

The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Department of Christian Education

MAKING DISCIPLES through "events that FORM and TRANSFORM"

Sunday School Lessons Unit One "The Early Church Proclaims Faith in Christ" December 2017

The study during the Winter quarter explores the twofold nature of faith as belief and action. Selections from Acts show various examples of proclaiming faith in Christ. In the Book of Daniel we see faith in action as sincere, obedient, bold, and strong. The lessons from several epistles show how our actions both as individuals and as communities demonstrate our faith in Christ.

Unit One, "The Early Church
Proclaims Faith in Christ," has five
lessons that reveal what the early
leaders proclaimed about living
our faith in Christ. The sessions in
Acts report several examples of
social welfare ministry and
evangelism in spite of opposition.
Ephesians teaches about faith that
leads to unity in the body of Christ.
The Christmas session gives an
account of the Wise Men who
faithfully searched for the
newborn King of the Jews.

Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield General Secretary



Sometimes the good things we do are blocked by an unexpected obstruction, but we pick up and go on anyway. What gives us the strength to keep going? Even though he was stoned and persecuted, Paul's faith in his message impelled him to continue to proclaim the good news of God.

Goal for the Learners

- ✓ To review the nature of the miracle performed at Lystra and how the crowd interpreted that miracle.
- To appreciate the fickleness of a crowd mentality.
- To ask God for courage and strength in the face of resistance to the gospel.

Lesson Challenges for the Week

- Make a list of topics on which public opinion seem to swing back and forth.
- Form a prayer group and pray together as a group for strength and courage to persevere in our efforts to further the gospel. Pray specifically for missionaries and church planters your group knows.
- Compare and contrast the fickleness of the crowd with that in Matthew 21:8-11and 27:20-25.

We are providing these notes from the Committee on Uniform Series that prepares associated Sunday School lesson outlines long in advance of their usage. Included in this Guide are thoughts that are reflected in the Lesson Development Guide for writers of Sunday school lessons and the recommended commentary of the Department of Christian Education, The New International Lesson Annual published by Abingdon Press Nashville, Tennessee.

Send an email to: <u>sundayschool@thecmechurchced.org</u> to receive this guide electronically each week.

