

Holiday Lesson: Saint Patrick's Day

Key Scripture: *And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"*
(Romans 10:15)

Key Principle: God in His Providence calls missionaries to bring the good news to those who have not heard it.

Teacher Preparation

- **Study and meditate** upon the key Scripture and key principle.
- **Additional materials** needed: *Missionary* word card; copies of *Am I Called to be a Missionary?*, *Interview Questions For a Missionary*, and *Quiz on the Story of Patrick*; Wall Chart of World History; three leaf clover for each child and a rock; *You Can Change the World*
- **Hide the** word card somewhere in the classroom.
- **Prepare** a student, several students, or another adult to interview Patrick.

Introduction and Review

- **Welcome** and sign in
- **Prayer requests** and praise reports; prayer journal passed around; prayer
- **Sing one or more** worship songs.
- Review the lesson just completed.

Content of Lesson-Research, Reason, Relate and Record

- "Today we are going to begin our lesson by having an **interview** with a person of history. I am not going to tell you who this person is, so you must guess, based upon what he says after the first few questions. Listen very carefully, for after this interview, you will be given a quiz to see how well you listened and understood."

- Conduct the **interview of Patrick**. Patrick will use the props of the clover and rock and hold them up when appropriate.
- Hand out the **quiz** on the story of Patrick. Give students time to complete, then answer the questions out loud and have them grade their own. File quiz in notebook.
- Have a student find and read the **key word Missionary**. Brainstorm and tell or write what you already know about missionaries. Fill out a "bubble chart with the word "missionary" in the middle of the page.
- Show Patrick on the **Wall Chart of World History**. Talk about how God used individuals through history to advance the gospel in various nations.
- Complete the activity **Am I Called to be a Missionary?**
- Pass around the book, **You Can Change the World**, and talk about how its use encourages missionaries and their work.

Conclusion

- On the **last day** of this lesson, students will share what they learned about missionary work when they interviewed a missionary.

Homework

- On the first day of the lesson hand out copies of **Interview Questions for a Missionary**. The students need to find a missionary, interview him or her, and record the answers.

Interview Questions for a Missionary

1. Please tell me how you decided to become a missionary.
2. Where did God send you, and what specifically was your work?
3. What were the results of the work of God through you and others?
4. What obstacles or struggles did you experience, and how did God work things out?
5. What did God teach you through this experience?
6. Do you have plans to do any future missionary work?

7. Could you comment on the fact that we need to take the gospel to those close to us (family, friends, relatives, and neighbors) as well as those far away?
8. What advice do you have for me in regard to helping fulfill the *Great Commission*?

Quiz on the Story of Patrick

Answer these questions about the story that you just heard.

1. Where and when was Patrick born?
2. What was Patrick's name before he became a Christian and changed it to Patrick?
3. Who were the Celts?
4. Who were the Druids?
5. What is the Celtic holiday Samhain about?
6. What terrible thing happened to Patrick when he was about 16 years old?
7. How did he become a Christian?
8. How did he finally get to go home?
9. Tell how God called him to be a missionary.
10. What message did Patrick have for the Irish?
11. Did the Druids in Ireland welcome Patrick and help him build churches?

12. Tell about the time that Patrick challenged the High King Loaghaire and built a fire in defiance of the king's law.
13. What was the result of Patrick's ministry in Ireland?
14. How did Patrick use the three leaf clover to teach the people the truth of the Trinity?
15. What are some of the things that people associate with Patrick's Day today, and why are these not the real meaning of this holiday?
16. What is a saint?
17. What does it mean to be a missionary?