

Everyone's Different

UPPER ELEMENTARY LESSON PLAN

Theme: God's love for all people

Scripture: Romans 10:12

Memory Verse: For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him. - Romans 10:12

The Children's Sermon

Hey kids! Today, we're going to talk about something really cool that God did. God made all of us different, and that's something to be happy about. Just like when you look at a rainbow and see all those beautiful colors, God made people in lots of beautiful colors too. Some people have light skin, and some have dark skin. Some have curly hair, and some have straight hair. And guess what? God did this on purpose because He loves variety. He made all these differences to please Him, and He loves all of us the same, no matter what we look like.

Now, let's talk about something super important called Unity in Christ. Unity in Christ means that even though we all look different or come from different places, when we believe in Jesus, we all become one big family. It's like if you have different kinds of pets at home. You might have a dog, a cat, and maybe even a bird, but they all live together happily in your home. In the same way, God wants all of His children to live together happily in His big family.

Sometimes, people forget about Unity in Christ and think that because someone looks different, they're not as important. But that's not true! The Bible tells us that God made

every person special, and He loves each one of us so much. Imagine if the world was only one color. That would be so boring, right? God made us different to make the world a beautiful place, just like a garden with lots of different flowers.

Now, let's think about how we can show Unity in Christ in our own lives. It's like when you're playing on a team. Maybe you're playing soccer, and everyone on the team has a different job. One person might be the goalie, another might be a defender, and someone else might be a forward. Each person is different, but you all work together to win the game. That's what Unity in Christ is like. We all have different gifts and talents, but we use them together to show God's love to the world.

Remember, Unity in Christ also means helping each other and being kind. If you see someone who is feeling left out or sad, you can be their friend and show them that they're important. Jesus taught us to love everyone, even if they're different from us. He showed us that by being friends with all kinds of people and helping them.

So, what can we do to make sure we're living in Unity in Christ? We can start by being nice to everyone, no matter what they look like or where they come from. We can invite someone new to play with us, share our toys, and listen when someone else is talking. It's all about showing love, just like Jesus did.

And remember, when we all come together in Unity in Christ, we make the world a better place. Just like a puzzle, every piece is different, but when you put them all together, you see a beautiful picture. God wants us to be like that puzzle, all different but coming together to show His love to the world.

In conclusion, kids, always remember that God made you special, and He loves you very much. And He wants us to love each other the same way, no matter how different we are. That's what Unity in Christ is all about. Let's pray and ask God to help us live in unity and love everyone the way He loves us.

Dear God, thank you for making each of us special and different. Help us to see the beauty in our differences and to live in Unity in Christ. Teach us to love each other just like You love us. Amen.

So, kids, let's go out there and show the world what Unity in Christ looks like, by loving and caring for each other every day. Remember, we're all part of God's big, beautiful family, and together, we can make the world a brighter place.

Bible Memory Verse

For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him. -

Romans 10:12

You Will Need:

- Colored paper
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Glue sticks
- Stickers (optional)

Get Ready:

- Cut the colored paper into heart shapes, one for each child.

-Write 'Lord of All' on each heart shape with a marker.

Do This:

1. Give each child a 'Lord of All' heart shape and markers or crayons. Ask them to decorate their heart with drawings or stickers that represent different cultures around the world.
2. While they work, discuss the meaning of Romans 10:12, emphasizing that God's love and salvation are available to everyone, regardless of their background.
3. Encourage the children to share their decorated hearts and explain their drawings. Conclude by praying together, asking God to help us love and accept all people as He does.

Bible Interactive Experience

You'll Need:

- World map or globe
- Sticky notes or small pieces of paper
- Pens or markers
- Yarn or string
- Tape
- Bible or printed verse of Romans 10:12

Get Ready:

1. Place the world map or globe in a central location where all the children can see and reach it.
2. Write down various countries' names on sticky notes or pieces of paper.
3. Cut pieces of yarn or string about 12 inches long.

Do this:

1. Begin by reading Romans 10:12 aloud: "For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him."
2. Explain that God's love and salvation are for everyone in the world, no matter where they are from or what they believe.
3. Hand out the sticky notes or pieces of paper with countries' names to each child.
4. Ask each child to find the country they received on the map or globe and tape one end of the yarn to that country.
5. Gather all the yarn ends and tie them together, then tape the bundle to the location of your Sunday School class on the map.
6. Discuss how all the strings connected represent God's love reaching out to every nation and person, just as Romans 10:12 says.
7. Encourage the children to pray for the country they picked, asking God to bless the people there and help them to know His love.

Snack Activity: Unity Fruit Salad

You'll Need:

- A variety of fruits (e.g., apples, bananas, grapes, strawberries, oranges)
- Large bowl
- Cutting board and knife (to be used by the teacher or an adult)
- Large spoon for mixing

Get Ready: Wash all the fruits thoroughly and gather the children around a large table.

Do this:

1. Read Romans 10:12 aloud: 'For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him.' Discuss how this verse

shows that God's love and salvation are for everyone, no matter where they are from or what they look like.

2. Assign each child a fruit and explain that just like each fruit is different, so are we, but when we come together, we can make something beautiful and delicious. This represents how God's love unites us all.

3. Have the children (with adult supervision) help cut the fruits into small pieces and mix them in a large bowl to create a fruit salad. As you mix, emphasize how each piece of fruit contributes its unique flavor to the salad, just as each person brings their unique gifts to the community of believers.

4. Enjoy the fruit salad together as a reminder of God's inclusive love and how we are all united in Christ.

Game Activity: Unity Hopscotch: Romans 10:12 Edition

You'll Need:

- Sidewalk chalk
- A large, open concrete area (like a driveway or a school playground)
- Small stones or bean bags for markers

Get Ready: Draw a large hopscotch grid on the concrete area. Instead of numbers, write the words 'Lord', 'Rich', 'All', 'Call', 'Same', 'Believe', 'Everyone', 'No Difference', 'Jew', and 'Gentile' in the squares in a random order. Make sure to include a 'Start' and 'Finish' line.

Do this:

1. Gather the children and explain that just as Romans 10:12 says, 'For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him,' we are going to play a game that shows God's love is for everyone.

Each word represents a part of the verse and reminds us that God's love and salvation are available to all who believe in Him.

2. Each player takes a turn tossing their marker onto the hopscotch grid. They must hop through the grid, skipping the square with their marker, and recite Romans 10:12 as they go. If a player steps on a line, misses a square, or forgets the verse, they start over on their next turn.

3. The goal is to successfully hop through the entire grid and back, picking up the marker on the way back without losing balance or skipping a word from the verse. Once a player completes this, they share a time when they felt included or loved by God or others, highlighting the 'no difference' theme.

This game not only provides physical activity but also reinforces the message of Romans 10:12 through movement and memory.

Craft Activity: Unity Globe: God's Love for All

You'll Need:

- A small, clear plastic globe or large clear plastic ornament that can be opened
- Different colors of yarn or string
- Permanent markers
- Small pieces of paper
- A map or globe for reference

Get Ready: Gather all materials and set up a work area for each child. Print or write out Romans 10:12 on a large poster or whiteboard for reference.

Do this:

1. Start by discussing Romans 10:12, emphasizing that God's love and salvation are available to everyone, regardless of who they are or where they come from. Explain that the globe represents the world and the yarn/string the diverse people in it.
2. Have each child choose different colors of yarn to represent the diversity of people around the world. They will cut pieces of the yarn and tie them inside the globe, filling it with as many colors as they like to symbolize the diversity of God's people.
3. Using the permanent markers, children will then write 'God's Love is for All' on their globe. They can also write the names of different countries on the small pieces of paper and place them inside the globe to represent God's love reaching every part of the world.
4. Conclude the activity with a prayer, asking God to help us love and accept all people as He does.

Prayer Activity: Unity in God's Love

You'll Need:

- A large world map or globe
- Sticky notes or small pieces of paper
- Pens or markers

Get Ready: Place the world map or globe in a central location where all the children can easily see and reach it.

Do this:

1. Begin by reading Romans 10:12 together: 'For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him.' Discuss what this means in terms of God's love for all people, regardless of where they are from.

2. Give each child a sticky note or piece of paper and a pen or marker. Ask them to write a prayer for people from a different country, asking for God's love to be known to them. They can choose a country or you can assign one to ensure a variety of countries are covered.
3. Have each child come up and stick their prayer on the country on the map or globe they prayed for. As they place their prayer, encourage them to say a short prayer out loud or silently.
4. Conclude with a group prayer, emphasizing that God's love knows no boundaries and that we are all united in His love.