

THE CHURCH IN NEW YORK CITY CHILDREN'S MEETING LESSON

DATE: October 16, 2016

SUBJECT: GOD'S CALLING IN THE OLD TESTAMENT: God Called Enoch

SCRIPTURE: Genesis 5:18, 21-24; Hebrews 11:5-6; Jude 14-16

AIM: To inspire the children to desire to be like Enoch, who overcame the ungodly generation around him by believing God, seeking God, and walking with God.

MEMORY VERSES TO CHOOSE FROM: Hebrews 11:6 (But without faith it is impossible to be well pleasing to Him, for he who comes forward to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.); Deuteronomy 5:33a (You shall walk in all the way that Jehovah your God has commanded you, so that you may live and that it may go well with you); Psalm 128:1 (Blessed is everyone who fears Jehovah, who walks in His ways.)

SUGGESTED SONGS: 146 (I Want the Lord to Have the First Place); 15 (Walking with Jesus); 7 (I am a Very Special Child); 36 (Following Jesus); 37 (I Have Decided to Follow Jesus); 39 (Step by Step); 3400 (I am a Christian); 1614 (Cooperation)

CRAFT IDEA: Each child can trace the shape of his or her foot on sturdy paper and cut out the footprints; paste onto a colored background. Alternate ideas—use modeling clay or washable fingerpaint to make footprints (stamp edge of fist to form a “foot” and use fingers to press into toe shapes).

APPROACH: Play follow the leader or the mirror exercise (for mirror exercise, one person acts like a mirror image of the other). In both activities you have to watch very closely in order to follow.

CONTENT: Enoch was a person who followed God. He was the seventh generation from Adam and the great-grandfather of Noah (Gen. 5:21-24; Heb. 11:5-6). At Enoch's time the people around him were living as though there was no God. They were all living in ungodliness and wickedness, both in the things they did and said (Jude 15).

When Enoch was sixty-five years old, he had a son whom he named Methuselah (Gen. 5:22). By naming his son Methuselah, Enoch prophesied of the coming of the flood (a prophecy is a speaking from God which sometimes includes foretelling). The name Methuselah means “when he is dead, it will be sent.” That was a prophecy about the flood that was coming. By naming his son Methuselah, Enoch prophesied about God's coming judgment on the ungodly world. When Methuselah died, that was the year that the great flood would actually come.

After Enoch had his son, he began to walk with God. Enoch lived lovingly in God's presence and faithfully walked with God, step by step, day by day, for three hundred years. Three hundred years is a long time! To walk with a person you must watch him very closely, follow where he goes, move at his pace, and stay close to him. Enoch lived a life that pleased God. Enoch did not participate in the corruption and ungodliness of his generation. He believed that God would judge all the ungodly people and their deeds. He also believed that God would reward those who diligently seek Him. Although the whole generation and everything in it was ungodly, Enoch did not dare to be ungodly.

God must have enjoyed Enoch's companionship so much that He took him with Him. Enoch followed God closely every day, in a consistent way, until one day God took him up. He escaped death, he skipped it and went straight to be with the Lord. The Bible tells us, “By faith Enoch was translated so that he should not see death; and he was not found, because God had translated him. For before his translation he obtained the testimony that he had been well pleasing to God” (Heb. 11:5) (*translate* means to bear, carry, or move from one place, position, etc., to another; transfer.) The Bible tells us that Enoch is one of only two men on this earth who never died. Elijah is the other one. God took them.

Background history of mankind:

Note to serving ones: It is not intended that we cover this entire chart with the children. This is for the serving ones' information so we have some context to understand the timeline of the early generations.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age begat son</u>	<u>Life span</u>
Adam	130 years	930 years
Seth	105 years	912 years
Enosh	90 years	905 years
Kenan	70 years	910 years
Mahalalel	65 years	895 years
Jared	162 years	962 years
Enoch	65 years	365 years (taken up by God)
Methuselah	187 years	969 years
Lamech	182 years	777 years
Noah	500 years	950 years

SUGGESTED APPLICATIONS TO CHOOSE FROM:

Note to serving ones: Please pray and fellowship over which application points to cover. Please do not feel obligated to cover all the applications as it might be too much for the children.

- **We should follow God as Enoch did.** Enoch lived in a very ungodly and evil world. But he did not do what everyone else did because he feared God. It is not easy to stand for God when others around us are not for God. We should have a desire to please God and fear God. Give an example and then ask the children for examples of doing the right thing to please God: We can be respectful to the teacher even when others are not. We can obey our parents even when others talk back to their parents. When people around us are making fun of someone, we can try to be nice to that person. Ask the children to think of more examples in the Bible where someone chose to stand for God when others around did not. *E.g.*, Noah, Daniel, the disciples of the Lord Jesus, etc.
- **We should follow those who follow God.** God is invisible, but we can follow those who follow God. When our parents or guardians are ready to go to the church meetings, we should follow and get ready to go. We should not make our family late. We can follow God by obeying our parents and honoring them. Perhaps our friends are all talking about a certain popular movie that they saw, but our parents won't let us watch that movie because they feel it is not good. We should obey and honor that decision. When we obey and honor our parents, we obey and honor God because He put them in charge of us.
- **We should spend time to know the Lord.** Ask the children who is the person they know the best? Is it their best friend? Their parents? Their siblings? Their grandparents? How do they know that person so well? It is by spending time together. The more time we spend with the Lord, the more we can know Him. Some ways we can spend time with the Lord: Praying, reading God's Word, listening to Bible stories, singing hymns, memorizing our verses and coming to the children's meeting. The more we know God through His Word, the more we know what He likes and dislikes.
- **If we walk with God and follow God like Enoch did, we will be ready when the Lord returns.** Enoch knew that one day God would judge the evil on the earth. He was careful not to do anything that would make the Lord unhappy, because he knew that a day of judgment was coming. Today we also know that one day, the Lord Jesus will come back physically, and He will judge man. Even though there is a lot of evil going on in the world, one day all mankind will be judged by God. By following God and doing what God pleases, we can be prepared for the Lord's return.

Adapted from the Church in New York City's Children's Meeting lessons: 10/17/93; 10/03/99; 10/02/05; 9/25/11