us grow in wisdom?

Option 2: Make available magazines, scissors, glue, and paper. Invite students to search the magazines for photos that remind them of the text in Proverbs 8:22-31. Have students cut and paste these images onto paper to make a collage.

Getting Closure: We gain wisdom in many different ways, including by reading the Bible and learning more about God. What did you learn today, and how will it help you be wise this week?

Closing Prayer: Almighty God, you bring us knowledge and life. Grant us the wisdom to love you and make good decisions every day. Amen.

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