

"Let Your Light Shine"

Suggested games: Pin the mouth on the pumpkin
Whose got the pumpkin?
Peter, Peter, your pumpkin's gone!
(Choose two of the above).

Welcome:

Song: "This Little Light of Mine"

Prayer:

Bible Verse: 1 John 1:9

Song: 1 John 1:9

Prayer:

Lesson: "Let Your Light Shine"

Review game: "Let There Be Light!"

1. Why did God create you? (So you could shine for Him.)
2. Are you and I born with a light to shine for Jesus? Why? (No, we are born with a sinful want-to).
3. Why is Jesus light? (He has no sin).
4. What is God's punishment for sin? (Eternal separation from Him).
5. How did God make a way possible for you to receive His light? (He sent His Son Jesus who willingly took the punishment for your sins and mine).
6. What happened to Jesus after He willingly took the punishment for your sins and mine? (He arose again and is now seated at the right hand of God).
7. When you receive Jesus as your savior from sin you receive His light. What does the Bible tell you to do with your light? (Let it shine).
8. Name one sin that will cause your light to be hid? (Lying, cheating...)
9. Name one more sin. (disobeying, cussing...)
10. What can a christian boy or girl do when they realize they have sinned? (Confess their sin to God).
11. What does the Bible say God will do for us if we confess our sin to Him? (Forgive...)
12. Quote 1 John 1:9. (If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us of all unrighteousness.)

Prayer:

Refreshments:

"Let your Light Shine"

Objects Needed: a nicely shaped pumpkin
A candle that will fit inside the pumpkin
Matches

Preparation:

Cut out eyes, nose, mouth of pumpkin and save the pieces.

Cut lid and take out seeds.

You will notice, boys and girls, that Mr. Pumpkin has eyes and nose and mouth just like you. Suppose I ask you who this fellow belongs to? He belongs to me. I bought him at the store. I carved his eyes, nose and mouth. But I am not his creator. Do you know who his creator is? That's right, God is. God is your creator too. The Bible says "All things were made by Him." God loves you and wants you to belong to him.

Why did I make this pumpkin? Because by putting a face on it, it makes it pretty and it shines and makes a light. Why did God create you? Because He wants you to shine for Him. Matthew 5:16 (Place candle inside of pumpkin-unlighted).

Well, let's look at Mr. Pumpkin...does it shine brightly? No! Some one has to light it. We, too, cannot shine for God unless we first receive Him into our hearts as our own personal savior. Jesus is the Light. There is no sin in Jesus. He is God the Son.

We are not born with His light. We are born with a sinful want-to. The Bible says "There is none that doeth good, no, not one." Romans 3:10. Our sins separate us from God. God must punish sin. The price for our sins is to be separated from God forever. That's darkness! (Give examples of sin).

I bought Mr. Pumpkin for \$2.00 at the market. Now he belongs to me. God has made a way possible for you to belong to Him. God sent His perfect Son Jesus to pay the price for your sins. The Bible says "...you were not redeemed with...silver and gold...but with the precious blood of Christ..." 1 Peter 1:18, 19.

To redeem means to buy back. Jesus paid the price for your sins and mine when He willingly gave His life's blood on the cross for your sins and mine. Jesus did not stay dead. Jesus arose again and now sits at God's right hand in Heaven.

Because Jesus died and arose again you and I can now belong to Jesus. Have you received Jesus as your savior from sin? The Bible says "But as many as receive Him, to them gave he power to become the sons (children) of God..." John

1:12. When we receive Jesus as our Personal Savior we can have His Light shining in us! (Light candle in pumpkin). If you have received... God wants you to let your light shine for Him. The Bible says, "You are the light of the world." Matthew 5:14.

Now place the piece from one eye back into the pumpkin. Talk about some things that come into our lives that keep our lights from shining for Jesus. Let the children give examples as you place each piece, piece by piece, back into the pumpkin, including the lid, but do not place lid down tight or the candle will go out. Explain to the children that sin like lying, cheating, fighting, loosing our tempers, wanting our own way, disobeying Mother or Dad or the person in charge of you. Sin is also not doing things that the Bible teaches to do. Such as: not reading your Bible or praying. Not giving an offering to the Lord's work. The Bible says "... to him that knows to do good, and does it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17.

Mr. Pumpkin does not look so pretty now. When you and I choose to sin others cannot see Jesus' Light shining through us.

What can you and I do when we have forgotten and sinned? Is there a way to let our light shine again? Yes, the Bible says, "If we confess our sins, He (God) is faithful and just to forgive our sins, and to cleanse us of all unrighteousness." I John 1:9. If you have done wrong, tell God about your sin. Tell Him you are sorry. He promises He will forgive you. (Remove pieces from Mr. Pumpkin). God will forgive you, He will cleanse you and He will also make you a winner over your sinful want-to's. If you have received Jesus... God wants you to let your Light shine for Him!

Give opportunity for children who have never received Jesus as their savior to do so. Also give opportunity for those who have been letting things fill their lives and keep their lights from shining to confess to the Lord Jesus, accepting forgiveness and cleansing so that their lights can shine as they should.

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