

# PARABLE OF THE REVEALED LIGHT

THE LIFE OF CHRIST WITH SAINT LUKE



Class routine:  
Move my photo from  
"home" to "church"



Class routine:  
Light a candle -  
respectfully  
prayerfully  
without playing



Class routine:  
Venerate our icon



Sing "Lord have  
mercy" in  
English, Greek,  
Arabic, Romanian

1

## GOALS

Who is the light of the world? How do we shine the light of Christ wherever we go?

2

## AT CHURCH

Look at our icon of Christ on the iconostasis - "I am the light of the world."

3

## AT HOME

We light candles at home and church to remind us that Christ is the light of the world.

## CRAFT: BEESWAX CANDLE

Provide instructions and materials to the students to make one rolled beeswax candle each.

Instructions can be found next to the craft materials in your classroom.

## THE PARABLE OF THE REVEALED LIGHT

Luke 8:16-18

*Teacher instruction: Place provided ancient lamp on a "lamp stand" in a safe spot in the classroom.*

*Fire is always an attention grabber with children. Before beginning, clearly state that you expect them to be just as respectful and careful in the classroom with a burning flame as their parents expect them to be in church when everyone is holding a candle. Strategically place yourself next to children, as needed.*

Start the lesson by explaining and showing the (unlit) ancient lamp to the kids. Explain that this is one of the ways people would light their homes when it was dark during the time of Jesus. The lamp would be made with materials they had



nearby, such as clay, and would have a wick and be filled with olive oil.

*Light only the ancient oil lamp. Then read the parable to the class.*

Next, hold up the icon of Christ and explain to the kids that Jesus is the light in this story. On our iconostasis, we have an icon of Christ who is holding a gospel book which says, "I am the light of the world." Each and every time we receive Holy Communion, we receive the light of Christ. This story teaches us that we should shine the light of Christ to everyone when we leave the church - to our siblings, our parents, our teachers, our friends - everyone!

How do we do this? *Read "Pascha at the Duck Pond."*

## EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

*The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to Luke* by Blessed Theophylact pages 82 - 93

*The Gospel of Luke: Good News for the Poor* by Fr. Lawrence Farley pages 165 - 182

*The Gospel of John*

*The Book of James*



Which character in the story shined the light of Christ to others as she took care of them? (Charity the Church Mouse)

Then have the kids gather in a circle (again, strategically place yourself) and have a teacher take their candle and light it from the ancient oil lamp. Explain to the kids, this ancient oil lamp is from the parable we just read, but who does this light represent? (Jesus) We receive the Body and Blood of Christ when we receive Holy Communion - He dwells within us.

When I am kind and loving to the person next to me (light their candle), then they experience the love of Christ as well. Then they will hopefully be kind and loving to someone in their family or a friend at school and this lights a spark in that person too. (That child lights the candle of the person next to them.) Each time we are kind and loving, this is sharing the light of Christ with them. (Let the kids finish lighting each person's candle in turn.)

Finish by explaining, when we are kind and loving, this kindles kindness and love in the other person as well.

Ask everyone to blow out their candles and encourage them to tell the Parable of the Revealed Light to their parents.

**SING: LORD, HAVE MERCY**

# PARABLE OF THE REVEALED LIGHT

## AT HOME

### FOR PARENTS

**T**he Lord said to his disciples,  
 "You are the light of world. A  
 city set on a hill cannot be  
 hid. Nor do men light a lamp and put it  
 under a bushel, but on a stand, and it  
 gives light to all in the house. Let your  
 light so shine before men, that they may  
 see your good works and give glory to  
 your Father who is in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16

As parents, we are continually teaching our kids through our lived example. They are constantly watching, imitating, and learning from us.

St. Basil the Great (*The Long Rules*) instructs:

*While the mind is still easy to mold and as pliable as wax, taking the form of what is impressed upon it, it should be exercised from the very beginning in every good discipline. Then, when reason enters in and habits of choice develop, they will take their course from the first elements learned at the beginning and from traditional forms of piety, with reason proposing that which is beneficial, and habit imparting facility in right action.*

St. Nektarios instructs:

*Who would not confess that those impressions received during childhood ultimately prove permanent? Who can doubt that those influences received during the early years are impressed so strongly on a child's simple soul that they remain active throughout the whole of their life?*

## HOME ACTIVITY #12

As a family:

- Light a candle during your evening prayers tonight
- *YouTube: "Come Receive the Light"* from our parish's Resurrection Service
- (For Parents) Read "*Apostle to the Plains: The Life of Father Nicola Yanney*" (Ancient Faith Publishing)



ST. JOHN MAXIMOVITCH

1952

