

First Century Fellowship

Lesson: Day of Atonement

Summarized Content:

- The Day of Atonement means “at one with” and refers to the day that Satan will be banished and man can finally be at one with God.
- Rev. 20:1-3 speaks of this day. Satan will be banished to the bottomless pit (Tartarus) for 1000 years, allowing the barricade between God and man to be removed.
- On the Day of Atonement, we pray for others who don’t know God’s truth yet.
- 2 Chronicles 7:14 shows us how to pray.
- In the Old Testament (Lev. 16), 2 goats were brought to God on this day: 1 to sacrifice for sins of the people (later Christ was the sacrificial lamb of all of us), and 1 was let go to symbolize Satan’s banishment.
- Now, at Passover, we remember that Christ died for our sins (goat 1). On the Day of Atonement, we focus on how the “root problem” (Satan) will be removed so that there can actually be peace on Earth and man can be at one with God.

Scriptures:

- **Lev. 23: 28-29**
- **Lev. 16: 2, 5, 7, 8**
- **Lev. 16: 15-16**
- **Lev. 16: 21-22**
- **Rev. 20:1-3**
- **2 Chronicles 7:14**

Activities:

Exploring God’s Word:

- Read Lev. 23:28-29 and ask the children what they know about the Day of Atonement.
- Read Lev. 16 passages about 2 goats. Show the children the picture of the 2 goats and ask them what they think that might have to do with the Day of Atonement.
- Read Rev. 20:1-3 and discuss the coming banishment of Satan. Remind children which word for hell refers to the place Satan will go for 1000 years (Tartarus – bottomless pit) and talk about how that will make things different on Earth.
- Remind children that on Passover, Christ died for our sins and that when we are baptized, believe, and obey Him, our sins are covered by his sacrifice (goat 1). On the Day of Atonement, we fast and pray for those who do not know God in this way yet.

God applies His blood to those who have died in sin. The act of banishing Satan is the beginning of God's healing to the Earth and all people (goat 2).

- How should we pray? Read 2 Chron. 7:14 to learn how we should pray for others on the Day of Atonement.

Understanding God's Word (choose from the activities below):



Goat 1 and 2 Matching: Give each child a sheet with 2 goats. Children should cut out the words and symbols from the second sheet to glue next to the correct goat. This is based on the Bible reading in Leviticus 16 and an understanding of the difference between Passover and the Day of Atonement. Suggestion: Cut everything out first and arrange them together with the correct goat. Glue last.



Pray for People by Name Sheet: Who are you praying for by name on the Day of Atonement? This is one way we show love to our unbelieving brothers and sisters. Place names around the heart. Color the heart. This can also be done with small tablets from the dollar store. Children can label them: My Prayer Journal, and include multiple names in them.



2 Chronicles 7:14 Hand Magnet: Write the four things we should do and then what God's promise is (based on 2 Chron. 7:14) on each finger of a foam hand. Use this as a memory device (or your actual hand) for memorizing 2 Chron. 7:14. Finger nails can be decorated afterwards and the scripture reference placed on the hand.



Color by Number Praying Girl: Talk about praying for others while coloring the color by number drawing of a girl praying. Discuss the fasting aspect of the Day of Atonement and how that enhances our prayers.



Praying Man Coloring Page: Talk about praying for others while coloring the picture of the man praying. Discuss the fasting aspect of the Day of Atonement and how that enhances our prayers.



The Lord's Prayer Stained Glass Coloring Page: Talk about how Jesus taught us to pray and the meaning of each part of the prayer. Help children understand how parts of the prayer refer to the plan of God for man and this world.



My Prayer Wheel: Use the prayer wheel image showing 12 parts of effective prayer time with God. Ask the children which things they are doing at home during the Day of Atonement. Create a wheel to glue on top that allows flaps to fold up to see each of the 12 parts of prayer. Add I Thess. 5:17 to the page: "Pray without ceasing." See image for a final view of this project.