

Who Is The Minister?

UPPER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

Theme: Every Christian is needed to do their part in the ministry of the Church.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Memory Verse: There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.

- 1 Corinthians 12:4

The Children's Sermon

Today, we have a special treat. We're going to listen to some music played by an orchestra. Who knows what an orchestra is? An orchestra is a big group of musicians who play instruments together. They make beautiful music by working as a team. Each musician has a different instrument and part to play.

Just like in an orchestra, where each instrument is important, God gives us special gifts to help and serve others. These special gifts are called "spiritual gifts." There's a Spiritual Gifts Bible Verse that tells us about these gifts. It says that just like parts of the body, each one of us has a special role to play in God's family.

Now, imagine if the orchestra only had flutes. The music would be missing something, wouldn't it? It's the same with us. God gives us different spiritual gifts so we can all work together to show His love. Some people are really good at teaching, some are great at helping others, and some can make people feel better when they are sad.

Let's talk more about these spiritual gifts. The Spiritual Gifts Bible Verse teaches us that these gifts are given to us by the Holy Spirit. That means they are super special. They are not just any gifts; they are gifts to help us do God's work in the world.

Think of it like this: if our class was an orchestra, and each of us played a different instrument, we would need to practice and learn how to play our parts well. With spiritual gifts, it's similar. We need to discover what our gifts are and then use them to help others.

Now, how do we find out what our spiritual gifts are? It's like going on a treasure hunt. We pray and ask God to show us. We try doing different things to help others. Maybe you're good at drawing and you can make cards for people who are sick. Or perhaps you're good at solving problems and you can help your friends when they have a tough time.

Once we know our spiritual gifts, it's important to use them. Imagine if someone in the orchestra decided not to play their instrument. The music wouldn't sound as beautiful, right? When we don't use our spiritual gifts, the world misses out on the beautiful things God wants to do through us.

Remember, using our spiritual gifts is a way to say "thank you" to God for all the wonderful things He has given us. It's like if someone gave you a really cool toy, and you played with it a lot. Playing with the toy is a way to show you're thankful. Using our spiritual gifts shows God we're thankful for what He's given us.

Sometimes, it might feel scary to use our gifts. Maybe we're afraid we won't do it right. But guess what? The Spiritual Gifts Bible Verse tells us that God helps us. Just like a

music teacher helps students in an orchestra, God helps us use our gifts in the best way.

And the best part? When we all use our spiritual gifts together, it's like the most beautiful orchestra playing. Everyone doing their part makes the world a better place. It shows everyone how much God loves them.

So, let's be like the orchestra. Let's find out what our spiritual gifts are and use them to make beautiful music together. Let's help, teach, and care for others. And let's remember the Spiritual Gifts Bible Verse that teaches us how special and important these gifts are.

In the end, using our spiritual gifts is not just about making us feel good; it's about showing God's love to everyone around us. It's about being part of God's big orchestra and playing our part as best as we can. And when we do that, we make the world a more beautiful place, just like a perfect piece of music.

Bible Memory Verse

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. - 1 Corinthians 12:4

You Will Need:

- Colored paper
- Scissors
- Markers

Get Ready:

-Cut the colored paper into strips.

-Write '1 Corinthians 12:4' on a poster board and hang it where all the children can see it.

Do This:

1. Ask each child to pick a strip of colored paper. Explain that each color represents a different gift the Holy Spirit might give us, such as wisdom, faith, healing, or kindness.
2. Have the children use the markers to write or draw a gift they think the Holy Spirit has given them or a gift they would like to receive on their strip of paper.
3. Create a 'Gifts of the Spirit' chain by linking the strips of paper together. Hang the chain in the classroom as a reminder that while we all have different gifts, they all come from the same Spirit.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- A variety of craft materials (paper, markers, glue, scissors, etc.)
- "Gift" cards (small cards with different spiritual gifts written on them, such as "helping," "teaching," "encouragement," etc.)
- A large poster board with "The Body of Christ" written at the top
- Sticky tack or tape

Get Ready:

- Prepare the "gift" cards in advance, making sure there are enough for each child to choose one.
- Set up a craft station with all the materials laid out.
- Hang the poster board on a wall where everyone can reach.

Do this:

1. Begin by reading 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 aloud to the group. Discuss briefly how everyone has different gifts but all are important to the church.
2. Invite each child to draw a self-portrait on a piece of paper using the craft materials. Encourage creativity!
3. Once the portraits are done, have each child pick a "gift" card. Ask them to think about how they can use that gift in their church or community.
4. Finally, let each child present their portrait and "gift" to the group. After sharing, they can stick their portrait on the "The Body of Christ" poster board using sticky tack or tape, visually demonstrating how each unique individual contributes to the whole body of the church.

Snack Activity: Body of Christ Snack Mix

You'll Need:

- A variety of snack items (pretzels, cereal, marshmallows, chocolate chips, raisins, etc.)
- Large bowls for mixing
- Small cups for serving

Get Ready: Gather all your snack items and make sure you have enough for each child to have a small cup of the snack mix. Think of each snack item as a different part of the body of Christ, representing the diversity of gifts within the church.

Do this:

1. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 together as a class. Discuss how each of us has different gifts, but all are important to the body of Christ.

2. Allow each child to choose one snack item to add to the large bowl. As they add their item, have them share a gift or talent they can offer to the church or their community.
3. Mix all the snack items together in the large bowl. Serve the mix into small cups for each child, explaining that just like the snack mix, the church is made up of many different parts coming together to make something great.

Game Activity: Body of Christ Relay

You'll Need:

- A set of index cards
- Pens or markers
- A large open space, preferably outdoors
- Cones or markers to designate relay areas

Get Ready: Before the game, write down different gifts mentioned in 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 (e.g., wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, distinguishing between spirits, speaking in different kinds of tongues, and interpretation of tongues) on the index cards. Create enough cards so that there are at least two of each gift. Divide the cards into two equal piles and place each pile at opposite ends of the play area.

Do this:

1. Divide the children into two teams and have each team line up at opposite ends of the play area, behind the pile of cards.
2. On 'Go,' the first player from each team races to the pile, picks a card, and reads the spiritual gift written on it. They then race back to their team and act out the gift without speaking, while their team tries to guess what it is. Once the gift is correctly guessed, the next player in line takes their turn.

3. The relay continues until all the cards have been used. The first team to finish acting out and correctly guessing all their gifts wins.

The purpose of this game is to teach that just as each player had a different gift to act out, so too does each member of the Church have different gifts. These gifts are given by the same Spirit for the common good, emphasizing the lesson from 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 that every Christian is needed and has a role to play in the ministry of the Church.

Craft Activity: Unity in Diversity: Building the Body of Christ

You'll Need:

- Construction paper in various colors
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Glue sticks
- A large poster board

Get Ready: Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 together as a class. Discuss the different gifts and how each is important for the functioning of the Church, just like each part of the body is important.

Do this:

1. Have each student select a piece of construction paper and cut out a shape that represents a unique gift or talent they believe God has given them (e.g., a musical note for singing, a book for teaching, a heart for compassion).

2. On their cutout, ask them to write a brief description of their gift and how they think it can help in the ministry of the Church.
3. Collect all the cutouts and begin to arrange them on the large poster board, explaining how each piece, no matter how big or small, is crucial to completing the picture. Glue the pieces onto the board to create a 'Body of Christ' collage.
4. Once completed, display the collage in your Sunday School room or another prominent place in the church as a visual reminder of how every gift is needed and valued in the Church.

Prayer Activity: Unity in Diversity: Building the Body of Christ

You'll Need:

- A large poster board
- Markers or colored pencils
- Sticky notes

Get Ready: Prepare a large poster board with a simple outline of a body. Label different parts of the body (e.g., hands, feet, eyes, ears) but leave plenty of empty space around the outline.

Do this:

1. Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-7 together as a class. Discuss how each of us has different gifts, but all are important to the work of the Church.
2. Have each student write their name on a sticky note and think about a gift or talent they feel they have been given by God that can help others. It could be anything from being a good listener to being creative or good at sports.

3. Ask the students to come up one by one and stick their note on the part of the body on the poster where they feel their gift would be 'used.' For example, a student who is a good listener might choose the ear. After placing their note, they should say a short prayer out loud, asking God to help them use their gift to serve the Church and others.
4. Once everyone has placed their sticky note and prayed, discuss as a group how all these different gifts come together to form one body in Christ, emphasizing that every part is needed and valued.