



# The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church

## Department of Christian Education

MAKING DISCIPLES through "events that FORM and TRANSFORM"

### Sunday School Lessons

#### Unit One

#### "Signs of God's Covenant"

September 2017



The fall quarter of 2017 considers the major covenants that God makes with people on behalf of the earth and the human community. Beginning with Noah, God promises benevolence toward creation. Similar commitments are made with Abram, Phinehas, and Ezekiel. Ultimately, the covenant forms the foundation for the coming Messiah and salvation for the world. Unit I, "Signs of God's Covenants," a four-lesson study drawn from Genesis and Ezekiel, celebrates four signs of God's covenant. Promising to renew the cycle of seasons, God creates the rainbow as a permanent reminder of the covenant with every living thing. Circumcision is the sign of the covenant with Abraham and the Sabbath is the sign of the covenant with Israel at Mount Sinai. The last sign is the spirit-filled heart.

Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield, General Secretary



People stubbornly follow their own agendas without regard to the impact of their actions on those they respect and admire. What will motivate these persons to change? God will give them new hearts and put a new spirit in their hearts.

#### Goal for the Learners

- ✓ To recognize how a Spirit-filled heart makes a difference in the lives of believers.
- ✓ To voice thanks to God for the gift of God's Spirit.
- ✓ To become receptive to the work of God's Spirit in their midst.

#### Lesson Challenges for the Week

- Take time to write out your agenda or calendar for the week. Note places on your agenda that impact the lives of others.
- Prepare a litany that gives thanks for the gift of God's Spirit.
- Search the CME Hymnal and note hymns that speak to the changing of human hearts and/or reflect on a changed heart or a new spirit placed in a person's heart.

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: [sundayschool@thecmechurchced.org](mailto:sundayschool@thecmechurchced.org) to receive this guide electronically each week.

