



CHILDREN BROCHURE

MORAVIAN CHURCH – BARBADOS CONFERENCE Provincial Theme: Advance the Kingdom: S.H.I.F.T.

S. – Seek & Submit
H. – Hear & Heed
I. – Imagine & Insight
F. – Focus & Function
T. – Totally Transformed

S.H.I.F.T.

Age: 13 yrs. & Over

March 28

Sing with me:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZBgUBr8Rj30>

“I just want to follow Jesus” by George Mulrain and George Roberts

(Words found in Caribbean Moravian Praise #683)

Memory verse:

Matthew 5:10 NKJV

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

Scripture: 2 Timothy 2: 1- 7

Read with me

You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. 3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. 5 And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. 6 The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops. 7 Consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things.

Let us talk about it.

Greetings my young friends. Our Beatitude for today is “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5: 10.

So you may ask “What is so blessed about persecution?” What do we mean by persecuted? The word persecution has been defined as the act of harassing, oppressing, or killing people because of their difference from society. (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/persecution>) Christians are persecuted because their belief in Jesus Christ as Saviour does not conform to the godlessness of a sinful world.

The verse does not stop at persecuted, but goes on to say for righteousness’ sake. Remember, it was Jesus who was talking and giving these Beatitudes. So instead of righteousness we could use for my sake, meaning for Jesus’ sake. Do we see kinds of persecution around us in our society? Persecution did not start with Jesus. Consider the stories of Daniel and his three friends, Meshak, Shaderach and Ebednego .

Daniel was thrown into a Lion’s den and his friends were thrown into a furnace simply for sticking to their belief in God, and their determination to serve only God.

King Nebuchadnezzar set up a golden image in the plain of Dura (a word meaning simply "plain") and commanded that all his officials bow down before it. All who failed to do so would be thrown into a blazing furnace. Certain officials informed the king that the three Jewish youths Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, who bore the Babylonian names Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and whom the king had appointed to high office in Babylon, were refusing to worship the golden statue. The three were brought before Nebuchadnezzar, where they informed the king that God would be with them. Nebuchadnezzar commanded they be thrown into the fiery furnace, heated seven times hotter than normal, but when the king looked, he saw four figures walking unharmed in the flames, the fourth "like a son of God." Seeing this, Nebuchadnezzar brought the youths out of the flames and promoted them to high office, decreeing that anyone who spoke against God should be torn limb from limb.

Remember the song which we sang in Sunday School? "Dare to be a Daniel, Dare to stand alone, Dare to have a purpose true and Dare to make it known."

Do you know that Christians in some parts of the world are still being persecuted? But let us not focus on them today. As a young Christian, how are you persecuted? No one has threatened to throw you into a fire, or to deny you of your rights. But many times, you are expected to behave in certain ways. Have you ever had to choose between going to football and going to a youth meeting at church? Have you had to decide whether to go to Cadets' drill rehearsal for an important parade and go to church on Sunday morning? Sometimes, you hear statements like, "You can't do this, you are a Christian"; or you may be omitted from certain activities because of your Christian beliefs and practices.

Paul, in our Bible reading advised Timothy to be strong. Paul encouraged Timothy to stay strong, listen to his teachings and to be an example for others. Paul assured Timothy he will be stronger and prayed that he will get greater understanding. Similarly, people will have certain expectations of you, even inflicting shame on you when you do not live up to their expectations. You are encouraged like Timothy to stay strong. This beatitude is encouraging you to hold on to your beliefs, in so doing you can be assured a place in God's kingdom. Let us be encouraged by the song we sang at the beginning of today's study. Perhaps we can sing it again. Continue in your will to follow Jesus.

Let us pray

Teach me to serve You as You deserve.
To give and not to count the cost.
To fight and not to heed the wounds.
To toil and not to seek for rest.
To labour and not to seek reward
save that of knowing that I do Your will, O God.

—Ignatius of Loyola

Make your Palm Sunday cross.

You need a strip from a palm leaf, or a coconut tree.

If you do not a palm tree in your garden, you will have to ask your neighbour. If you cannot get a palm leaf, then cut a piece of paper into strips and colour it green, to represent the palm leaf.

Follow the instructions from this tutorial.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q_Qjz7rOmQA

Activity

Bible Quizz

Complete each of the statements in column A with an ending from column B

	A	Answer		B
1	The beatitudes are found in		a	pure in heart
2	Blessed are the poor in spirit		b	the mountain side
3	Blessed are those who mourn for they will		c	shown mercy
4	Blessed are thefor they see God		d	the people who are persecuted for righteousness' sake
5 will be satisfied		e	the gospels
6	Blessed are the merciful for they will be		f	Matthew 5
7	Jesus taught the Beatitudes from		g	be comforted
8	The kingdom of heaven is promised to		h	because of his belief in God.
9	The common name given to the first four book of the new Testament is		i	for theirs is the kingdom of heaven
10	Meshack was thrown into the furnace		j	Those who hunger and thirst