



Bible Verse

And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. Matthew 9:35



Catechism

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

What benefits does Baptism give?

It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare.

Which are these words and promises of God?

Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

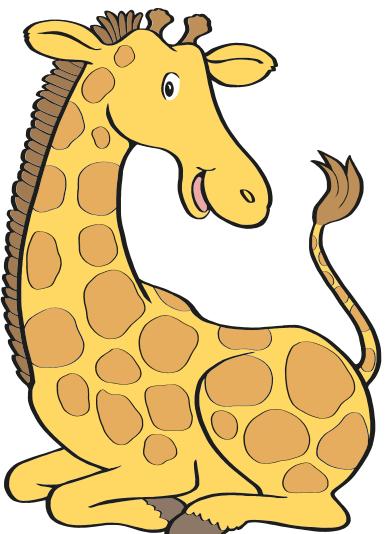


Mission Moment

When Jesus went into towns, He would proclaim the Gospel. He told the people to repent for He, the kingdom of God, their redemption, was near. Jesus did other things during His years of public ministry. He healed people who were sick and freed people from the grip of the devil. In South Africa, our missionaries not only proclaim the same Gospel of Jesus to people through their mouths, but also show the love of Jesus by caring for the physical needs of people as well. The missionaries, like us, are called to be witnesses of the love of Christ through words and deeds of mercy.

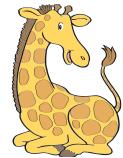


South Africa



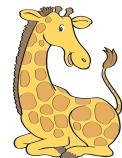


South Africa



- South Africa actually has three capital cities, one for each branch of their government: Pretoria (administrative), Cape Town (legislative), and Bloemfontein (judicial).
- There are two independent kingdoms contained within South Africa: Swaziland and Lesotho. Much of South Africa's water comes from ice melting off the snow-covered mountaintops of Lesotho.
- South Africans love to play rugby, cricket, golf, and soccer and are internationally known for their sports teams.
- South Africa is known for their diamond and gold mines, but they are rich in other minerals also, including coal and iron ore.

South Africa



RECIPE

Melktert

Yield: 2 tarts, or 16–20 servings

Ingredients:

Crust:

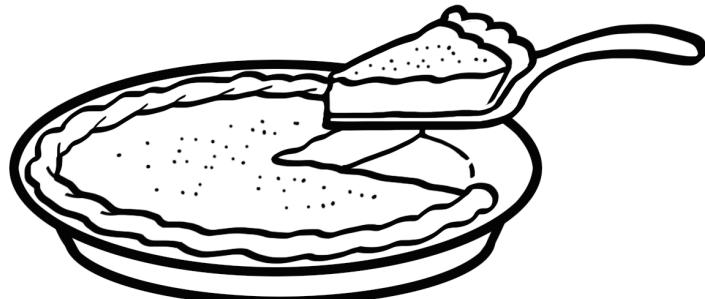
- 2 cups flour
- ½ cup sugar
- ½ cup margarine
- 1 egg
- pinch of salt
- 2 teaspoons baking powder

Filling:

- 4 cups milk
- 2 tablespoons margarine
- 2 ½ tablespoons flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Directions:

- For crust, cream margarine and sugar. Add egg, flour, baking powder, and salt. Mix well, and press into 2 pie dishes. Bake 10 minutes at 325°F.
- For filling, boil milk and margarine. Mix the rest of ingredients into a smooth paste in a bowl and add to boiling milk. Return to heat and stir until thick (about 5 minutes). Pour into shells and sprinkle with cinnamon. Refrigerate until ready to serve.



CRAFT

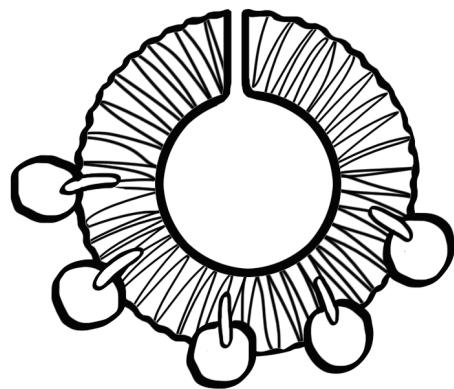
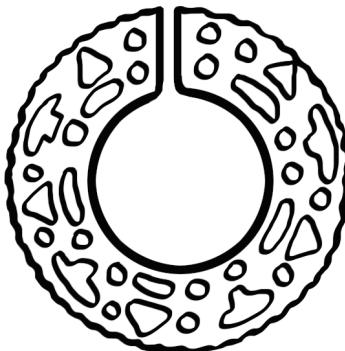
African Necklace

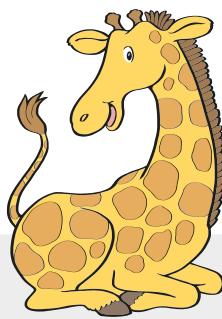
Materials:

- Paper plates with ribbed edge
- Scissors
- Markers/crayons/paint
- Optional: glue and beads, glitter, sequins, or other small decorative elements

Instructions:

1. Cut the plate from the outside toward the middle.
2. Cut away the middle circle, leaving the outside edge with the ribbing intact. When you're finished, you should have a large ring with a slit in it (that's how you put the necklace on and take it off.)
3. Color the ribbing all different colors, patterns, and designs.
4. Optional: Glue glitter, beads, sequins, feathers, or confetti on the ribbing after you have colored it.





mission FRIENDS

Become a Missionary Friend at Home

South Africa



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(Mark 16:16)



Visit missionfriends.lcms.org
for additional activities.

Devotion and Prayers

Read Matthew 9:27–35.



In the Bible story, Jesus asked the blind men, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" But in the story, had they asked to be healed of their blindness? No. The blind men had requested Jesus to have mercy on them. They knew they were sinners, impacted by sin. They called on Him as the Son of David, the promised Messiah. This was evidence of their faith in Jesus, the One promised to all the Old Testament people of God. Jesus knew they also desired to be healed; through Jesus' death and resurrection, they were spiritually healed, and through His touch, their eyes were healed.

"Have mercy on us." We, too, can call upon Jesus to have mercy. By His grace and mercy, He gives His Word and the water of Baptism to heal us from all our sin-sickness. And, like the healed men, we can "spread His fame," the Gospel of Jesus, to all in our districts.

MEALTIME PRAYER

Merciful Father, thank You for sending Jesus to heal us from sin and for giving us new life in Him through Baptism. Bless us through the food we eat so that we are kept healthy to spread the news of Jesus, our Savior. In His name we pray. Amen.

BEDTIME PRAYER

Heavenly Father, preserve us and the missionaries in South Africa who serve their neighbors by proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus and helping others with daily needs. Keep us all confident in our faith in Jesus and in the hope that one day we will spend eternity with Him and all believers. In His saving name we pray. Amen.

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