

Sunday School Lesson and Craft for the Third Sunday in Advent

Read Luke 3: 7-18

Turn Around

In our lesson today, John tells the people that they need to repent.

Repent simply means to "turn around".

He tells people the way to turn around is to **share** with others instead of being selfish.

He tells the tax collectors to only take what is **fair**, no more than is needed.

He tells the soldiers to **protect** people instead of scaring them.

John told the people about someone who lives this way everyday and, that if they listen and learn from him, they can turn around. Of course the person John's talking about is Jesus!

We too can turn around by learning from Jesus, as He teaches us the best way to live our lives. If we read the Bible we will find out from God and Jesus how to be loving and kind. If we share these teachings with others, everyone learns that God's grace and mercy are His gift to us.

That's the Good News in today's lesson!

Prayer

Dear God, thank you for Jesus, who shows us how to receive your love, mercy and grace, and how we can share it with others. Amen

With your family or group, discuss ways you can share with others, not just at this special time of the year, but all the time.

Craft: Candy Cane Candle Holder

The legend of the candy cane becoming a symbol for Christmas is said to have come from a choirmaster of a church a long time ago (1680). The choirmaster wanted to give a special treat to the children at the Nativity pageant, so he took the recipe for the white candy stick and curved the end to look like a shepherd's staff. Later (1900's) the red was added to the white cane. Together, the white and red stripes represent the purity of Jesus and the blood He shed for us.

Materials:

1 LED short pillar candle or candle holder (dollar tree)

red ribbon and white ribbon (dollar tree)

tacky glue

any decorative items you might like to use for embellishments

Real or decorative candy canes (optional)

Directions:

Measure ribbons around the candle item and cut the ribbon to size. Glue with tacky glue alternating colors to give the candy cane stripes look. Let dry, then add any decorative items you might like.

