

THE PERSON AND LIFE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST

Lesson Thirteen

THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST (1)

Scripture reading: Matt. 28:1-9; Luke 24:13-43

Burden to Impart:

The fact of the Lord's resurrection is the most important and vital matter of our Christian faith. This great fact is based on solid historical evidence with many, many witnesses. Many of these witnesses experienced the reality of the power of the resurrection life when they later overcame the fear of death at the time of their own martyrdom. Of the twelve Apostles who testified as eyewitnesses of Christ's resurrection, at least ten died as martyrs for their testimony. Surely they were not speaking lies or made-up stories.

The fact that Jesus was raised from the dead sets Him apart from all mortal men. He was not only a very good man, or a prophet sent from God, nor merely the greatest teacher of the truth; He was who He said He was, the very Son of God. He possessed the all-powerful, death-overcoming resurrection life. Secondly, He was a perfect Man, a sinless sacrifice for the sins of the whole human race. We know that He fully satisfied God's righteousness and accomplished our redemption because God raised Him from among the dead (Rom. 4:25). Thus, He was approved and vindicated by God to be the Christ, the Savior, the Son of the living God.

(No one in history ever was resurrected in the same way as was the Lord Jesus, neither Confucius, nor Buddha, nor any other religious teacher. Only the Lord Jesus has the power of resurrection.)

Memory Verse: "I am ... the living One, and I became dead, and behold, I am living forever and ever, and I have the keys of death and Hades" (Revelation 1:18).

Facts to Teach:

1. Although the Scriptures in many places prophesied that the coming Savior would be put to death and raised from the dead (Psa. 16:10; 22:22; Isa. 53:10-12), and even Jesus Himself told this to His disciples at least three times, none of them understood. The fact that He would be resurrected from the dead was beyond the grasp of their human understanding.
2. Jesus rose from the dead because of two reasons:
 - a. Because He is God the Son, He has the divine life of God and He Himself is the resurrection and the life (John 11:25). Because this life could never be destroyed, He rose from the dead.
 - b. Because He became a man, lived a perfect human life, and was accepted by God as a perfect and sinless offering for us, God raised Him from the dead (Rom. 4:25).
3. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James who loved Jesus very much came very early in the morning on the third day after His death to look for His body at the grave where He was laid. This was the first day of the week, the Lord's day.
4. When they came they found that the large stone that covered the opening of the grave (a large hollowed rock) had been rolled away by an angel (Matt. 28:2). The angel told the women to look inside the grave to see that Jesus was not there, for He had risen from the dead! They looked in and saw the empty grave. Then they ran back to tell the rest of the disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead.

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Lesson Thirteen (continued)

5. After Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene (Mark 16:9; John 20:14-18), He also appeared to the other women who went to the tomb. They came to Him and held His feet and worshipped Him. When they returned and reported these things to the rest of the disciples, they did not believe them. Their words seemed like nonsense (Luke 24:11).
6. Later, on the same day, as two disciples were walking down the road toward a city called Emmaus, Jesus came near and walked with them. But He did not allow them to recognize Him at first. Later on, as they sat down to eat, Jesus gave thanks for the food. Suddenly their eyes were opened and He disappeared from them! They hurried back to Jerusalem and told the rest of the disciples that Jesus had truly risen from the dead and had appeared to them.
7. As they were all speaking to one another, the doors being tightly locked, suddenly Jesus Himself appeared and stood in the midst of the room and said, "Peace be to you." They were shocked and frightened because they thought they were seeing a ghost! How could Jesus get into a locked room? Was He not dead?
8. But the Lord Jesus assured them that He was not a ghost; it was really He Himself in resurrection. Although His body was different because it was now a spiritual body, He was the same Jesus whom they knew and loved! He showed them His hands and feet (where the nails had been) and allowed them to handle Him and touch Him. He even ate with them! His resurrected body was made of flesh and bones (Luke 24:39), not flesh and blood (1 Cor. 15:50). He had poured out His blood on the cross to wash away our sins. With His resurrected and spiritual body He could be with His disciples visibly or invisibly.
9. How happy His disciples were! Jesus was alive, alive, alive! He had overcome death and the grave! He had risen from the dead and came back to His beloved disciples! But that night not all of the disciples were there in the meeting. Thomas, was not there and did not see Jesus that night. We will learn more about him and Jesus' resurrection in the next lesson.

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Character Lesson Thirteen

STEADFAST

Definition:

A steadfast person is fixed in direction and firm in purpose, persevering.

Examples and/or Questions to Ask the Children:

1. A steadfast person doesn't easily change his mind but continues until he reaches the goal.
2. A steadfast person doesn't give up when things are difficult, but finishes his task.

Verse:

"... be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord." 1 Corinthians 15:58b

Story:

Abraham Lincoln was a steadfast person. He had a goal of making sure that Black people were given their freedom. Many of his friends and co-workers didn't want Blacks to be free. Abraham Lincoln did not change his mind. He fought for the rights of Black people even though so many thought he was wrong.

Craft Ideas:

Build a "log cabin penny bank", see attached instructions.

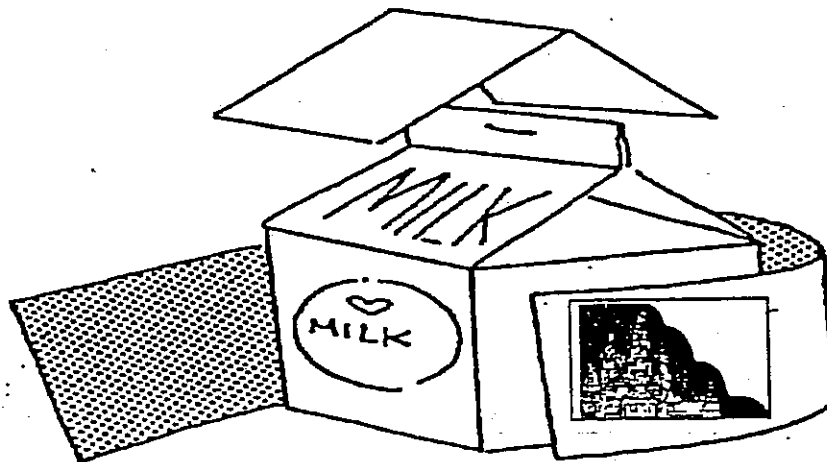
MAKING FRIENDS IN RUSSIA FOR THE KINGDOM MONEY BANK

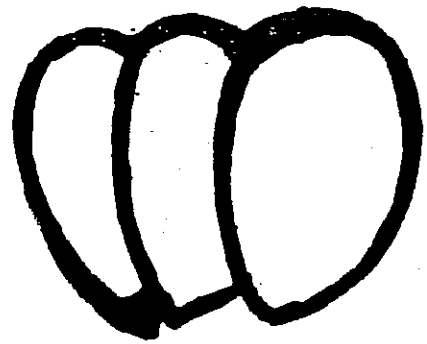
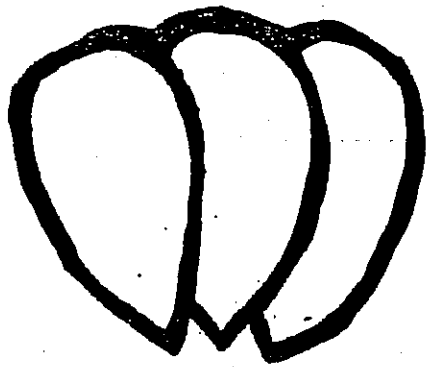
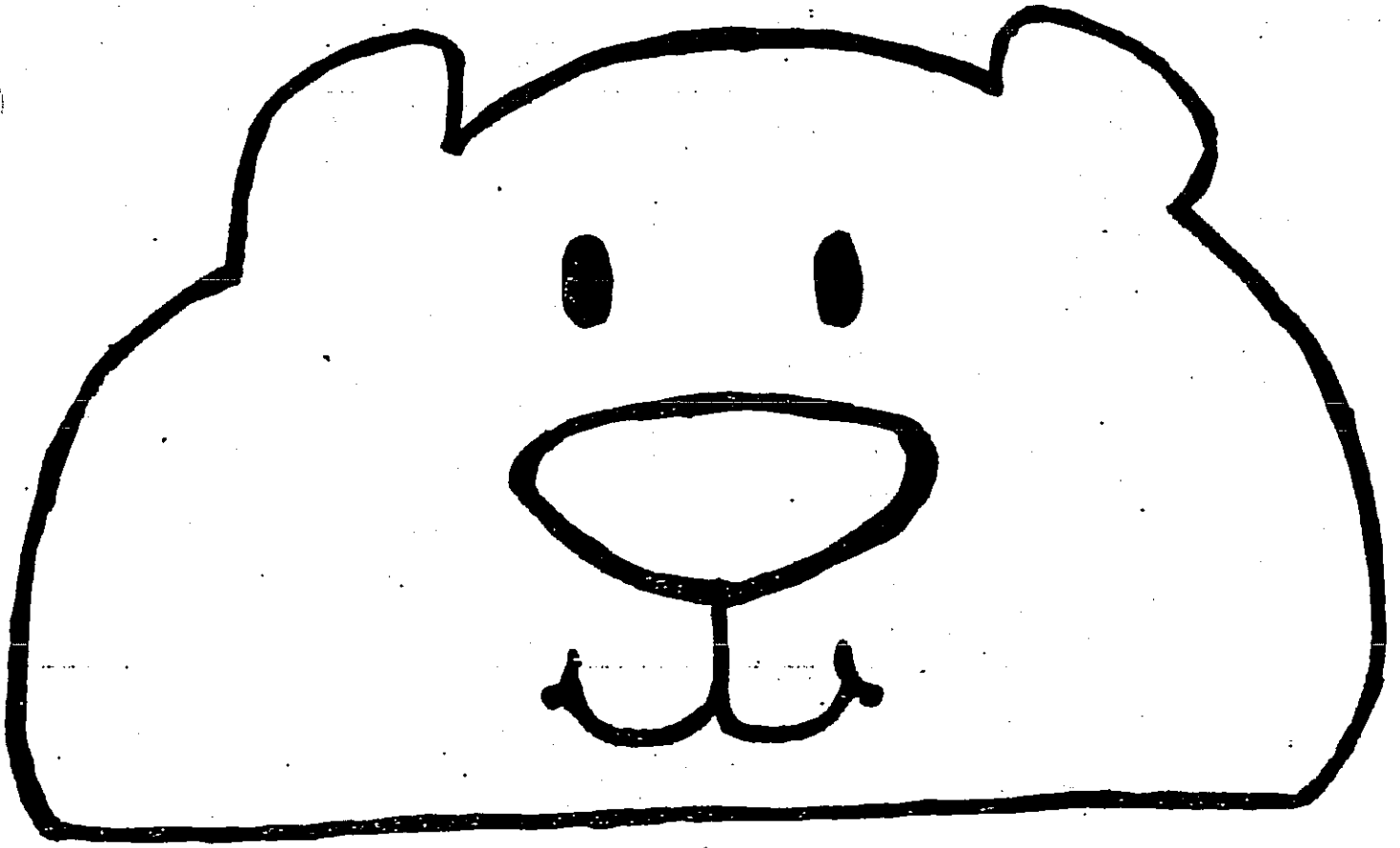
MATERIALS:

1. Empty half-pint milk cartons or similar sized box
2. Pre-cut 9-1/2" X 2-3/4" white construction paper OR a strip with will go around the outside of the box you are using. (Next page has panels that can be used for sides or glued on to construction paper.)
3. Pre-cut 4" X 2-1/2" white construction paper rectangles for roof (see next page for cut out) or a piece the same size as the top of the box you are using.
4. Tape
5. Scissors
6. Glue (rubber cement works best on milk cartons)
7. Shiny new pennies, nickels, or dimes (one for each child)

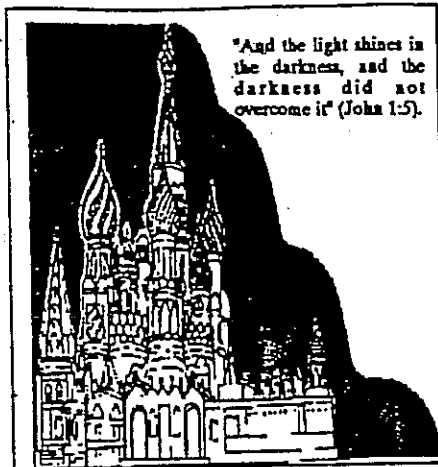
PROCEDURE:

1. Give each child an empty half-pint milk carton or similar sized box and one of each of the two sizes of pre-cut paper.
2. Demonstrate to the class how to wrap the construction paper around the milk carton or box and secure it with tape or rubber cement.
3. Ask each child to fold the piece of white construction paper in half widthwise and insert the top of the milk carton into the fold. Those using a box will just need a piece of paper cut to the size of the top and it will not need to be folded.
4. Have children cut out scenes from Russia and "FOR THE LORD'S MOVE IN RUSSIA" and glue on opposite sides of the carton or box.
5. Those using a box should cut out and glue verse or top of the box.
6. Cut a slot in "roof" for the coins to be put in.
7. Work out a way that the money collected can be given to the church regularly and then passed on to the full-timers serving in Russia or to the Lord's Move in Europe fund c/o the church in Anaheim, or Rhema in Seattle for the printing and distribution of literature in the Russian language.





SIDE PANELS



FOR THE
LORD'S MOVE
IN RUSSIA

FOR THE
LORD'S MOVE
IN RUSSIA

'ROOF' →

"MAKE FRIENDS FOR YOURSELF
BY MEANS OF MAMMON OF
UNRIGHTEOUSNESS, THAT WHEN
IT FAILS, THEY MAY RECEIVE YOU
INTO THE ETERNAL HABITATIONS"
(Luke 16:9).

Cut-out for opening