

Jesus Loves the Little Children Worksheet

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Verse 1

Jesus calls the children dear,
“Come to me and never fear,
For I love the little children of the world;
I will take you by the hand,
Lead you to the better land,
For I love the little children of the world.”

Refrain

Jesus loves the little children,
All the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white,
All are precious in His sight,
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Verse 2

Jesus is the Shepherd true,
And He'll always stand by you,
For He loves the little children of the world;
He's a Savior great and strong,
And He'll shield you from the wrong,
For He loves the little children of the world.

Refrain

Verse 3

I am coming, Lord, to Thee,
And Your soldier I will be,
For You love the little children of the world;
And Your cross I'll always bear,
And for You I'll do and dare,
For You love the little children of the world.

Refrain

Vocabulary In one or two words define the following terms from the poem.

Verse 1: dear

Refrain: precious

Verse 2: Shepherd, He'll, Savior, shield

Verse 3: soldier, bear, dare

Word Pictures Word pictures is another way of saying *imagery*. *Imagery* or *figurative language* helps us form a picture of what the author is trying to present. Discuss what these word pictures mean and, without making an image of God, draw your idea of the *imagery* or *figurative language* the author uses!

Verse 1: little children

Refrain: children of the world

Verse 2: shield ... from wrong

Verse 3: soldier I will be; Your cross I'll always bear

Mechanics are the nuts and bolts of a poem. Verbally discuss.

Who is the speaker? (Does the speaker have a specific personality or has the author remained in the background so the message of the poem will be more clear?)

What does the poem reveal about the speaker's character? (Sometimes, poems reveal nothing about the speaker's personal thoughts, feelings, or attitudes. Yet, the poem may demonstrate those character traits that are important to the author like courage, loyalty, perseverance, etc.)

Is the speaker addressing someone in particular or is it to anyone? (Sometimes poems are not directed to anyone in particular, but to anyone that may read it.)

Does the poem have a setting? (Does the author tell where the poem occurs? Is the poem about a specific event?)

Is the poem about a particular event? (Is the event past or present? If it is about a past event, does the remembrance of the event have a particular meaning to the speaker?)

Is the theme of the poem stated directly or indirectly? (Some poems are straightforward and are meant to be taken literally. In songs, the theme may be presented in the refrain or in the last few lines. Sometimes the theme is a little bit more difficult to discern as it is made with figurative language or symbols.)

What point of view or perspective is the speaker? (What meaning do you think the poem has for the author?)

How did you respond to the poem when you read it the first time? (Did your thoughts and feelings change after you took time to study it?)

Comprehension Questions Verbally discuss

Verse 1: Who calls children "dear"? What does He tell children to do? What will He do with children?

Refrain: What does refrain mean? Who does Jesus love? Who are precious?

Verse 2: Who is the Shepherd? What does a shepherd do? Who will stand by you? Who is great and strong? Who will shield you? What does it mean to "shield" you? What is a shield?

Verse 3: Did you notice the term "Thee"? What does it mean and why do you think the author used this term? Who will be a soldier? How can a child be a soldier? What will a child "bear"? What does that mean? Explain and discuss: "And for You I'll do and dare."

Did this historical event or message become more real to you after reading this poem? Why?

After reading this poem, what character traits did you think of? What does the Bible have to say about these character traits?

What Does the Bible Say?

Find Scripture proofs for each of the assertions or statements made for each of the three verses.

How does the Bible define love? For more assistance, check out the web page
<http://www.lovetolearnplace.com/SpecialDays/Valentines/Bible.html>

How may a Christian child be a soldier for Christ in math? history? literature? phonics? civics? music? play? physical education? sports? penmanship? science? etc.

For more activities, check out the web page

<http://www.lovetolearnplace.com/SpecialDays/Valentines/Activities.html>

The Author/Poet

Based on what you have studied about this poem so far, would you guess that the author was a Christian or a humanist? How did you arrive at your decision?

The name of the author for this poem or lyric is Clare Herbert Woolston who was a preacher in Chicago, Illinois. (I have not been able to locate birth or death dates for Rev. Woolston or where he was born or died).

Geography

Locate Illinois on a globe, map and atlas.

Challenge Locate Chicago on a map or in an atlas.

Compare/contrast the weather from Chicago, Illinois, with your own for one week.

Make a meal from either Illinois or America for your family.

Activities

1) Make your own book! Without making an image of Christ, draw pictures representing each verse. (Note: that will be three different illustrations). With construction paper and other items readily available at home, make a title page with the name of the song and the author's name which will be your book's cover. You may want to illustrate your cover and include this poem in your book.

2) Make your own play! Re-enact with your siblings or friends the event or message discussed in this poem. Keep it lively, simple, and short. You may want to end your play with singing a rousing chorus of this poem or reading Scripture verses. Videotape your creation.

3) Radio Drama! With a handheld tape recorder, create your own radio show dramatizing the historical event or message of this poem.

4) Be a Reporter! Either with your family camcorder or with a handheld tape recorder, "interview" various individuals connected with this poem (e.g., angels, heads of nations either current or past, the serpent, George Mason, sinners, repentant sinner, St. Patrick, Alfred the Great, etc.). In order to have the fast paced style of a reporter, watch and/or listen to the news with your parents' permission. Keep the interviews lively, quick, and to the point.

Remain objective! Being objective means just reporting the facts and not giving your opinion of the situation.

5) What is one of the things you most enjoy? Is it literature? math? science? sports? cooking? Take that area of interest and relate that to this poem. If you enjoy dance, for example, develop a dance routine that physically expresses the sentiments of this poem. If you enjoy shop, create something out of wood that helps to clarify this poem. Do you enjoy creating stories? Write a story based on any time period you desire that expresses the sentiments of this poem. Do you enjoy creating things in the kitchen? Make an ancient meal from this time or develop your own meal that symbolizes the many different points this poem makes.

6) Poster. Create a poster illustrating the the author's view of the impact of *Jesus Loves the Little Children*.

7) Scavenger Hunt. Go to the library to learn what you can about Clare Herbert Woolston and share it with your family. If possible, discover the story behind this poem.