



# 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



Many people search all their lives for something that will make them feel grounded, whole, and in sync with life. Where can they find that something? Paul told the Ephesians that, even though they had many different gifts, their faith in Christ would bring them unity and help them grow together in love.

### Goal for the Learners

- ✓ To understand how the seven "ones" of the faith relate to Christian unity.
- ✓ To value the diversity of spiritual giftedness in contributing to Christian unity.
- ✓ To commit to exercising spiritual giftedness in the pursuit of Christian unity.

### Lesson Challenges for the Week

- Compare Have participants take one of each of the items described as "one" in Ephesians 4:4-6, and write down what each means.
- Research the cosmic images of Christ as depicted in Ephesians 4:8-10. Write down how this fits your usual image of Christ.
- Research several organizations and think of ways each express unity. Some examples of such organizations the CME Church has affiliation are Church Uniting in Christ (CUIC), National Councils of Churches in Christ USA (NCCUSA), and Conference National Black Churches (CNBC).

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.

