



Future-proofing our children

Confirmation 1

Lesson Title

Special services during the year

A Parent's Guide

Sunday School Home Schooling



Dear Parent

Welcome to the “**Special services during the year**” Confirmation 1 lesson.

This document provides you with a minimum guide on how to present the lesson.

How to prepare and present the lesson

Below are some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
1	<p>Access the New Apostolic Church Website by keying-in or clicking on the following link from WhatsApp:</p> <p>https://bit.ly/3NACSSHS</p>
2	<p>Gather the following tools to ensure that you are ready for the lesson:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible • The lesson in PDF format that is already prepared • Child’s workbook and pencils, crayons, etc. • The Video Clip which is an additional/ optional resource tool • Catechism and Questions and Answers (especially for Confirmation) <p>Note:</p> <p>2.1: An ideal time preferably to present the lesson is after the Sunday morning service in line with the normal Sunday School time to maintain the routine.</p> <p>2.2: Please keep the lesson as concise (brief) as possible, bearing in mind the attention span (to focus on the lesson) of our children - you know your child best! <i>Sunday School normally does not exceed 45 minutes.</i></p> <p>2.3: The lesson is class specific (Confirmation 1).</p> <p>2.4: Please contact your Confirmation Teacher if you need any assistance or if you need any of the above resources.</p>
3	<p>Pray (see the prayer at the end of this document) and ask God to use you as a tool to present the lesson the way He would want us to present it.</p>



Present a Confirmation Lesson at Home

How to prepare and present the lesson

We continue to share some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
4	Create a pleasant, disturbance free learning environment where you and the child/ren are at the same level. Example: Sit on a mat or around a table.
5	Read through the lesson. Re-read the lesson so that you understand it. Watch the video-clip of the lesson to get a better understanding of the lesson.
6	Make notes for yourself on important points that you would like to remember.
7	Understand the objective of the lesson that your child must remember.
8	Present the lesson to your child.
9	Show your child the video and recap on the meaning.
10	Refer your child to the activity in the child's workbook (I Also Want To...)
11	Pray, or ask your child to pray and close the lesson.

Available tools in terms of Home Schooling

Herewith some tools to enhance the quality of the lesson:

1. WhatsApp chat the lesson with another Confirmation 1 family.
2. Discuss the lesson with other parents to obtain clarity regarding the lesson before it is presented.
3. Feel free to conduct (do) your own research for additional (extra) information.



The Lesson

Lesson Title	Special services during the year
Text	No Bible texts for this lesson
Lesson Objective	The confirmands get an overview of holidays and special services celebrated by New Apostolic Christians in the course of a year.

Lesson Summary:

State holidays and Christian holidays:

- State commemoration days and holidays are celebrated in remembrance of events which are important to a country. In our country for example we celebrate Human Rights Day on 22 March and Youth day on 16 June.
- Church holidays or Christian holidays are celebrated in commemoration of important events in the life of Jesus Christ and is directly linked to God's salvation plan. These Christian feasts are very important to our faith and strengthens our belief in our salvation and Christ's return.

The following holidays are observed as church feasts:

- **Christmas** - we rejoice about Jesus' birth, our greatest gift of all. This commemoration of the first coming of the Son of God reinforces our belief in His return. Feast of giving.
- **Palm Sunday** (the Sunday before Easter) - Palm Sunday marks the beginning of the Passion Week. Jesus' entry into Jerusalem.
- **Good Friday** - the commemoration of the crucifixion and sacrificial death of Jesus Christ for the salvation of mankind.
- **Easter** - the remembrance of Christ's resurrection from death.
- **Ascension Day** - Forty days after Easter Jesus was taken up into Heaven on a cloud.
- **Pentecost** (the seventh Sunday after Easter) - Jesus' promise that He would send the Holy Spirit was fulfilled 50 days after His resurrection. This day is also referred to as the birthday of Christ's church. The Chief Apostle conveys a special Bible text to God's people on this day. The Bible word for 2020 was 2 Corinthians 3: 17.

Easter is on a different date every year – movable feast. It is celebrated the first Sunday following the first full moon in Spring (in the Northern Hemisphere) or first full moon in Autumn (in the Southern Hemisphere).

Special divine services:

- **Advent** - This is the time of waiting and preparing for the feast on which Jesus' birth is celebrated. The four Sundays before Christmas are the Advent Sundays.



- **The Divine Services for the Departed** are of special importance in our church. It takes place three times a year and always on the first Sunday of the months of March, July, and November.
- **Thanksgiving** (first Sunday in October) - A divine service in which we express our gratitude for God's faithfulness to His creation. We are called to bring a special offering of thanks.
- **New Year's Eve** on 31 December - celebrated on the last Sunday in December.
- **New Year's Day** (1 January or first Sunday of the year) - Our Chief Apostle gives a Bible text for the New Year service and announces a theme / motto for the new year.

What does this lesson mean for us today?

- Church holidays and feast are celebrated in remembrance of events in Jesus' life and is of importance in our faith.
- The commemoration of these events reminds us of Jesus' life and sacrifice and reinforces our belief in His return.

Some questions that we can ask:

1. Easter is on a different date every year. How is the date determined?

Answer: Easter is celebrated on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the Spring (in the Northern Hemisphere) or Autumn (in the Southern hemisphere) equinox.

2. What is our theme or motto for the year 2021?

Answer: Christ, our Future!

3. What is Advent and how long is it?

Answer: It is the time of waiting and preparing for the feast on which Jesus' birth is celebrated. The waiting period is four Sundays before Christmas.

A Prayer for Daddy and Mommy to pray before the lesson:

Dear God, thank you for this day, Bless all parents and children

May we feel your presence

Bless the lesson we will have

Please teach us how to serve you, And help us to do your will

So that we grow closer to you

Send Jesus to fetch us

And may we be ready to meet Him - Amen