



## LESSON

### SONG: Arise Shine

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nf0\\_TMYBc0I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nf0_TMYBc0I)

(use first part of the vid; incorporate simple hand movements to help kids remember this verse)

### READ: Isaiah 60

(Younger kids can read vs 1. Older kids can read through vs 1-3.)

*Arise, shine;  
For your light has come!  
And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.*

<sup>2</sup> *For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth,  
And deep darkness the people;  
But the Lord will arise over you,  
And His glory will be seen upon you.*

<sup>3</sup> *The Gentiles shall come to your light,  
And kings to the brightness of your rising.*

### What is light?

Light is a natural ray that helps you see and makes things seen.

Light was the first thing God called into being when He created the earth. He said, "Let there be light!" One of the greatest light in the world is from the sun. The sun is 93 million miles from the earth, but it brightens our world and gives us warmth and life. Without the sun, we cannot grow; we will all die in darkness.

But the sun, though it is very big and very bright, is not the light that Isaiah spoke of. There is a bigger, greater light, bigger and greater than everything in this world, in this universe and beyond.



## Jesus is the Light of the World

**John 8:12** *When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."*

When Jesus came, He declared Himself to be the Light of the World. Like the Sun, Jesus brightens our world, and gives us warmth and life.

## The world may be in darkness ...

What's in the news nowadays? *Floods. Wars. Disasters.* (Get kids to contribute.)

People feel lost and hopeless. Nowhere seems safe.

Darkness = absence of light

Imagine a very, very dark room. No windows. No light. What happens if you turn on the light switch? Or if you shine a torch? Or light a candle? It is all light in the room, and the darkness goes away.

When Jesus came, He came to find the lost and to give hope to the hopeless. He came to tell the world what God is really like, and how much He loves them and want them to be part of His family,

## We are the light of the world

When we believe in Jesus, we become the light of the world too. We have Jesus' light shining in us and through us. We are like a candle holder, with a bright candle shining in us that can be seen by people all over.

Jesus tells us, *"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."* (Matthew 5:14-16)

What do we do when we are light? Do we hide under a bowl or cover ourselves up? No, we let our light shine to brighten up the darkness. We shine Jesus' light to the whole world through our words, actions, behaviour — whatever we say and do. And when people see our good deeds, they will glorify God! They will say thank you Jesus for shining your light on us.

So we, who carry Jesus' light, are called to arise and shine ... let's arise and shine as tNCC Children Church in 2017. Let's let everyone — in our school, home, neighbourhood — know that Jesus loves them.





## ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

### HUDDLE TIME

Get kids in smaller groups. Get them to discuss what they would like to do as a class to help shine Jesus' light to others in 2017. Perhaps they go visit a children home, or orang asli village, or help feed the poor etc. Tell them we can work towards some of these efforts as a class, but we can all shine every day, wherever we are.

### SONGS

Arise Shine

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(use first part of the vid;

incorporate simple hand movements to help kids remember this verse)

This little light of mine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ty9bZXN4uWA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cKkbIZtqhyQ>

Let your light shine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXkxRNEy8XA>



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### READ: Acts 2: 41-47

(Paraphrase in story form for younger kids. Older kids can read out loud.)

*41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.*

*The Fellowship of the Believers*

*42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

### THE EARLY CHURCH

After Jesus died on the cross and rose again three days later, He appeared to His disciples. After 40 days, He went up to heaven and promised to come back again for us one day. He told the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit to come.

When the Holy Spirit came, Peter told everyone around him about Jesus and what He has done for us. About 3,000 people believed, accepted Jesus and were baptised. They became the early church.

The early church committed themselves to four main things — the apostles/disciples' teaching; to fellowship; to the breaking of bread; and to prayer. They met regularly, shared what they had, and more and more people came to know about Jesus and to worship Him.



## DEVOTED TO GOD'S WORD

What was the first thing the church was devoted/committed to? The teaching of the apostles.

The apostles had spent 3.5 years with Jesus, living with Him, listening to Him, and ministering with Him. So the apostles taught all the new believers about Jesus. (Acts 2:22-24)

They taught them that:



**Jesus was God, and He did many miracles, wonders and signs.**

Can you remember any of Jesus' miracles? *Healing of blind man; Feeding of 5,000; raising Jairus' daughter from dead etc etc.*



**Jesus was crucified on the cross for our sins.**

Jesus was whipped, and nails were pushed into his hands and legs, a crown of thorns on His head. It wasn't an accident. It wasn't a surprise. It was planned by God from the beginning that Jesus would give His life to pay for all our sins, so that we do not have die (punishment for our sins).



**God raised Jesus from the dead!**

The good news is Jesus is not dead anymore. Jesus not only took all our sins on the cross, but He defeated death by rising again after 3 days. In Jesus, we now have forgiveness of our sin, and He lives in us forever.

(Repeat the 3 main points to help the kids remember.)

## ARISE & SHINE: WORD OF GOD

The people who heard these teaching could not keep it to themselves. They wanted to tell everyone about Jesus and His finished work on the cross.

Remember: Last Sunday, we learned about how we are lights of the world that should shine bright?

The early church was like a light that could not be hidden. They went out to tell their family and friends, neighbours and strangers all about Jesus. They shined bright.

We can be like them and be lights for Jesus. Let's tell someone about Jesus this week!



## ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

### HUDDLE TIME

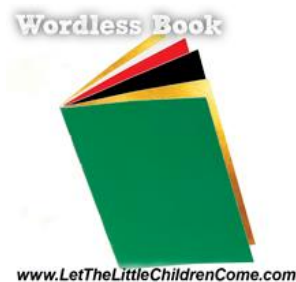
Get kids in smaller groups. Get them to share who they would want to tell about Jesus this week and pray for them.

### CRAFT

Wordless Gospel Book

Using the 3 colours in the lesson, help the kids make their own cards/book to tell their friends about Jesus.

Ideas:



### SONGS

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## LESSON

### SONG: We are

<https://youtu.be/dCe8gYuM32w>

### READ: Acts 2:41-47

*41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.*

#### *The Fellowship of the Believers*

*42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to **fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 **All the believers were together and had everything in common.** 45 They sold property and possessions to **give to anyone who had need.** 46 Every day **they continued to meet together** in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

### REVIEW

Last week, we learnt about how the early church was devoted to the apostles' teaching. Do you remember the 3 main points?

- Jesus was God, and He did many miracles, wonders and signs.
- Jesus was crucified on the cross for our sins.
- God raised Jesus from the dead!

We learnt that like the early church, we can share the good news of Jesus to all our friends and family. Has anyone shared the good news this past week? *Allow kids to share if they did.*



## ARISE & SHINE: FAMILY

When we believe in Jesus, we become a child of God and part of a big Family called the Church. You and I are the Church! The Church is not a building. It's a Family of people who belong to Jesus.

[idea for young kids]

Hold a mirror and walk among the children, letting them take turns to see their reflection, while singing this song to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell".

*You are the church.*

*You are the church.*

*You belong to Jesus.*

*You are the church.*

Here in Malaysia, we also belong to a local gathering of believers. Our gathering of believers is called tNCC (The New Covenant Church).

Why do we come to tNCC every Sunday? *To worship Jesus.*

But if I am the Church, I can worship Jesus anywhere ... at my house ... in my bathroom ...

So why do we come to tNCC? *To worship Jesus together with our family.*

That's right. Every time we come together with other believers, whether in tNCC or at home or our school or anywhere we go, it's a Family gathering. We come to celebrate Jesus together.

## MEETING TOGETHER

The early church was devoted to Family. They met daily in the temple courts.

When we meet together, we also build each other up. When we are tired, someone carries us. When we are sad, someone cheers us up. When we are disappointed, someone cheers us up. When we have problems, someone prays with us. When we are focusing on the challenges of daily life, we all help to point each other to Jesus.

That's why we come together. We are Family.

In Hebrews, the writer reminds us that we should continue meeting together — to encourage each other, to spur each other toward love and good deeds — especially with Jesus coming back soon.

**Hebrews 10:24-25** *And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*





Do you know in some countries, believers cannot come together openly like you and I do? Because they may get caught and imprisoned if the police sees them worshipping Jesus together. They have to be very secretive and careful when they come together. They have to sing softly so they won't be heard; they have to memorise Scripture because they cannot carry their Bibles.

We have the freedom to attend church services without fear of being arrested. We don't have to go to Church. We GET to go to church. And that's a privilege we should appreciate.

## SHARING GENEROUSLY

The early church also shared with each other all that they had. And they sold their possessions to help those in need. For the early church, they gave willingly and voluntarily when there was a need. They were not forced or bribed or coerced or blackmailed to give.

All that they had? Sold their possessions?

Would you share everything you had with your brother/sister? Humanly speaking, no, we wouldn't.

But when we have Jesus, His love and grace cause us to learn to love one another as Jesus has loved us. Jesus gave us everything. He blessed us with so much, so we can be a blessing to others. We can help those in need.

Who can we help? How can we bless others with what we have?

Can we put aside some of our *ang pau* money to feed the homeless? Can we bring our toys and teddy bears to give away to children who do not have any? Can we donate stationery sets for poor students?

*Let the kids come up with suggestions. Note them down and share with the other class teachers. This could be a class project for the coming weeks.*

We are privileged to be part of God's family. Let us continue meeting together, and to share generously with those in need.



## ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

### HUDDLE TIME

Get kids in smaller groups. Get them to share how they can share and bless others with what God has blessed them with.

For older kids, put their names in a bag and get them to each draw a name and write an encouraging note to that person — a reminder that families are supposed to build each other up.

### SONGS

The more we get together  
actions <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lldmkrJXQ-E>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQqbQwF5v5Y>

This little light of mine <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ty9bZxN4uWA>  
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Let your light shine <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXkxRNEy8XA>

We are <https://youtu.be/dCe8gYuM32w>

Close in prayer.



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CHURCH

# DEVOTED TO BREAKING OF BREAD

## LESSON

**SONG: We are**

<https://youtu.be/dCe8gYuM32w>

**SONG: You are the church** [younger kids]

Sung to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell". You can hold a mirror to show the kids their reflection as they sing this song, or they can point to different friends while singing.

*You are the church.*

*You are the church.*

*You belong to Jesus.*

*You are the church.*

*We are the church.*

*We are the church.*

*We belong to Jesus.*

*We are the church.*



**READ: Acts 2:41-47**

*41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.*

*The Fellowship of the Believers*

*42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.*

**REVIEW**

In earlier weeks, we learnt about how the early church was devoted to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship.

Do you remember the 3 main points of the apostles' teaching?

- Jesus was God, and He did many miracles, wonders and signs.
- Jesus was crucified on the cross for our sins.
- God raised Jesus from the dead!

Like the early church, we can share the good news of Jesus to all our friends and family.

We also learnt that we meet together every week because we are family. We help to point each other to Jesus. We can also share generously with each other

Another thing that the early church did whenever they met together is to break bread. What is breaking of bread? *Communion*.



## ARISE & SHINE: BREAKING OF BREAD

Every Sunday, we celebrate the Holy Communion. The Holy Communion is also known as the New Covenant Meal. Jesus tells us to do this as often as we can, in remembrance of Him.

What is the Holy Communion? <discuss>

It is not snack time. It is not a ritual, nor a magic formula. It is to remind us what Jesus has done for you and me on the Cross.

### Matthew 26:26-29

On the night Jesus was betrayed, He sat down for supper with His disciples to celebrate the Passover.

Jesus knew He was going to die on the cross, to take our place and our punishment for our sin.

As they were eating at the table, Jesus did 2 things:

First, He took the BREAD and broke it, and gave it to His disciples. "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

Then He took the CUP, gave to His disciples, and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

### THE BREAD

**What does the bread symbolise? Jesus' body was broken so mine can be healed and whole.**

Take a look at this piece of unleavened bread (bread with no yeast). It has stripes and holes. Jesus broke it before giving it to the disciples.

On the cross, Jesus' body was torn apart for us (broken). He was whipped (stripes), and pierced by the soldier's spear (holes).

On the cross, all the bad things/punishments we deserved fell on Jesus, so that we can have all the good things/blessings that Jesus deserved.

*Isaiah 53:5 But He was wounded for our transgressions (wrong doings), He was bruised for our iniquities (sins); the chastisement (punishments) for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.*

When we eat the bread, we remember that Jesus' body was broken so ours can be healed and whole. If we are sick, we remember that we have Jesus' healing.





## THE CUP

The cup reminds us that Jesus' Blood was shed for our complete forgiveness and righteousness

Just like the Passover Lamb's blood was spread over the Israelites' door posts, keeping them safe from the angel of death, Jesus' shed blood caused God's punishment and judgment for our sins to pass over us. (Exodus 12:13)

Jesus paid our punishment with His blood.

When we drink the cup, we remember that what Jesus has done on the cross for us.

He took our punishment, so that we are forgiven.

He was made sin that we are righteous.

He was shamed that we are glorified.



Every time we eat of the bread and drink of the cup ...

We proclaim that we are part of God's family.

We remember what Jesus has done on the cross.

We eat and drink with glad and sincere hearts.



## ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

### HOLY COMMUNION

Have the kids sit down quietly. Pass out the bread and the cup.

Hold up the **bread**. Say, *"This bread symbolizes the body of Jesus that was broken for us so that we can enjoy His wholeness and healing. If anyone of you has a sickness, imagine Jesus on the cross with the same sickness ... the same headache, or pain or flu. He took it all for you. So that today, you have His divine health."*

Pray (get kids to repeat after you):

*Thank you Jesus that Your body was broken so mine can be healed and whole. Amen.*

Eat the bread.

Hold up the **cup**. Say, *"This cup represents the blood of Jesus that was shed on the cross for you and me. This blood paid the punishment of our sins. So today we don't need to be punished anymore. All our sins are forgiven and we can stand righteous before God."*

Pray (get kids to repeat after you):

*Thank you Jesus that Your blood was shed so that I can be completely forgiven and righteous before You.*

Drink the cup.

### HUDDLE TIME

Get kids in smaller groups. Get them to share what they are thankful to Jesus for, and pray for one another.



## LESSON

**SONG: We are**

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**SONG: You are the church** [younger kids]

Sung to the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell". You can hold a mirror to show the kids their reflection as they sing this song, or they can point to different friends while singing.

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[for older classes]

**READ: Acts 2:41-47**

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*The Fellowship of the Believers*

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**REVIEW**

In earlier weeks, we learnt about how the early church was devoted to:

- **The apostles' teaching:** We can share the good news of Jesus to all our friends and family
- **Fellowship:** We are family, and we can share generously with everyone
- **Breaking of Bread:** We remember what Jesus has done on the cross; we eat and drink with glad and sincere hearts.

Today, we look at another important part of church life — **Prayer**.



**HOOK:**

Create a cup telephone. Speak a message into one cup, and get a kid to listen in to the other side and repeat the message out.

Suggestion: Use memory verse Jeremiah 29:11.

-- Or --

Bring any type of telephone (toy or otherwise) to introduce the idea of communication. Get kids to suggest other ways of communicating with each other, e.g. letters, postcards, emails, smoke signals etc.



**ARISE & SHINE: PRAYER**

Today, we will be learning that God loves it when we talk to Him. Another name for talking to God is called prayer. Isn't it great that God wants us to talk to Him. How should we talk or pray to God?

The Bible tells us through the prophet Jeremiah that God wants us to talk to Him because He has so much to tell us.

**Jeremiah 33:3** *'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.'*

Through this verse, we know 2 main things:

- God answers us when we pray
- God wants to tell us great things that we cannot imagine

Share with the children a time that you prayed and received the answer in a surprising or dramatic way (or even in simple ways).



## HOW DO WE PRAY?

Prayer is simply talking to God.

One common way is to put our hands together, close our eyes and talk to Him.

Why do we close our eyes? So that we can focus and not be distracted by everything around us.

But we don't always have to do the same thing every time.

We can pray when we are standing, walking, kneeling, bowing, or singing. We can pray quietly when we are lying down in bed. We can pray with our hands together or with outstretched arms. We can pray in the morning, before meals, and even at night.

We can pray by ourselves, and we can pray together with our family and church. When we come together to pray, we encourage ourselves and each other.

Just like we will talk to our mummies and daddies, or to our best friend, we can talk to God, our Heavenly Father.

We can call God Daddy/Father because of what Jesus did on the cross. And we remember that when we pray "in Jesus' name".

## WHAT DO WE PRAY?

There is no set formula when we pray to God.

But here is a little guide using the acronym **T-A-D**:

**Thank:** Thank God for who He is, for all that He has blessed you with, and for hearing your prayers. This reminds us that the God we talk to is bigger than any problem in the world, and He can make a difference in our lives.

**Ask:** Tell God what's happening in your life or what's on your mind (your concerns, worries, needs); You can also tell Him about what other people who are in need. Jesus tells us to "Ask, and you will receive." (Luke 11:9), so let's not be shy to tell God what we need and want.

**Declare:** As God's children, we have Jesus in us, and we can declare His blessing, healing and power over whatever needs we or other people have. We don't have to beg God to listen to us. We speak with His authority over any situation.



## ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

### PRAYER

You may do this as a whole class, or in a close huddle. Ask the children to share their prayer needs. Lead them to pray using the T-A-D guide, and get them to repeat after you.

Sample prayer:

*Dear God,*

**T:** *Thank You for being our good and loving Daddy. Thank you for loving all of us very much, and for making such a wonderful morning for us to come and worship You together.*

**A:** *Today we learnt that we can call on You anytime. We can talk to You about our day. We can tell You our problems and worries.*

*[Bring up some of the children's prayer needs. For older kids, you can ask different ones to pray for their friends' needs.]*

**D:** *We speak your Lordship over the situation. We declare Your healing over ... We declare that Jesus has already taken this sickness on the cross ... We declare that You can change things around and work everything for our good!*

*Thank You, God. We pray all these in Jesus' name, Amen.*

### OTHER PRAYER ACTIVITY IDEAS [Feel free to choose and modify according to your class' needs;

The idea is that prayer can be fun and simple; we just need to talk to God because He wants to talk to us.]

- **Pick a Name:** Get kids to write down their names on a piece of paper, and put it in a bowl/container. Each kid will pick up a name from the container, and speak a short prayer of thanksgiving and blessing for that person.
- **Hand Stack:** [works in smaller huddles] Everyone puts one hand in the middle in a stack. The person whose hand is at the bottom will say a short 1-2 line prayer — can be a thanksgiving, or sharing a need, or a declaration — and put their hand at the top of the stack after that. Then the next person whose hand is at the bottom will say a prayer, and so on.
- **Wall of Prayer:** Get kids to write down (on cards) their prayer needs or highlight someone in need, and stick the cards as “bricks” to form a wall in the class, as reminder for them to pray.



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## DEVOTED TO PRAYER

- **Picture Prompts:** Prepare several pictures (of family members or creation etc). Flash each picture, and get the kids to pray accordingly.  
E.g. A picture of a flower: *Thank you God for creating beautiful flowers for me.*  
A picture of a mother: *Thank you God for my mummy who takes good care of me. Please help her to get enough rest, and keep her healthy.*