May 2002 www.cgi.org/sky

Sabbath Keeping Youth

CHURCH OF GOD

INTERNATIONAL

What's New?

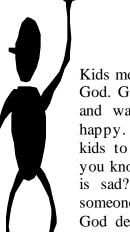
We are pleased to announce that we now have Online Coloring Pages available on our Web site.

Your kids will have hours of fun coloring these pictures. They're fun and simple to use. Just pick a picture, choose your colors from the palette and color right on the screen. It's that easy!! Website address <u>www.cgi.org/sky</u>



Jesus said, "Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me"

Matthew 25:45



Please Use Me!

Kids mean a whole lot to God. God loves children and wants them to be happy. He also wants kids to help others. Do you know someone who is sad? Do you know someone who is mean? God desires for you to reach out to those who are hurting. He wants to use you to help others.

Jesus used a kid in the Bible to help Him with a miracle. Thousands of people gathered on the grass underneath the blue sky to listen to Jesus. When Jesus looked around at all the people, His heart reached out to them He wanted to meet their needs. The disciples became worried that the people were hungry, so the disciples told Jesus to send the people away to go and buy food.

Jesus told the disciples to feed the thousands of people. Wow! What do you think the disciples thought?They probably thought Jesus was totally crazy! Maybe He had been in the sun just a little too long. There was no way to feed all the people! They didn't have any food! But, Jesus said to feed them, so the disciples obeyed and scurried through the crowds searching for anything edible. All they could find was a boy with a sack lunch. Jesus used the five loaves and two fish from the boy's lunch to feed the thousands of people.

Jesus could have brought food right down out of heaven, but instead He chose to use a child in His Miracle. God wants to use you to help meet the needs of others, will you let Him?

The Parents Corner

Spend time with your kids. Here are some fun activities you can do with them.

- Let kids draw on sand paper. Lay a piece of paper over it. Rub a warm iron over it and the print will appear.
 - Make bracelets out of clear contact paper (sticky side up).
 - Take the kids on a nature walk and let them put their findings on the bracelet.
- Make your own finger paint. Mix ¹/₄ cup cornstarch with 2 cups of cold water. Boil until mixture thickens. Let cool. Add food coloring. Pour in small containers with lids. See what kind of creations you and your kids can make together.



Parenting is the ultimate character building opportunity. There is no other job that will reward you with a 2 AM feeding and diaper change, the 6 AM weekend wake up call from a toddler wanting you to watch cartoons with him or the worn carpet from pacing after midnight because your teenager is neither home nor has he called. Parenting is multifaceted. In addition to shouldering the task of seeing to the concerns and every day needs of their children, God demands a great deal more from parents.

God expects parents to have a disciplined life of worshipping Him and He holds parents personally responsible for educating their children in "the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). He requires parents to teach their children to love and obey Him. In Deuteronomy 6:4-9 the first formal instruction from God is given to parents. "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words, which I command, you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates." The Hebrew people took this command to heart and were successful at making religion an integral part of their child's life.

One reason the Hebrews were successful is they made God's word life oriented, not information oriented. In other words, they used the context of life to teach about God. How can parents today do the same? To begin, parents need to model a Christian life and take advantage of every "teachable moment". Next, parent need to think and put into practice these basic principles. • **Pray for and with your children.** Teach them the importance of prayer. Show them how they can pray to God about everything both in good and difficult times. Talk about answered prayer and give God praise.

¢

+ + +

¢

¢

- Worship God. Attend church on the Sabbath and on His Holy days. Become involved and serve in your church.
- Serve your community. Do you help in your community or do you think the world you live in is no concern of yours? If this is true, your children will learn their home and Church community are an island They will grow up thinking God does not want them to stand against evil or become involved. Take an opportunity throughout the year to act righteously and model the example set by Christ. In so doing, your children will learn the God they worship cares for everyone!

Impressions made early in life are powerful. Be sure you choose and plan wisely what you want to impress upon your children. Parenting is a great endeavor and responsibility. It should never be taken without due consideration.

Sabbath Keeping Youth

Day of Pentecost Acts 2:1-47

Before reading the story, here are some facts one should know about Pentecost. Pentecost is the Greek word for "50." Another name for Pentecost is "Feast of Weeks". This name comes from counting seven weeks or fifty days after the first Sabbath during the Days of Unleavened Bread. The law defining how to count is found in Leviticus 23:9-21. In other words, one begins and ends counting with a Sunday, hence a Sunday is the day of Pentecost. Pentecost is the anniversary of the founding of the New Testament church. The same Spirit, which was given to the disciples on the day of Pentecost, is available to all whom God calls. Upon true repentance granted by God and a true belief in Jesus Christ, one may be baptized and then receive God's Spirit through the laying-on-of-hands ceremony (Acts 2:38; 8:12-17).



After Jesus was crucified, He rose again and many of His disciples saw Him alive. Both in Jerusalem and in Galilee He walked among them for forty days. The day came when Jesus ascended into heaven, while the disciples watched. Before He did, He told them not to leave Jerusalem, but wait until they were "clothed with power from on high" (Luke 24:49). When the Day of Pentecost arrived, the apostles and other followers of Christ waited in the Upper Room. While waiting, they chose Matthias to take the place of Judas as one of the Twelve disciples. Suddenly there came a sound from heaven like a rushing mighty wind and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Then there appeared, what looked to be, tongues of fire resting on each person. Each of them was filled with the Holy Spirit, and they began to speak in other languages.

At the time this took place, there were Jews and devout men from every nation in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. When the multitude heard the news about the apostles' speaking, they were confused and amazed. It was odd to them to hear their language spoken by men from Galilee. There were those who asked, "What does this mean?" while others mocked the apostles saying, "These men are full of new wine" (Acts 2:12-13).

Peter stood up with the other eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and heed my words. We are not drunk as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day." He went on to inform them that God was fulfilling the promise He had made in prophecy to Joel (Joel 2:28-29). Peter continued to speak powerfully about the life, works, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Pentecost was no longer just a festival for Israel, but for all people.

The hearts of the people listening to Peter were moved. They asked Peter what they must do. Peter told them to turn away from sin, repent and be baptized. Then those who gladly received his words were baptized. That same day, three thousand people were baptized. All that believed were together and owned all things in common. They sold their possessions and goods and divided the money among all the people and worshipped together daily.

Are you listening to the message given to all people everywhere about Pentecost? Christ speaks to and offers salvation to everyone. Christ is not concerned about your color, race or language. Peter spoke boldly on Pentecost. It didn't matter the language, everyone could hear the Gospel message. Are you listening to the message?

Sabbath Keeping Youth



It's Spring

Spring is an absolutely wonderful time of the year. God definitely knew what He was doing when He made the birds to sing, the sun to warm, and the flowers to bloom, bloom, bloom! Only a God as awesome as the one we serve could make flowers so beautiful.



Bubble Fun!

Find a bucket and put in 1 cup of liquid detergent and 4 cups of water. Ask your mom if you can raid the kitchen for fun things you can use to make bubbles! Start with a few things like a fly swatter, spatula, cookie cutters, or plastic from a six-pack of pop.

Tic-Tac-Toe, Three-in-a-Row!

Here is a fun game of tic-tac-toe with a twist! First you need to pick someone to be the leader (for each new game the leader changes). The leader makes up a nine word sentence about God, and writes each word on a slip of paper. He places the nine slips of paper in a cup.

Everyone else playing makes a tic-tac-toe grid with one word from the sentence in each square. Everyone should mix up the words differently. The leader pulls a word from the cup and calls it out. Each player places an X over the word called out. When someone gets three X's in a row, he is the winner and the new leader!

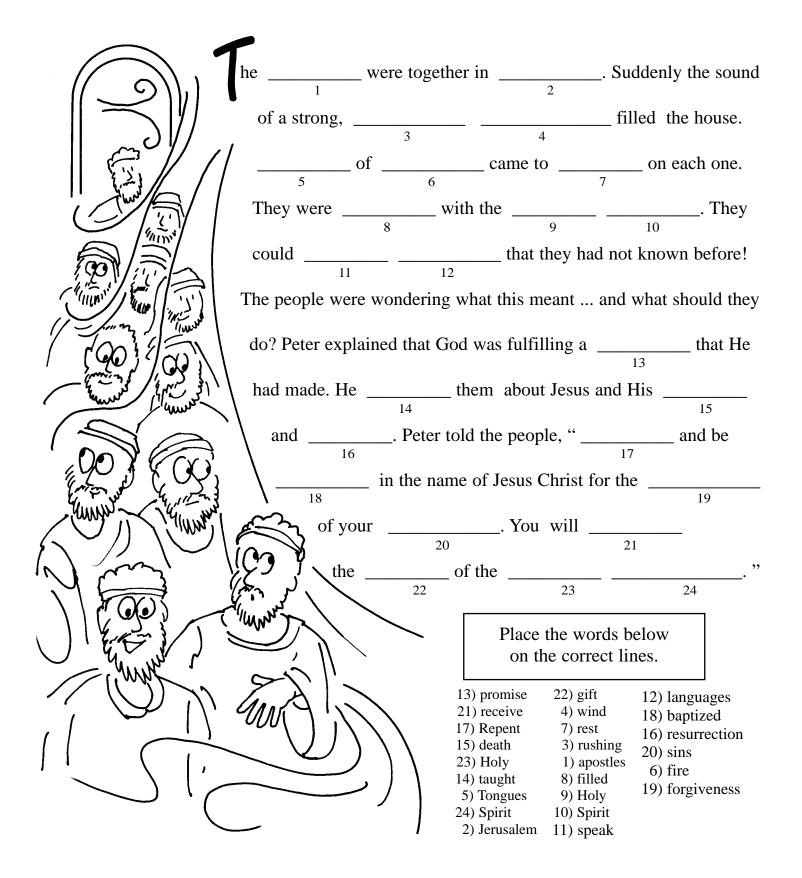
Bug Sculptures!

You will need: All kinds of vegetables and several toothpicks

What to do: Want to really "bug" someone? Grab some toothpicks and assorted veggies. Connect the veggies with the toothpicks to make some really interesting bugs. (Hint: olives make great eyes). Place your creations around the house and watch as everyone gets "bugeyed" when they come across your veggie bug sculptures. You can also get with some friends and see who can make the "buggiest" bugs!

Noni McVey Youth Director Church of God, International P.O. Box 223675 Carmel, CA 93922

Sabbath Keeping Youth



hat day, 3,000 believers were baptized! They began to spend their time together. Here are some of the things they did.

