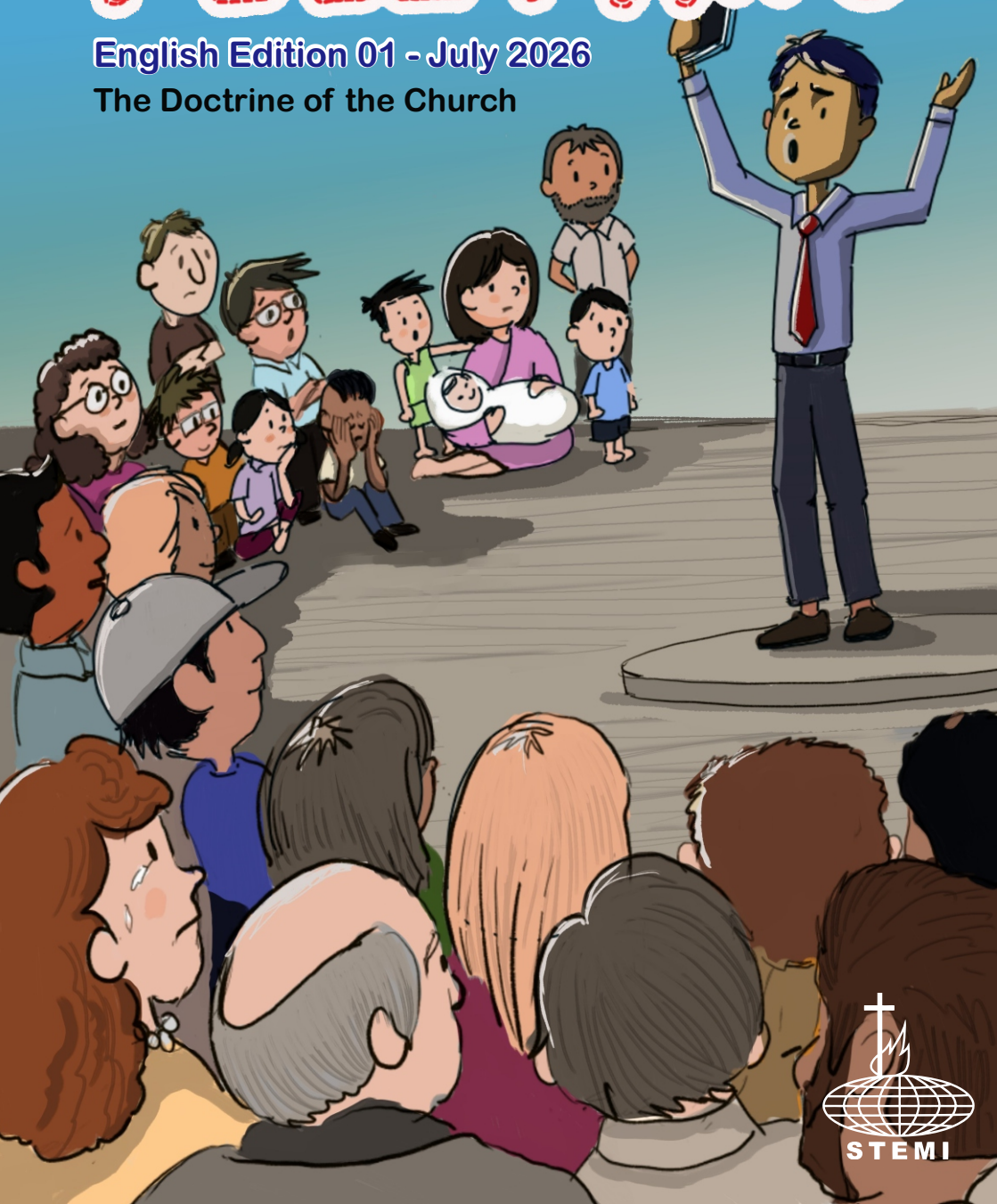


# PELITAKU

English Edition 01 - July 2026

The Doctrine of the Church



## *Dear beloved teachers and parents,*

“PELITAKU” is a quiet time material for children. Through “PELITAKU” children are encouraged to have daily routine of quiet time. For a month children will study and meditate on the word of God, on one specific theme comprehensively, and apply them to their daily life.

As the teacher and parent, you can guide and accompany your child during the quiet time while discussing the theme for that day. There is a space for you to provide your signature as an indication that you have accompanied your child during the quiet time.

Regards,  
**Editorial Team**

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Set your routine QUIET TIME



Prepare your Bible, pencil, and PELITAKU



Find a QUIET PLACE



Read the BIBLE passage and complete your Quiet Time for today



MEDITATE upon what you have read



Pray that the LORD leads you

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## The Sabbath Day

Genesis 2:3, Exodus 20:8-11

Have you ever heard the word Sabbath? Today, we will think about what the word Sabbath means. The word Sabbath comes from the Hebrew word Shabbat, which means to rest, to stop working, or the seventh. In Genesis 2:3, which we read earlier, it says that after God finished creating everything in six days, on the seventh day God rested and made that day holy.

The Sabbath is on Sunday because Jesus rose from the dead on Sunday. On the Sabbath we must worship God and find strength from His word that we hear in church or Sunday school. This helps us getting ready for our daily routine activities like going to school and others from Monday to Saturday.

The Sabbath is important because it is God's command, as written in Exodus 20. Remember, on Sunday the most important thing is to worship God. We go to church, worship in Sunday school, and we do not go to the mall or the playground, nor spend the day only playing games or watching TV. Do remember that Sunday or the Sabbath, is the day we go to church to worship God together with our friends in Sunday school.

### To Seek Deeper:

Why do we have to worship God on the Sabbath day?

Answer: .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You because today I have learned what the Sabbath means. Please help me to keep the Sabbath day holy and to be faithful in worship, even when there are many temptations. Help me to go to church diligently on the Sabbath Day. Only in the name of Lord Jesus I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Is there something that makes you feel lazy to go to church on Sunday? What is it? Let us pray and ask God to give us strength to overcome that temptation and to be faithful in worship at church.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## What Does Church Mean?

1 Corinthians 3:16, Ephesians 2:19, 1 Peter 2:9

Every Sunday, we go to church to worship in Sunday school. We often say, "I'm going to church," because we think of church as a place or a building. But did you know that the meaning of church is not only a building, like a school building, a cinema, an art hall, a museum, an office building or a mall?

There are two meanings of church. The first is the visible church, the church building, which is the place where Christians gather to worship God. The second is the invisible church. This refers to the people who believe in Jesus. The word church comes from the Greek word *ekklesia*, which means "called out." Everyone who believes in Jesus is called out from the sinful world to come to God.

Because we believe in Jesus, we are the church. We are called out from the world to gather with other believers. So, the group of believers is the church—we are the church. Since we have been saved by Christ, the church is also called the body of Christ, and we are its members.

### To Seek Deeper:

Why are we also called the church?

Answer: .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You that I have been saved and called to be with You and to be part of the "church." Thank You also for the church building where I can worship You. Please help me to be a good member of the church, one who loves You and obeys You. Only in the name of Lord Jesus I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Memorize 1 Corinthians 3:16

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The Holy and Universal Church

1 Corinthians 1:2

The church is often called the holy and universal church. Wah... what does that mean? Maybe some of you are hearing this for the first time, or maybe you have heard it before– even many times.

The meaning of the holy church is that the church is a group of believers who are called to be consecrated by God. It is a group of people who believe in Jesus and have been redeemed by Him on the cross.

The meaning of the universal church is a group of people whom God has called in every age and in every place, all unified in Christ, with Christ as the head. So, Christ is the Head of the church. Because the church is holy and universal, we must live holy lives and have fellowship with other believers.

### To Seek Deeper:

What should we do as the holy and universal church?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You because You have called me and made me holy as part of Your church. Please help me to live a holy life and not to sin. Only in the name of Lord Jesus I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Think about a sin that you often commit. Starting today, promise that you will not do that sin anymore and that you want to live a holy life.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The History of the Church

Acts 2:37-38, 41

We have already thought about what the word "church" means. Today, we will think about the history of the church and how the church first began in this world. The Bible tells us that the church started with a group of believers in Jerusalem (Acts 1:8).

Pentecost was the day when the Holy Spirit came down. On that day, the people who believed in Jesus were given courage and strength to spread the gospel. Then apostle Peter preached on Pentecost, and many people believed in Jesus. The Bible says that about three thousand people believed that day. Wow...that's a lot!

Now this was the beginning of the church. The church came into being because of the proclamation of the gospel by the apostles, who are the twelve disciples of Jesus.

### To Seek Deeper:

What caused the church to come into being?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You because the apostles were given the courage to preach the gospel so that the church began. Please take care of all the churches in the world, and please take care of the church where I worship. Only in the name of Lord Jesus I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Choose one day each week when you will pray for your church, asking God to help it stay faithful in preaching the gospel. Don't forget to do it!

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The Early Church

Acts 2:41-47

After many people believed in Jesus on the day of Pentecost, they began to gather for fellowship. These people were called the early church. It is written that they were faithful in the teaching of the apostles, which means they studied the Bible together, and they did it diligently and faithfully. They also prayed together.

Besides that, they helped one another. Some even sold their belongings to help those who were in need. Wow... if it were us, would we be willing to give away our most precious things to help a friend in trouble? Or maybe give our pocket money, choosing not to spend it so we can help someone who needs it?

The early church did all this with sincere hearts. Because their lives were full of love, many more people came to believe, and God added to their number.

### To Seek Deeper:

Name three things the early church did.

Answer: .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You because today I have learned from the example of the early church about how to live as Your people. Please help me to follow their example. Only in the name of Lord Jesus I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

From the three things the early church did, think about which one you can do. And don't forget to do it!

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The Church's Foundation

Ephesians 1:20-22

If we want to build a house, what do we need to build first? To build a house, you cannot just build it haphazardly; first, you must build the foundation or the base. If you build it carelessly, with a poor foundation or even with no foundation at all, the house will easily collapse

The church must also have a foundation. A church building that is built carelessly will easily collapse. But what is the most important is another kind of foundation, not a building's foundation. Do You remember, that the church is not just merely a space or a building?

The most important foundation of the church is the teaching of the prophets and the apostles through the books in the Bible. Therefore, the foundation of the church is the Bible, with Christ as the Head of the church. There is no other foundation that can replace the Bible and Christ; these are the only true foundations of the church.

### To Seek Deeper:

Why are the Bible and Christ the true foundation of the church?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for the Bible and Christ, who have become the foundation of the church. Please help all the churches in this world to have the Bible and Christ as their foundation. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

If you have wooden blocks toy, Lego, or you could use pebbles to make a building, stack the wooden blocks, Lego or pebbles with a small weak base. Can the building that you made stand firmly for a long duration? Thereafter, build another building with a wide and sturdy base; observe if that building can stand firmly for a long time.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The True Church

Colossians 2:6-10

In this world, or specifically in the city where you live in, there are many churches. Are all churches the same? In terms of the buildings, they are all called churches, but do not forget that the church is not just the building. What is most important is its Biblical teaching—that is, how the church teaches the Bible to its congregation, to all of us.

A church that teaches the Bible correctly and in accordance to God's teaching is a true church. But how do we know if a church is true? Well, we can tell by certain signs. The signs of a true church are what is taught is consistent with the Bible, and what is practiced is what the Bible commands us to do, namely evangelizing, praying, diligently reading and meditating on the Bible, and helping others.

To know whether a church is true, there is one important thing we must do: we must be diligent in reading the Bible. This is because if we do not know what the Bible teaches about the church, we will not know what is a true church, according to the Bible.

### To Seek Deeper:

What are the characteristics of a true church?

Answer: .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You because I can meditate on the meaning of a true church. Please stay with and guide all churches throughout the world, so they can be true churches. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Make a promise to read the Bible diligently starting today, because the Bible teaches the truth that enables us to distinguish between what is right and what is wrong. Don't forget to ask for God's help so that you can do this.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## False Teachings in the Church

Ephesians 4:14-15

We have meditated on the meaning of the true church. Every church should be a true church, but there are still churches that are not true because not all of them teach the Bible according to what God has taught. Many churches still interpret Bible verses in ways that do not align with God's teaching. They use their own human reasoning to understand the Bible.

Because they do not teach what God has taught in the Bible—and even interpret or distort God's teachings—they are known as false teachings (heresies). One of the examples of a false teaching is the claim that the Lord Jesus is not God.

For example, if we are trying to go somewhere and we should turn right to get there, but someone tells us to turn left and we follow his direction, we would end up lost, wouldn't we? That is exactly how false teachings mislead Christians. Sadly, many Christians are willing to listen to these false teachings, until they do not understand the true teaching of the Bible.

Let us study the Bible correctly by worshiping in a true church, so that we are not easily led astray.

### To Seek Deeper:

Besides the teaching that claims Jesus is not God, name one or more examples of false teachings in the church.

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Thank You, Lord, because today I have meditated on the fact that there are churches that are not true, and there are people who do not teach the Bible correctly. I pray for those who teach the Bible falsely, may they repent. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Write down Ephesians 4:14-15 on a piece of paper, and you may decorate it if you wish.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The Duties of the Church

Matthew 28:19

As school students, we have duties, such as studying, doing homework, and taking exams. We cannot say “I don’t want” to do those tasks because they are our obligations when we attend school. If we do not want to do them, we do not need to go to school; but we will be foolish if we do not go to school.

The church also has duties; a true church is a church that performs their duties because they are tasks from God, the Head of the church. What are the duties of the church? The church has many duties, but the most important and primary duty is preaching the gospel. Apart from that, the duty of the church is to teach the Bible to those who already believe in the Lord Jesus through sermons in worship services, fellowships, and others. The church also has the duty to encourage its congregation to pray diligently. Another duty is to help others, especially those who are in need. These are just a few examples of the church’s duties; there are still many others.

### To Seek Deeper:

What is the most important and primary duty of the church?

Answer: .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for the duties You have given to the church. Please help all churches throughout the world, and help my church, to be able to continue doing the tasks You have entrusted in the right manner. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Share the gospel—the love of the Lord Jesus who was willing to sacrifice Himself on the cross to save us from sin with one of your friends or someone you know, who does not yet believe in the Lord Jesus.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The Witnessing Church

Acts 1:8

For example, if you go on vacation to a beautiful place or eat at a restaurant that serves delicious food, you would certainly tell your friends, wouldn't you? But remember, your purpose in telling them is not to show off, but to provide information so that your friends can also go there with their families. Usually, when we receive or learn something—especially something good—we want to tell others about it. And all Christians who have experienced God's love are given the task by the Lord Jesus to tell others about His love. This is called bearing witness.

The church also has the duty to bear witness, so that others can also experience God's love. Remember how the early church grew? It was through the life testimony and the actions of those who had come to know God.

So, how does the church bear witness to God's love? The church witnesses by preaching the gospel, diakonia (service/ministry), and helping those in need; not just those with material needs, but also those who are troubled in spirit or grieving.

For example, if a new member of a church has just lost his/her father, mother, or

child, other members will comfort, the other members of the church will comfort and strengthen that person. It is through these ways that the church bears witness.

### To Seek Deeper:

State three ways the church can bear witness.

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for the opportunity for the church to bear witness to Your love and for the chance for the church to help those in need. Please help all churches throughout the world to be a good witness. Only, in the name of the Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Think of a friend or anyone you know who is currently in need of help; pray for them and help them in whatever way you can.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The Serving Church

Galatians 5:13

Have you helped someone before? Perhaps your father, mother, teacher, brother, sister, or even your friend. When we help others, it means we are serving them. Galatians 5:13, which we have just read, states that if we are free, which means that we are redeemed by our Lord Jesus so that we are freed from sin, we must serve with love, not because we are forced, not with a grumbling heart, and not with annoyance. Serving should be joyful and voluntarily.

Other than bearing witness, the church also must serve. The church must serve its members, which includes the Christians who go to that church and also non-Christians. We must serve whoever is in need, not just those who are of the same race, those from the same country, those who share the same religion, or people who we like, or rich or intelligent people. Serving does not need to look at any other aspects, Lord Jesus taught us to love and serve our enemies, which is very difficult. In the same way, the church must serve anyone, especially those who are currently in need, even if they are not Christians.

### To Seek Deeper:

How can the church serve?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You that we, as a church, have been taught to serve anyone. Help me to be able to serve my friends and other people, to be able to serve those I dislike even if it is difficult. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Is there someone you dislike or despise? If there is, seek forgiveness from God and pray to ask God for wisdom and the ability to serve him/her.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The PRaying Church

Romans 12:12

If you are troubled, what do you do? On the other hand, when you are happy, what do you do? Do you pray during difficult times? Do you pray during happy times? Romans 12:12, that we have read, teaches us to be devoted in prayer. To be devoted means to be diligent and faithful, not being lazy about it; therefore, we should not feel lazy to pray, whether in times of happiness or sadness.

All Christians must pray diligently, and it is the same for the church. A true church is one that prays, and the church must teach and encourage its members to pray. Therefore, there are prayer meetings in the church.

The church must pray to be strong and faithful before God. Without God's strength and help, the church will easily be misled and disobey God's commandments. This is why churches must pray for God's strength and help. We must also pray for our church, the place where we worship or have Sunday school, as we must constantly pray for anyone and anything.

### To Seek Deeper:

What strengthens the church and keeps it faithful?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You that I can pray to the Lord at any time - in times of difficulty or in times of happiness. I pray for the church where I worship. God, please help my church to be more diligent in prayer. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen



### To Do:

Read Romans 12:12 once again.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The Growing Church

Colossians 2:7

Can you imagine if we never grew, we didn't grow taller or bigger, and our body just remained small? That's quite scary! A healthy body needs to continually grow. If the body doesn't grow, it means that the body is unhealthy or sick. This applies to the church; a true church will definitely grow. If a human grows by eating and drinking, how does the church grow? The church grows through the word of God and prayer. A church which grows will teach and remind its congregation to diligently read the Bible and pray. Only God can grow a church, not humans.

Every tree has its roots, and the roots support the tree. If the roots are strong, the tree will also be strong. The church needs to have strong roots too. Colossians 2:37 states that the church must have strong roots in Jesus Christ as the foundation of the church.

### To Seek Deeper:

State two things that allows a church to grow.

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for the growth that You have granted. Please help all churches to continually grow and glorify God's name. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Try to eat food without salt in it at all, how does it taste like? Or turn off the light, can you see in the dark?

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

Day

14

# The Church as Salt and Light of the World

Matthew 5:13-14

Surely, we have seen salt and light. Salt is used to give flavor to cooking and used to preserve food from rotting too quickly. Light is used to illuminate. If there is no electricity and light in the night, it will be very dark.

In Matthew 5, Lord Jesus said that we are the salt and the light of the world, which means that the church is also the salt and the light of the world. How does the church become salt? By giving flavor to its surroundings; the way to do so is to be the witnesses of God. Because the world is in the darkness of sin, the church must also be the light so that sinful human beings can go back to God. When we walk at night without light, we will surely be lost; even walking would be hard as we cannot see anything. With light, we can see and know our direction.

The church must also become light in the same way to give direction for sinful men to walk to God. Hence, the church must be the salt and light of the world.

### To Seek Deeper:

What does it mean for the church to be the salt and light of the world?

Answer: .....  
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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for making the church the salt and light of the world. Help all churches to bring sinners, who are in darkness, to go towards the light of God. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Try to eat food without salt in it at all, how does it taste like? Or turn off the light, can you see in the dark?

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

If you were to have a pet, should you not take care of it? They should be fed, bathed or cleaned. Imagine if you had never fed or bathed your pet; what would happen to it? It might die of starvation or become really stink or even be infested with fleas because it is unclean.

It is not just animals; everything should also be cared for and protected. Thus, there should be people that manage the church and these people are usually who we call our elders, deacon, counselors, or administrators. They who manage the church, must live a righteous and holy life. These people ensure that the church teachings align strictly with the Bible, serve the church community and the church treasury to make sure that the money collected is used for the work of God. They are also in charge of maintaining and cleaning the church.

Hence, in every church, there must be people that manage the church. Otherwise, the church would be disorderly.

### To Seek Deeper:

Think of what disorder might happen if not for the people who manage the church.

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for the people who have managed the churches and those that manage my church. Please help and lead them by giving them Your wisdom to manage the church well. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Read 1 Timothy 3:8-13.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The Church's *Diakonia*

Deuteronomy 15:11

Have you ever met a poor or less fortunate person? In Deuteronomy 15:11 which we have just read, it is said that there will never cease to be poor people. This means that at any time and any place, there will always be the poor or less fortunate around. And one task of the church is *diakonia*, or ministry to the needy.

The word *diakonia* means to serve or to help. The task of the deacons in the church is to serve people who are in need, especially the congregation members of the church itself. If there are members who experience difficulties such as sickness, the church and we ourselves have to serve them. We should visit or help them. In another case, if there are poor people who do not have money despite having worked hard, the church has to help them. However, do not be mistaken to help those who are lazy. The task of the church is to do *diakonia* — to help others who are in need.

### To Seek Deeper:

What ministries are entrusted to the church as its *diakonia* (ministry of mercy)?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, we give thanks that the church serves and helps. Please help all churches to serve with wisdom that comes from God alone. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Think about someone you know who needs help and help him/her by doing something that you can do.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## Worship in Church

Hebrews 12:28

We have reflected on how we have to worship God on every Sunday or Sabbath day.

Every church holds a worship service on Sunday. However, even if it is held in church, not all worship glorifies and pleases God. Instead, there are worship services that kindle God's wrath. Such worship services are not in accordance with what God has taught in the Bible.

In Hebrews 12:28 which we have just read, it is written that because we have been redeemed by Him, we received the kingdom that cannot be shaken when we believed in Lord Jesus. Therefore, we should worship Him in the way that is pleasing to God. The signs of the right and proper worship are of the same as those of a true church's: they are in accordance with the Bible.

Similar to the way to know what a true church is like, we have to diligently read the Bible so that we understand what the Bible teaches regarding the right and proper ways of worship.

### To Seek Deeper:

What are the signs of worship that pleases God?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for the weekly worship services and Sunday school that I attend. Help me to always be diligent in attending church services and worship You properly. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Memorize Hebrews 12:28

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## Singing Praises in Church

Ephesians 5:19

Singing praises to God has been around since the times of the Old Testament, the New Testament, and even until now. As Christians, we must praise God, and one of the ways to praise Him is through singing. Do you like singing?

In 2 Chronicles 5:12-13, it is written that the Levitical singers and trumpeters praised God. In Mark 14:26, it is written that Lord Jesus and His disciples sang and praised God. Even in Acts 16:25, it is written that Paul and Silas sang praises to God while they were in prison. These things mean that we must continue praising God regardless of the situation we are in.

Why do worship services in the church have a praise and worship segment or sing praises? This is because it is what has been taught in the Bible, that we must praise God. Our motivation to sing praises to God is to glorify His name and not to glorify ourselves or the choir because they can sing well with good voices. Remember, praising God is something that we must do as Christians.

**To Seek Deeper:**

What is something that does not please God or something that God does not like when singing praises to Him?

**Answer:** .....

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**To Pray:**

Father in Heaven, I give thanks that I may praise You through singing. I pray that the choir and everyone in all churches and in my church can sing to please God. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.

**To Do:**

Read 2 Chronicles 5:12-13 and Acts 16:25

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## Giving Offerings in Church

2 Corinthians 9:7

We need money to buy food, clothes, shoes, and books for school. We need money to fulfill our basic needs. Usually, we receive money from our parents. However, do remember that although money is important, it is not everything to us. Only God should be everything to us!

A church also requires money to fulfill the needs of the church, such as to maintain the church or to help others who are in difficult situations. A church's money is received from offerings that are given by its congregation—by us. As part of a church's congregation, we have to give offerings so that God's work might be carried out by the church.

God does not need our money. However, through our offerings, God wants us to learn to give to Him. By giving offerings to our church, God wants us to remember that His providence in our lives will never change. He will continue to take care of us.

### To Seek Deeper:

Mention the four attitudes of giving offerings as written in 2 Corinthians 9:7

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Thank You God for the opportunity to learn how to give to You and my church through offerings. Help me to give offerings with the right attitude in my heart. Help me so that I may not be stingy in giving offerings. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Read Luke 21:1-45

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## The Apostles' Creed in the Church

1 Timothy 4:6

Do you know what the Apostles' Creed means? The Apostles' Creed consists of the core teachings in Christianity, which were taught by the apostles, who were the disciples of Lord Jesus. This is why it is called the Apostles' Creed.

The Apostles' Creed was written as a response to the many false teachings that the early church faced. The Apostles' Creed was compiled to establish the faith of the Christians at the time. It is recited every week in churches' worship service to remind Christians of the fundamental points of Christian teachings and to confess it, which is why it is called a creed (or confession of faith). The Apostles' Creed is important to the church, as the church must teach the right teachings that have their essence found in the Apostles' Creed.

### To Seek Deeper:

Why does the church have the Apostles' Creed?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for the Apostles' Creed in the church that allows me to understand the right teachings. Help me to understand the importance of the Apostles' Creed more and more. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Find out what the Apostles' Creed says and read it out.

Parent's Signature

Teacher's Signature

## Sacraments in Church

Acts 2:38. Matthew 26:26-28

In church, there are special religious ceremonies called sacraments. In the Protestant Christian faith, we have two sacraments: Holy Communion and Baptism. The Bible teaches only these two sacraments, and they are usually done in church.

Sacraments are held in church because Christ Himself commanded them, to seal those who believe in Jesus, that they truly are in Jesus. To seal someone means to make it official that they are part of God's kingdom.

Sacraments are also means of God's grace and God's promises. They are very important and must be done by the church. But remember: sacraments do not save people. Doing a sacrament without believing in Jesus does not bring salvation. There is only one way to be saved: by believing in the Lord Jesus and confessing Him as our Lord and Savior.

### To Seek Deeper:

Why must the church hold sacraments?

Answer: .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You that the church can hold sacraments so Christians are reminded that we are Your children who have received grace. Please help every church to carry out the sacraments properly, according to the Bible. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Have you ever seen a Baptism or Holy Communion?

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## The Sacrament of Baptism

Galatians 3:27

Have you ever seen a Sacrament of Baptism? Or have you already been baptized? Today we will think about what baptism means. Baptism is a sign that we have been washed clean from sin and redeemed by Christ. It shows that we are officially members of God's kingdom in heaven. Baptism is done only once in a person's life.

Baptism began in the time of the New Testament. In the Old Testament there was no baptism, because baptism was established by Christ Himself. Baptism must be done in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit—the Trinity. That is why, during a Sacrament of Baptism, the pastor will say, "In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, I baptize you." For adults, before they can be baptized, they must first learn the Bible in a special class called catechism. After finishing catechism, then they can be baptized. That is the meaning of baptism.

### To Seek Deeper:

Why must Christians be baptized?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You that through baptism, Christians are made members of Your kingdom. I pray that everyone who believes in Jesus will want to be baptized. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Read Galatians 3:27 again.

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## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

1 Corinthians 11:26

We have learned that a sacrament is a special religious ceremony to remember something important. In 1 Corinthians 11:26, Christians are commanded by the Lord Jesus to remember how He gave His body and blood to save us through Holy Communion.

In Holy Communion, bread and wine are used as symbols of Jesus' body and blood. Every Good Friday, which is the day Jesus died, the church must hold Holy Communion. This is because the very first Holy Communion was held on the night before Jesus was crucified, when He ate together with His disciples. The church holds Holy Communion on Good Friday to remember that Jesus died for the sins of mankind.

But not every Christian can join Holy Communion right away. First, a person must be baptized as an adult or have their faith confirmed; then they may take part in Holy Communion.

### To Seek Deeper:

Why is the Sacrament of Holy Communion held?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You because Lord Jesus sacrificed His body and blood to save mankind. Thank You also that through Holy Communion, Christians can remember Jesus' great sacrifice. Please help me to love Lord Jesus more and more. Only in the name of Lord Jesus I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Read Mark 14:22-24

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## Church Discipline

1 Corinthians 11:32

Have you ever been punished at school or at home? Usually someone is punished because they did something wrong, like cheating or telling lies. Punishment is given so that the person realizes their mistake, changes, and does not do it again. In the same way, the church also gives discipline to its members when they do wrong, because the church cannot allow sin to continue.

The punishment given by the church is called church discipline. The purpose of church discipline is to help the person realize their mistake. The church must be full of love, for example, by helping people who are in need. But the church must also be firm when sin happens, and the way to do this is through church discipline.

Church discipline is important because it comes from God's word. Sin cannot be ignored. As written in 1 Corinthians 11:32, people are disciplined so they can be taught. The church does not punish because it hates the person, but because it wants to teach and help them realize their sin so they will not continue living in sin.

### To Seek Deeper:

Why must the church carry out church discipline?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You that today I learned that besides showing love, the church must also be firm. I pray that all churches will be firm when someone breaks God's word. Only in the name of Lord Jesus I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Is there someone who has done wrong to you? Do you hate them? Pray for that person so they may repent. Ask God to help you love them.

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## Church Reformation

Hebrews 11:2

Did you know that in Christianity, every October 31st is remembered as Reformation Day? This is the day when the church was reformed—changed in a big way to become better. Reformation means being changed and corrected so that things are improved.

In the 16th century, there was a pastor named Martin Luther. He stood against wrong teachings that the church taught at that time. Back then, there was only the Catholic Church. One wrong teaching was that sins could be forgiven by buying a letter of forgiveness of sins called indulgence. But the truth is, only God can forgive our sins. There were also other wrong practices, like wasting church money, even though church money should be used for God's glory.

On October 31st, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses (statements against indulgences) to the door of a church in Wittenberg, Germany. Luther reformed the church to return to the true teaching of the Bible. Because of this, many people hated him, since the church leaders at that time did not want to teach the truth so that they could keep making money, for example, by selling indulgences.

Because of Martin Luther's Reformation, the Protestant Church was born. Luther wanted to teach his congregation to return to the true teaching, according to the Bible.

### To Seek Deeper:

Why did Martin Luther reform the church?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for Martin Luther, who lived hundreds of years ago and bravely reformed the church. Thank You that because of the Reformation, Christians can understand the true teaching of the Bible. Please help churches today to stay faithful in teaching Your word to their members. Only in the name of Lord Jesus I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Read Hebrews 11:2 again.

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## Church Figures

Psalm 40:5

Yesterday we meditated about the Reformation led by Martin Luther. Yet, Martin Luther was not the only church figure; in fact, there were many other church figures that God used to bring the church back again to the truth of the Bible. Ever since Christianity started, there were many heretics who turned the teachings of the Bible upside down. For example, they claimed that Lord Jesus is not God and Savior, or they taught that salvation is not only through Lord Jesus. They created their own teachings that are very different from what the Bible teaches.

These church figures strived against these wrong teachings. In addition to fighting these wrong teachings, these church figures were also oppressed by the governments—some were tortured and murdered. In the past, there was a ruling that everyone had to worship the emperor, but Christians refused to do so because only God is worthy of our worship.

Several church figures, such as Polycarp, refused to worship the emperor. Consequently, he was put to death. Tertullian opposed false teachings that said Lord Jesus did not pioneer the Christian teachings.

And there were still so many other church figures who did likewise. We give thanks to God who gave and used these church figures to provide and to protect the church from all the wrong teachings.

**To Seek Deeper:**

Why did God awaken the church figures?

**Answer:** .....

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**To Pray:**

Father in Heaven, thank You for the church figures that had once been present. Through them, the church returned back to the teachings that are according to the Bible. I pray that the efforts of all these church figures have not been in vain, today and forever. May the church remain faithful to the Bible. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.

**To Do:**

Remember Psalm 40:5 so that we may be reminded of God's work in this world, especially to the church.

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# Church Denominations

Hebrew 13:9a

Have you ever heard the different names of the churches? For example, the Indonesian Reformed Evangelical Church/GRII, Indonesian Christian Church/GKI, Huria Christian Batak Protestant/HKBP, Kalimantan Evangelist Church/GKE, Javanese Christian Church/GKJ, Evangelical Masehi Church in Minahasa/GMIM, Sumba Christian Church/GKS, Holy Word Christian Church/KKA, Methodist Church, and there are still many others.

Do you know that within the Christian religion there are many church denominations? These denominations arise because of many reasons. For example, the tribe denominations, fellow Batak or Javanese people, want to have fellowship together, thus establishing HKBP or GKJ. All church denominations are not heretic if the teachings are only based on the Bible. But if their teachings are not based on the Bible, that denomination is heretical. We have meditated about the meaning of heretic churches, right? Do you still remember?

### To Seek Deeper:

What are the signs of the righteous church denomination?

**Answer:** .....  
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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for today. I have learned that there are many Christian church denominations. I pray for all these denominations that they may be able to teach according to the Bible only. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Mention denominations or churches' names other than those that have been mentioned above.

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## Persecutions of the Church

2 Timothy 3:12

Persecution means to be tortured or hurt despite not being guilty. If we are hit because we are guilty, that is not persecution, but punishment instead. Persecutions are often conducted in a very cruel manner because of hatred towards the person or other matters.

Do you know that churches are also persecuted because many people do not like Christianity or Christians? Since the time of the early church until today, churches still experience persecution especially in certain countries that dislike the presence of Christianity.

Persecutions to the Christians or Christianity can take many forms. For example, churches are burned or destroyed. Another example, Christians are forbidden to worship, to have fellowship, to read the Bible, or to pray, or else they will be tortured. Until today, persecutions of the churches are still happening.

### To Seek Deeper:

Read Acts 7:57-60; you will find the answer to who the first persecuted Christian was. Who was he?

**Answer:** .....

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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for today. I get to meditate on how persecutions towards the Christians are still happening today. I pray for those who are persecuted. May God help them and give them strength to remain faithful to God. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Pray for churches and also Christians who are persecuted; you can also pray for this as a routine.

Parent's Signature

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Day

# 29 Is There Anyone Who Cannot Go to the Church?

Acts 5:40

Can all Christians go to church and worship God freely? Have you ever thought about if one day later we cannot go to church again? We cannot worship God again? It must be very sad if it happens, and it may very well happen for us to experience if God allows.

Even though we may not or will never experience it, at the moment there are Christians who cannot come to church and worship God. For example, those with severe illnesses or those prohibited by their governments. There are several countries that forbid their citizens to be Christians and to go to church because those governments hate Christianity. If discovered, they will be persecuted.

Remember that being able to go to church and worship God is a blessing, and not everyone receives it. If we are still given the blessing by God, do not waste it. Let us go to church and worship God

### To Seek Deeper:

Why are there Christians who cannot go to church?

Answer: .....  
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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You for Your blessing that I can come to church. I pray for Christians who cannot come to church, for people with severe illnesses, and for people who are prohibited from coming to church by their governments. May You help them, God, so that they will be able to come to church. But if they are not able to come to church, may they remain faithful to You. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Read John 16:33

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# Why Do We Go to Church?

1 Timothy 4:8

Do you still remember why on Sundays or the Sabbath days we have to go to church? If you do not remember, please read again Day 1's meditation. Besides the fact that we have to go to church because Sundays are Sabbath days, there is another reason why we have to go to church or to the Sunday school.

Do you still remember the meaning of the church in Day 2's meditation? Church also means the gathering of believers who are called by God. We have to gather and worship together as a community. We go to church as the children of God, people who have believed in God. We have to worship together with other children of God to strengthen each other because there are so many temptations in the world and we cannot face them alone. Christians are people who live in fellowship with other children of God, not people who live alone. Let us be faithful to worship God in church every Sunday.

### To Seek Deeper:

Mention the meaning of the Sabbath day and the meaning of the church.

**Answer:** .....  
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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, thank You that when I believe in Lord Jesus, I have a fellowship with other believers in the church or in the Sunday school. Help me to go to church diligently, to have fellowship, to pray, and to learn the word of God together with my friends. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Share how you feel when you have to go to church on Sundays.

Parent's Signature

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Day

**31**

# Church is a blessing from God for the Christians

Ephesians 2:19

The word of God that we have just read says that we are no longer strangers to God. When we believe in Jesus, we become part of God’s family. God receives and loves us.

Because the church is God’s family, we must not quarrel with, mock, or hurt other children of God. Instead, we must learn to help each other. We learn to speak nicely to each other. We love each other. We worship together in church.

God gives a church as our place to grow. In church, we learn to sing and praise God. We listen to the Bible’s story. We pray and meet with friends who love Lord Jesus like we do. Church is a blessing from God. It is a place for us to know the Lord Jesus together with other fellow believers.

Because the church is a blessing from God, we have to be grateful. How to be grateful for the church that God has given? By coming to our church joyfully. By listening to the word of God attentively. By loving our friends, our Sunday School teachers, as well as other members of our church.

### To Seek Deeper:

Why must we be thankful for the church in the world? Why is the church ours?

**Answer:** .....  
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### To Pray:

Father in Heaven, I thank You because I am no longer a stranger but part of God’s family. I thank You for the church and for fellow believers. Help me to grow together with my fellow believers in the church. Only in the name of Lord Jesus, I pray. Amen.



### To Do:

Pray and be grateful for the church that God has given to us.

Parent’s Signature

Teacher’s Signature