**Children and Adolescent Ministry**

 **TIME FOR EVERYTHING**

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. Ecclesiastes 3:1

**Week of Child and Adolescent Stewardship 2016**

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**COLABORATORS**

Direction: Dinorah Rivera

Production: Edéniz Ponce

Themes: Cecilia Camacho

 Miriam Ruiz

 Minerva González

 Itza Córdova

 Diana Aguayo

Activities: Miriam Ruiz

Revision: Teresa Quinto

Design: Flor Carrillo

Theme Song: Ruth Ramírez

Music: Abner Perales

**MESSAGE TO LEADERS AND CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENT TEACHERS**

**Dear Leaders**

I greet you with gratitude in my heart for your disposition to work with the smallest ones, with the most important group of our church: OUR CHILDREN.

On this occasion we put at your disposition this material to be used during the Week of Child Stewardship.

The days of meeting can be: Sunday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, or it could be Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Wise Salomon said: There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. Ecclesiastes 3:1

**Time** is our most valuable treasure, and from an early age, children should learn to value it, and above all else prioritize it.

Of the most important relationships, and the one to which we must dedicate the most **time** if we want to have success in this life, it’s the relationship with Jesus Christ, our best Friend, our Confident, our infallible Guide, our Savior.

This great truth must be internalized into the minds of the children and promote activities that will reinforce them.

I sincerely desire that the Lord will work through you and that His love will guide you in this beautiful ministry.

Dinorah Rivera

Inter-American Division

**GENERALITIES**

**For the decoration** different types of clocks can be used, with a big clock in the center where the activities will be developed; or elements that have been used throughout time to measure time.

**For the invitation** a clock made out of paper with the theme title and the hours of worship.

**For the moment of reflection,** it would be good to make silhouettes of paper where the children can make their resolutions and compare them with other aspects of stewardship

Silhouettes of (see annexes)

- Human body (temple)

- Coins (treasures)

- Instruments (talents)

- Clock (time)

- Hand (testimony)

Scripture quotations are taken from the: Current Language Translation (TLA)

**SUGGESTED PROGRAM**

**Praise**

**Throughout Time (Attachment 1)**

**Theme Song**

**Memorize the text ideas (Attachment 2)**

**Prayer**

**Theme**

**Theme Song (Attachment 5)**

**Activity hour (Attachment 3)**

**Theme song**

**Moment of reflection (Attachment 4)**

**Prayer**

**Wednesday**

**TIME IN SCHOOL**

**Verse to memorize**: If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives it generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. James 1:5

**MATERIALS REQUIRED**

1. Pencil
2. White paper
3. Colors
4. Decorated Envelopes
5. Glue
6. Sheets of Colored paper
7. Lunchbox with food
8. School bag with school supplies
9. Sheet with school hours
10. Illustrations of animals, trees
11. Jesus when he was a child
12. Mothers’ shoes
13. Mothers’ clothes

**Illustrated Story**

Rosalie y Teresa were playing they were “mothers”. They had found some clothes of their mom and had put them on. They would look at themselves in the mirror and they felt very big. Then they found a pair of shoes, also of their moms. Rosalie began to put them on, but Teresa wanted to take them off.

-They’re mine! -screamed Teresa-, I saw them first.

-No, they are mine! Responded Rosalie.

While they pushed each other struggling for the shoes, the mom heard them and approached them to separate her daughters.

-Why are you fighting? Who do the shoes belong to?

-Well… mom, they are yours.

-But didn’t I just hear you say that they were yours?

-Yes, but it was only a saying - answered one of them, with a smile, and half embarrassed.

Then, the mom sat on the floor with them and hugging them she said:

-Do you know what this reminds me of? God gives us many things, tell me which ones… And in between all these things is time, even though everything really belongs to Him.

-I know -said Teresa-, but people behave as if it was theirs, just like we were behaving. But in reality it doesn’t belong to them, right Mom? God could take everything away.

-Yes, dear -said the mom-. He only allows us to use it. But we need to use it wisely for ourselves and for others. The Bible says, in Psalms 24:1, “The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it”.

**BIBLE STORY**

After listening to this story, I want to take your minds to a scene with which many of you may identify with.

It is morning and mom says you have to get up, there is a uniform ready to use and clean shoes, a new backpack full of notebooks, erasers (allow them to participate naming objects as you take out of the backpack different school supplies).

For some it is exciting because they will see their friends again, and for others it is worrisome because it is the first day of attending school, and separating from their parents for long periods of time. However, the school makes up a part of life for all of us and it is inevitable that when becoming a certain age, we are all going to have that amazing experience of learning.

It is there where activities are done that allow us to develop in different areas of our own person. We have different teachers that teach us various classes, such as (allow them to participate telling the different classes they take). Which one of you likes school? That’s great that you enjoy learning. There are different schools and we do not all go to the same ones. Some of our schools are of the government, others are private, and we as a church, have the blessing of having our schools, but unfortunately not everywhere.

However, in each one of them, no matter in which you are, there is something in common: students and teachers. In the previous topics we learned the importance of administering our time, and I want to ask you: Can we apply this principle in school? Of course we can! When we arrive to the school we are given a schedule and are told what class and at what time we have a certain teacher with us. Thanks to this there is an order on which to learn, but, what about the time in which we don’t have a teacher near us? Like for example, recess, or a break in between classes.

Well, tonight I want to speak to you about those spaces of time in which we do not have a teacher nearby, like during lunch time, or when we play with our friends. It is important for you to know that God desires that each hour of the day, we use it for his honor and glory. What does that mean? That everything that we do at each moment of the day meets with the approval of heaven.

Therefore, tonight I want to share with you how was the school that Jesus attended as a child.

The writer Ellen White mentions that when He was a child he always showed a sweet spirit and without selfishness. His voluntary hands were always ready to serve others, he was patient and truthful. Although he was firm as a rock in defense of the truth, he never stopped being generous or courteous with everyone; wherever he was it was like a ray of sun. He would show himself to be attentive and generous with all, and manifested consideration towards the animals. He would tenderly care for the wounded little bird and every living creature was much happier when He was near.

As you can see, up to here we have seen that Jesus enjoyed the Company of his friends and of the rest of the people; he was a child like yourselves, but he had an important quality: he didn’t waste his time on things that would keep him away from completing his mission on this Earth. Although there were schools in his time, because of a special reason, God himself through the Holy Spirit, told Mary how to educate her son. She taught Jesus the Sacred Scriptures and he learned to read and study them by himself.

Jesus also liked to study the marvelous things that God had done on Earth and in the Heavens. In the book of nature, he would observe the trees, the plants and the animals, the sun and the stars. Day after day he observed and would try to learn the lessons that were enclosed in them and to understand the reason for these things.

Celestial Angels were with him and would help in teaching him about God. As such, as he continued to grow in stature and strength, he grew also in knowledge and in wisdom.

Do you see? Although he did not have a name for the subject, he studied Geography, exploration and knowledge of the world, Mathematics, Lanuage, etc., each of the classes you have today; however Jesus, in each of them, saw lessons about God.

He used his time with wisdom while learning, and that is what I want you to learn tonight. Your time while you are in school should be used to grow in wisdom, but also to share with others the love of God. How can you accomplish this? Well it is very easy, your teachers should see in you a boy or a girl that enjoys learning, that uses his time to complete his school assignments. Your classmates during the lunch period or recess need, should see in a boy or a girl that takes advantage of every opportunity of the day to serve others and show the love of God, avoiding conversations empty and vain non-productive talks or losing time with games that do not help in your physical and spiritual growth.

Every child can obtain knowledge like Jesus did. We should use our time to study only what is true since time is a precious treasure, a legacy of God for which each human being will have be held accountable.

As such, from this day forward, when you go school remember: your time is precious, you should not waste it on things that will separate you from God; take advantage of the opportunity to share the Give of wisdom through your generous actions with others.

**ACTIVITY OF REFLECTION**

Allow the children to write a list of actions that they can do inside the school to take advantage of their time doing useful things, and will allow them to testify about the love of God.

 Encourage them to practice them from this moment forward

**Thursday**

**TIME WITH FRIENDS**

**Text to memorize:** One who has unreliable friends soon comes to the ruin, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother. Proverbs 18:24

**Illustrated Story**: “The deaf frog”. A group of frogs were travelling through the forest and, all of a sudden, two of them fell into a deep hole. All of the other frogs gathered around the hole. When they say how deep the hole was they told the other two frogs in the bottom, that, for practical reason, they should consider themselves dead. The two frogs ignored the comments from the other frogs and kept jumping trying to use their strength. Finally, one of the frogs paid attention to what the rest were saying and gave up. She collapsed and died.

The other frog continued jumping strongly as possible. One again, a multitude of frogs yelled and told it to stop suffering and to get ready for death, and would make signals to stop struggling. But the frog jumped with more strength each time until she finally was able to get out of the hole. When she got out, the other frogs told her: "We are so happy that you were able to get out, even with everything we were yelling at you.". The frog explained to them that she was deaf, and that she thought they were encouraging her to come out of the hole.

MORAL
1. Words have the power of life and death. A word of encouragement to someone who feels discouraged can help lift them up and complete the day. 2. A special person is the one who gives themselves time to encourage others.

**Bible Story**:

Good friends support and encourage each other. Jesus was a very good friend. In the Bible we find an event in which Jesus helped his friends, we find it in John 21:3-14:

Afterward, Jesus appeared again to his disciples, by the Sea of Galilee. It happened this way: **2**Simon Peter, Thomas Nathanael, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples 3Peter told them:

—I am going out to fish.

—Well go with you — they said.

So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. **4**Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize it was Jesus. **5**Jesus asked them:

—Friends, haven’t you any fish?

—No —they answered.

**6**Jesus said to them:

—Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.

The disciples obeyed, and they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish.

**7**Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter: «It is the Lord»

When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put his outer garment on because he had not taken it off to work and threw himself into the water. **8**The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards.

**9**When they arrived they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread.  **10**Jesus said to them: «Bring some of the fish you have just caught».

**11**Simon Peter climbed back into the boat and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn.

**12**Jesus said to them: «Come have breakfast».

None of the disciples dared ask him, who are you? They knew it was the Lord! **13**Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

**14**This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Now I ask you:

Why did they doubt if it was Jesus? Do you believe that the disciples were sad, or scared? Why? Why did Jesus tell them to throw the net? What did they feel after having worked all night? How do you thing Peter felt when he saw Jesus? Have you felt alone or sad sometime? Have you had a friend who visited you to encourage you?

1. They were afraid and sad because Jesus had died.
2. Jesus knew that they needed to be uplifted and to see him to verify that he had resurrected.
3. True friends like Jesus make time to be near the people that they love.
4. The acts of service (like preparing a breakfast) or helping in their needs (bountiful fish) are acts of love towards our friends.
5. Jesus is your best friend and he left the heavens to come spend some time with his disciples and with those whom loved him.
6. We can demonstrate equal love as Jesus, dedicating time to the people that we love (parents, friends and brethren of the church, etc.).
7. It is important that we separate some time during the day to helping others through an act of service or also by praying for them.
8. Our friends need to know that Jesus wants to be friends with them as well, and for this we need to preach, speaking to them about him and giving a good example dedicating time to help and give love to whom needs it. ¡¡¡¡Just as our friend Jesus!!!
9. He wants to spend time with you through the reading of the Bible and prayer. Would your life to spend time with him?

**Activity of reflection**

Human silhouettes made out of paper will be brought to hand out and the children will be asked to think about a special friend that is sick or sad. They are to spend some time with their friend and listen to their concerns, then pray with them to encourage them, and to tell them that asides from him, they have another friend who loves them more, which is Jesus. The following night, before the theme, the experiences will be collected as a feedback.

Each child can give suggestions as to how they can separate time to spend it with their friends and preach about Jesus.

Example: Praying for them, playing, inviting them for an ice cream, bringing them home to play, doing homework together, etc.

INVITE THE CHILDREN TO KEEP A WEEKLY LOG OF PEOPLE OR FRIENDS WITH WHICH THEY HAVE SHARED ABOUT JESUS.

**Friday**

**TIME TO BE WITH FAMILY**

**Text to memorize**. Listen my son, to your father’s instruction, and do not forsake your mothers teaching. Proverbs 1:8

***Illustrated Story***:

Alberto´s father was a very important man and very busy, that worked long hours and frequently had to work Sundays. One Sunday Alberto woke up before time, and upon hearing that his dad was opening the door to the Street to go towards the office, he ran to ask him:

⎯Why do you have to go to work today, dad? We could play together...

⎯I can’t. I have some important things to resolve.

⎯And why are they so important, dad?

⎯Well because it they turn out well, they would be a great deal for the company.

⎯And why would it be a great deal?

⎯Well because the Company would make lots of money and it is possible that I could be promoted.

⎯And why do you want to be promoted?

⎯Well to have a better job and to make more money.

⎯Great! And when you have a better job, will you play with me more?

Alberto´s dad became thoughtful, so the child kept going with his questions.

⎯And why do you need to make more money?

⎯Well so that we can have a better and bigger house, and so that you can have more things.

⎯And why do we want a bigger house? To put away all of those new things?

⎯No, son. Because with a bigger house we will be more comfortable and we can do more things.

Alberto hesitated for a moment and smiled.

⎯We will be able to do more things together? ¡Excellent! Then go quickly. I will wait the years necessary until we have a bigger house.

Upon hearing this, Alberto´s dad closed the door without leaving. Alberto was growing up really fast, and his dad knew that he would not wait that long. So he took off his jacket, left his computer and the agenda, and while y sat down to play with Alberto he was surprised and pleased, said:

⎯I believe that the promotion and the new house will have to wait several years.

***Bible Story:***

Imagine the great responsibility that Mary must have felt knowing that she would have to raise and form the Son of God. “But the angel said to her: Do not be afraid Mary, you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David”. Luke 1: 30-32

This was a GREAT responsibility! There are several things that exist that are necessary for a child like you to grow up adequately.

1. Eat adequately
2. Do exercise
3. Attend school and get good grades
4. Have good friends
5. Spend time with God and with family

Of the things that we just numbered some you do on a daily basis; others will take more time, like study and doing your homework; but... spending time with God and with the family? Yes. Spending time with the family helps you to know God and grow in a balanced manner.

I will explain why:

* **Spending time with your parents is knowing God.** When Jesus was a child he spends time with his parents, who taught him how to love God. “Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother reassured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man”. Luke 2:51-52
* Spending time with your parents not only has the purpose of them listening to you, but also that you listen to them. In the measure in which spend time with your family, you get to know them better. When you know your family better you identify with them, you begin to feel that you are a part of the home and they are a part of you.
* Mary spent time with Jesus teaching him about the love of God. Each word from Mary served to prepare him for the work that Jesus would do in the future. Can you imagine what Jesus must have told his mother? Jesus spoke about what he saw in the nature.
* With his father Jesus learned the trade of carpentry. He learned to obey; in addition to that, Jesus learned habits of cleanliness and order that are necessary for the life of a Christian child. And all, because he spent time with his parents...
* **Spending time with family prepares you for life as an adult.** A very important verse is: “There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens. A time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing, a time to search and a time to give up, a time to keep and a time to throw away a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace”. Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
* Spending time with your family helps you to form character that will help you to face future difficulties. The best way to love your parents or your siblings is taking time to do activities with them.
* When a soccer player has a good training he is sure that he will do a good role in the official game. Why? Because in the training he can correct the mistakes that he may have, like kicking the ball wrongly or not running in an adequate manner. In the same manner, when you learn to spend time with God and with family, in the future you will be a father or a mother that spends time with their children.
* Today there exists many things that can steal your time: the television, videogames, soccer games and even the use of the internet. None of these things will help you face the difficult steps that will be happening.

Conclusion

Do you see the importance that time has on the home? There are many things that you can and should learn in school, at the church and with your Christian friends. But to love God and develop obedience will only happen if you spend time with your parents and siblings. They are responsible for you and do everything they have to do so that you can have the necessary and grow healthy and balanced; but your responsibility consists in getting close to them, listen and obey them. My biggest desire is that you grow healthy, tall, strong; but more than that, that you grow up like Jesus: “And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man. Luke 2:52

In the measure in which we spend time with our parents, we become true stewards of God. Taking care of our time with our parents makes each and every one of us to be called faithful servants. Remember that Stewardship should always be present and guide each aspect of our life.

**Activity of reflection**: Ask each family participant to complete a collage of pictures in which they are doing a family activity and they enjoyed it a lot. At the moment of making the collage have them comment on what they liked the most about those activities; they can also add clips of other things that they would like to do together. They will bring their collage to the last day to expose it.

**Saturday**

**TIME WITH JESUS**

**Text to memorize**: Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter. Fear God and keep his commandments. Ecclesiastes 12:13

MATERIALS REQUIRED

**For the story:**

A small table

A mantel

Plates, glasses, jar, silver wear, napkins

Bread and peanut butter

A bed with a sheet and cover

A bureau or small table where to put books, perfumes, hairbrush or comb, some toys for girls

A chair

Condition the table as if just finished eating.

Condition the bed, the chair, and the bureau as if it was a bedroom.

The “dining room” place at the left side and the “bedroom” on the right side, or how it is set in your church.

**For the Bible story**

A cane

**Illustrative story**

This is the story of a little girl named “Susy”, that was later called “Susy the Sleeper”. But, as many little girls, she thought she was a big girl. Even more so in that she thought that she was too old to take a nap during the day as children and babies do. Her mom was not in agreement with her.

Each day Suzy’s mom sent her and her little sister, Sammy, to their room to sleep; but the majority of the times Susy would start reading or playing instead of going to sleep. Sometimes she would do pranks, throwing perfumes or breaking fragile things. *(Sit on the bed and do pranks of the type Susy did).*

“Susy, you must sleep”, the mother would say. “That is the rule of the house, that you need to take a nap after eating”.

One day, Susy the Sleeper decided that sleeping was a good idea. This happened, when after eating, her mom asked her to help her clean the table.

“I am very sleepy”, said Susy the Sleeper, and she left walking slowly to her room and let herself drop to the bed. As soon as she entered her room she got very quiet, pretending to be asleep (*Go to the bed and “pretend to be asleep”).*

“Susy”, her mom told her, “I know you are only pretending, you can sleep but you can also help out”. But Susy would not move. She was very, very quiet.

Each day it was the same. As soon as someone asked Susy for help, she said: “I’m very sorry, I cannot because I have to go take my nap”.

This was when the family began calling her, “Susy, the Sleeper”.

One day, the mom of Susy the Sleeper asked her to give her little sister a sweater “I can’t”, Susy said, “I am very sleepy, it is time for me to take my nap. That is the rule and I have to go to sleep”.

The next day, Susy the Sleeper´s mom asked her to pick up the plates from the table, to which Susy said: “I am very sleepy, it is time for me to go take my nap. That is the rule and I have to go to sleep”. (Go to the bed and *“pretend to be asleep”).*

On a certain day, Susy´s mom announced: "Oh, Susy, I am so sorry, but I could not prepare lunch. I am very sleep".

WHAAAAAAT? Susy was horrified... She was so hungry she took bread and peanut butter and prepared a sandwich. (*Take the bread and the peanut butter and make an unorganized sandwich).* It was not like the ones her mom made. Because the peanut butter spilled outside of the bread and in addition the kitchen was a disaster by the time she finished. (*Disorganize the table).* She would have cleaned, but she was sure that it was time to take a nap. Therefore, she left everything as it was and went into her room. (*Go to the bed and pretend to be asleep).* Susy laid down and pretended to be asleep, but it wasn’t the same. There was nobody checking up on her and nobody saying: "Susy, I know you are only pretending to be asleep".

Susy the Sleeper opened her eyes and sat up. (*Sit on the chair and pretend as if your hand got stuck in a door key hole*). She started to play with the window protector. It looked like it had a pattern of diamonds, the holes were sufficiently big to put a hand into one of them.

Susy the Sleeper slid her hand through one of the holes to say hello to the people that were passing by the sitting stool of her house (*salute from the “hole”)* and laughed when an old lady returned the wave. Then she decided to do something else, but.... Her hand was stuck! *(Make as if your hand is stuck)*.She tried and tried to get her hand to come out of the hole, but she couldn’t. She cried and began screaming for her mother.

"Susy", said her mom from the other room. "I can’t help you, because I am very sleepy. You know that I have to take my nap to stay beautiful!".

¡Oh no! Susy realized that she had been very dumb each day that she pretended to fall asleep. It was not that she was sleepy, just that she was being lazy. She did not want to help her mother, and now no one wanted to help her.

Susy the Sleeper´s mom appeared and carefully removed her hand from the hole.

"Susy”, her mom said, “it is very important that you sleep enough, but you use that time as an excuse to not help me".

Aww!

The next day, after Susy the Sleeper had lunch, her mom asked her to clear the table, to which Susy the Sleeper answered: What do you think she said, children? (*Allow the children to answer*)."Oh, but it’s that I am soooooo sleepy” … and she left through the door towards her bedroom.

Susy the Sleepers mom sprang into action and stood in the door and said: "You are again mistaken, Susy. Right now you are going to clean the table and after that you can take your nap!".

“But everything is so dirty!”, said Susy the Sleeper in a whiny tone. And thus began a long battle that each mother knows well, until they stopped calling Susy “Susy, the Sleeper” because she turned into a girl that every time her mom asked for help, she did so gladly.

**BIBLE STORY**

Luke 13:10-17

In the days that Jesus there existed, as today, a special day in the week which was dedicated to rest. Do you know what it is, children? Of course! It is the Sabbath. God gave in the 10 Commandments a very special one, the fourth, that is found in Exodus 20:8-11 and if you know it (if you know it repeat after me*): 8“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 9Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor your foreigner residing in your towns. 11For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy”.*

As I was telling you, in the days of Jesus on the Sabbath day no type of work was done. They prayed, sang, talked and read; but they did not cook, even walking long distances was not done, because they believed that this was very, very important for the resting.

Jesus met a woman that was hunched (*walk as a hunchback)*. Maybe she used a cane (*use a cane)* or maybe she didn’t have one (*leave the cane and keep walking hunchbacked),* and could not walk properly like you or myself. That day was Saturday, and while all the people were resting this woman had much pain as a result of her disease. Jesus knew that he could help this woman in such a way that she would feel much better. (*Let the children participate answering these questions*). What do you think that could be the best way to keep the Sabbath? Could Jesus leave the woman with her pain, or cure her of her disease? What would God do?

We know that Jesus cured this woman of her disease. Jesus, when he saw her, was moved! (Explain to the children in their words, what being moved means, like making their heart tiny, getting compassionate, etc.). Anyone that would have seen her relief from the disease would have been happy that she was healed. (*Let the children answer).* Do you imagine what the woman did when she became cured? What would you do? Do you know? The woman now walked straight! Her body looked BEAUTIFUL! The Holy Spirit overcame her heart until she poured over in thanksgiving and glorified the Lord. But, you know what? “And the ruler of the synagogue answered with indignation, because that Jesus had healed on the Sabbath day.” He was indignant that Christ had caused an unhappy woman to sound a note of joy upon the Sabbath. In a loud voice, harsh with passion, he said to the people, “There are six days in which men ought to work; in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day.” {BLJ 148.4}

The work that Christ had done was in harmony with the sanctification of the Sabbath day. The people on this side and that side wondered and were glad at the work that had been wrought for the suffering woman; and there were those whose hearts were touched, whose minds were enlightened, who would have acknowledged themselves the disciples of Christ, had it not been for the lowering, angry countenances of the rabbis. —The Signs of the Times, April 23, 1896. {BLJ 148.5}

Children, Jesus cured the woman on Saturday, so although we know that it is important to rest on the Sabbath, it is more important to do what God wants us to do. (*Let the children answer).* What do you think we can do in the Sabbath day? *(You can ask the adults also).*

Let’s not be like Susy the Sleeper, that preferred to be in her room doing pranks in order not to help. Let’s be like Jesus. That we always, and even more on the Sabbath, do what is best for others so that they may know that we love Jesus so much that it is the reason why we want to help others, so that they may know also how much Jesus loves them.

**SUGGESTED STORY FOR THE CHILDRENS CORNER**

**TEXT TO MEMORIZE**

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity. Ecclesiastes 3:1

Daniel is a very obedient child, every morning before going to school he has his own bible study.

He always obeys his mother, they go together to church, he helps with the housework and always completes his homework, he even brings in good grades from his school.

But one day Daniel woke up one morning and did not want to study his Bible, nor pray or sing to Jesus. His mother was very amazed because he was always the first one at the table where they studied the Bible and praise God as a family every morning.

His mom told him: “Daniel, why didn’t you come to the table to praise Jesus today?”. And he only made a gesture with his mouth, lowered his head and didn’t say anything.

In the afternoon, when he returned from school, he did his homework and as was his custom he put on his sports clothes, grabbed his soccer ball and told his mother he would be back before the sun set.

Daniel liked to go every afternoon during his free time, after finishing all of his chores, to play soccer with his friends in the park that was very close to his house.

But on this occasion something very strange happened. Daniel arrived at the park, waited quite a while and none of his friends showed up. Daniel was very intrigued because this had never happened, he waited several hours, the sun started setting down and no one showed up to play; he then picked up his soccer ball and went running back to his house. Daniel was very sad, he was even crying on his way back because he had high hopes of playing and his friends didn’t show up.

When he got home, his mother looked at him so sad and asked: “What is happening, son?”. And Daniel told his mother very sadly what had happened; then his mother spoke to him and said:

⎯Son, I know that you feel sad because your friends didn’t go to the park to play with you and you were waiting anxiously to play with them. You feel sad right?

⎯Yes, mother.

⎯Well I know someone that the same thing happened to this morning

⎯Who, Mom?

⎯Jesus, son.

⎯Jesus?

⎯Yes, Daniel. This morning Jesus was waiting for you at the table for the study of the Bible, but you didn’t make it, son; he waited for you with his arms wide open, because just like you enjoy playing soccer, Jesus likes being with us, listen as we praise him, that we learn from him as we study the Bible and pray. When we do not do it, Jesus becomes sad like you did this afternoon, son.

Daniel hugged his mother and both went down on their knees to ask forgiveness to Jesus, they read the Bible, praised him and prayed some more.

The next day, bright and early. Daniel was at the study table waiting for his family to praise Jesus and he felt very happy.

Today we are happy because we can also come together to praise Jesus. This is why, all are very much welcomed.

**ATTACHMENT 1**

**THROUGHOUT TIME**

In this segment relevant data is presented for each theme being presented. Enclosed are some proposals which you can enrich.

Day 1

Evolution of the forms for measuring time

Throughout the centuries we the people have created some very interesting methods to measure time, from the sun clocks, very basic, to the cesium atomic clocks of today.

Let’s take a view at a great variety of methods, some known, some no, and some that are as ancient as time itself.

The sun

Also known under the name of “sundial”, this type of clock is one of the most ancient. While some adjudicate his invention to the Chinese and Egyptian communities, other allude to the Greek of VI century before Christ. Through this device hours, minutes and seconds. This is done from the shadow that the shows on a pre-determined marked by measuring scales. The disadvantage of this clocks is that it can only utilized during the live shows.

The Sand Clock

Different from son clocks, the ones of sand are used to measure a determined lapse in time. For this the device is equipped with two receptacles through which the sand passes, thanks to the gravitational force. In actuality these artefacts are used for decorative purposes, or in specific cases in which it is required to mark time, like what could happen at a press conference. Through these clocks the speaker can see how much time he has left to give his speech. They are also very common in the games that are competitive and those in which time is fundamental to determine who wins or loses the game

Water Clocks

 Also known under the name “clepsydra”, this device allows the measuring of a determined period of time through the flow of liquid from one recipient to another. For it to function, one of the receptacles has a small hole through which the water can flow from one to another. Its origin is adjudicated to the ancient Egyptian population and it is estimated that they were used at nighttime, in replacement of the sundial clocks, due to their limitations

Steam Clocks

 As its name indicates, these devices have a steam motor that allows them to function. Created in the year 1977, but with an antique design, these instruments are rarely distributed in the world and can be found on the streets of certain cities in Canada and England. There they are a major tourist attraction.

Wristwatches

Surging in the first decade of the XX century, these clocks have a strap that allows them to be adjusted around the wrist, which allows the user to see the hour more easily. These clocks can be **analog** and **digital.**  The analogs are those that have two needles that mark the hour and minutes. Some have a third needle which is the one that marks the seconds. In the digitals, however, the hour can be visualized through a smaller electronic screen, that instead of using needles, signals the time with numbers. Some variants include both options on the clock. Wristwatches not only serve to see the time, many people consider them jewelry or an ornament, which is why they match them with their outfits when having special occasions.

Quartz Clocks

 Through a battery these watches work through a piece of quartz, which is really what creates the impulses to carry out the measurement of time. The quartz vibrates in such a way that it allows in movement the needle mechanism.

Day 2

The calendar

As we have seen, the real recount of minutes and seconds requires some complex procedures and machinery, but the recount of days and months is based on something that anyone can observe: the position of the sun and the moon. Different cultures use diverse methods.

The Gregorian (or Christian), the most used and common today, is based on the sun. The Islamic calendar uses the phases of the moon. Meanwhile the Jewish and Chinese calendars use a combination of both methods.

In the Gregorian calendar a day is an entire rotation of the earth on its axes. A month has 29.5 days, which is a complete phase cycle of the moon. A year has 364.24 days, the time it takes the earth to orbit around the sun

To regulate everything the leap years were created, that last 366 days instead of the 365 days of a common year. It is because in each year there are 6 hours and in 4 years there are 24 hours extra. Have an extra day!

Day 3

How much is time worth

Of time many say that it is "gold", others say that is "flies away", and more say that "lost time even the saints cry over it" (phrase of our grandmothers). But I do believe and practice that, since time is something relative, according to the person and the circumstances that surround them, this should not be wasted; since regardless of everything we have the same amount (24 hrs.) not all use it in a wisely manner.

Therefore…

To realize the value of a year,
Ask a student that has failed a final exam.

To realize the value of a month,
Ask a mother who has given birth to a premature baby.

To realize the value of a week,
Ask the editor of a weekly publication.

To realize the value of an hour,
Ask the couple who is waiting to see each other.

To realize the value of a minute,
Ask the person that has lost a train, bus, or the airplane.

To realize the value of a second,
Ask the person who has survived an accident.

To realize the value of a millisecond,
Ask the person who has won a silver medal in the Olympics.

“Time does not wait for anyone. Treasure each moment that you have.
You treasure it more when we share… with someone special”.

A year has ended. What did you do that the year ended?

What has been the product of your life?

You gave God great part of your life, or you simply wasted it?

Begin again. It is never too late if you want it. Make the first step and God will come near to you.

**ATTACHMENT 2**

**SUGGESTIONS FOR MEMORIZING THE VERSES**

**Words that are missing**Together read the verse several times and then write the verse on a board. You will say the verse and you will erase one or two words, and then will say the verse again. Continue in this manner until all the words have been erased.

**Bible verse with Hangings**You can play the game “hangman” with short bible verses. After each child can say the verse correctly, all will look for the verse with their own Bibles.

**The four questions**The children will look for the verse in their Bibles and then will practice it several times. They will close their Bibles and they have to ask who? what? why? and how?

**Capture this verse**You will need a soft ball or a pair of rolled up socks. The children will look for the verse in their Bibles and they will read it several times. Then they will form a circle and you will give one child the ball, the child that catches the ball has to say the verse and throw the ball to the next person, and that person has to say the verse. Repeat this several times so that everyone has the opportunity to say the verse.

**Here comes my part**The children will sit down in a circle and you will say a name. That child will say the first part of the verse. The child on its left must say the second part of the verse and the child on the left must make its reference. This process includes at least three children. Do this several times so that all have the opportunity of saying a part of the verse.

**Read, memorize, and speak**The children will find the verse in their own Bibles and they will read it out loud several times. Then they will close their eyes and will try to say it again and speak about the meaning of the verse.

**Mixed**Give each child a piece of paper with the verse mixed up. The children need to figure out how to decipher the verse and write it correctly. You can give small gifts to those who do it correctly.

**ATTACHMENT 3**

**THE HOUR OF THE ACTIVITY**

**ATTACHMENT 4**

**MOMENT OF REFLECTION**

**ATTACHMENT 5**

**THEME SONG**