

## 01/17 Children Worship Video 兒童主日敬拜視頻

Winter quarter theme: **The Mission Begins**

Monthly theme: **The Early Church**

Session 2: **Stephen's Sermon (Acts 6&7)**

Memory verse: **John 3:16**

Happy Sunday everyone!

Death is a very spiritual topic. The same is true for children.

In general, children begin to develop the concept of death from the death of their pets, books, TV, and even the death of their relatives.

Children are naturally curious about spiritual topics. They would ask: Where do people go after they die?

Adults do not need to avoid such topics.

When such topics naturally emerge in life, it is a great teachable moment for kids.

In Christ, we can teach kids in an age-appropriate way according to the revelation of the Bible.

In my pastoral career, I led the church kids to experience death twice.

We prayed during the time when the kids' favorite uncles in the church fought against cancers. Despite the church's earnest prayers, God still brought them back to be with Him at a young age. The children went through the ups and downs with the church family, witnessing real faith in real life with real hope.

On the contrary, I have also seen children whose faith did not take root drifting away from church when they grew up because they thought God did not answer their prayer to heal their seriously ill dad.

Today's Bible story is about Stephen's martyrdom. Stephen was the first martyr in the early church. Why was he hated by the Jews? In a nutshell, he was religiously incorrect. He exalted Jesus instead of the law and the temple, which was considered a blasphemy to God by the Jews of his time.

History proves that Stephen was right.

From a human point of view, he sacrificed, and his earthly life ended. However, Jesus said: Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness (Matthew 5:11).

Stephen was blessed to see the glory of God with his own eyes. He saw heaven opening to him and Jesus standing at the right hand of God waiting for him.

Facing the hope of eternal life, no wonder he could be joyful and even prayed for those who persecuted him.

Stephen's hope is our hope.

For the same reason we can be fearless of death.

For Christians, death is not the end, but the beginning of another true journey.

### Action points:

1. Has your child ever asked you about death? How can you answer your child according to the biblical truth?
2. Encourage your child to memorize the memory verse.

Next week Session 3: Good News (Romans 5-6)

May the Lord richly bless you and your family!

冬季主題: 使命開始

一月主題: 初代教會; 司提反講道 (徒 6-7) **金句**: 約 3:16

大家主日平安!

死亡其實是很屬靈的話題. 對孩子而言也一樣.

一般而言, 孩子從寵物, 書本, 電視, 甚至身邊親人的過世開始接觸到死亡的概念.  
孩子天生對屬靈的話題好奇, 他們會問: 人死後去哪裡?

大人其實不需避諱這樣的話題.

當這樣的話題在生活中自然浮現時就是對孩子機會教育的好時刻.  
在基督裡, 我們可以按照聖經的啟示對孩子有適齡的教導.

在我牧會的過程中, 曾有兩次帶領孩子們一起經歷死亡.

我們一起為教會中他們喜愛的年輕叔叔抗癌禱告.

在全教會的迫切禱告下, 神仍然將他們帶回天家.

孩子們與我們一起經歷了過程中的起起伏伏, 看到真實的信仰, 真實的人生與真實的盼望.

反之, 我也見過信仰未曾扎根的孩子, 當父親重病禱告未蒙應允, 導致長大後全部離開信仰的例子.

今天的聖經故事講的是司提反殉道的故事. 司提反是初代教會的第一位殉道者.

他為什麼遭猶太人恨呢?

一言以蔽之, 他宗教不正確.

他高舉耶穌, 而非律法及聖殿, 對當時的人而言就是褻瀆神.

歷史證明司提反是對的.

從人的角度看, 他犧牲了, 在世上的生命結束了.

耶穌卻說: 為義受逼迫的人是有福的 (太 5:11).

司提反有福親眼看見神的榮耀, 天向他開了, 他看見耶穌正站在神的右邊等他.

面對永生的盼望, 他怎會不喜樂? 怎會不為逼迫他的人禱告?

司提反的盼望就是你我的盼望.

也是你我可以無懼死亡的原因.

因為對基督徒而言, 死亡不是結束, 而是另一段真正旅程的開始.

### **心動不如行動:**

1. 您的孩子有問過您死亡的問題嗎? 您如何用聖經的真理回答他?
2. 鼓勵孩子背誦每週的金句.

下週第三課: 好消息 (羅 5-6)

願神賜福您與家人!