

1- THEME: Death (disincarnating) and wake

2- OBJECTIVE: The child must understand death as a normal event in the life of a spirit who has been temporarily incarnated and also that the wake is an important stage during this process of separation from the soul to the body.

3- BIOGRAPHY:

Jo, 8:51

LE, 149 a 156

Returned (Brother Jacob?F.C. Xavier), caps 2 and 3; Workers of the Eternal Life (Andre Luiz/F.C. Xavier), caps.

12 to 16; Spiritist Conduct (andre Luiz/ Waldo Vieira), cap. 364

CLASS:

a) Initial Incentive: Dialogue

The teacher will talk with the children about death, and will make the children aware that their opinions will be noted which later on will be discussed.

b) Development: Explanation and dialogue

the teacher must talk about the theme of the class, and eventually, ask the children to read selected texts from the class, giving the children incentive and valuing their observations.

The phenomenon of death has always puzzled men, ever since primitive times. This can be verified in the history of different people through various regions in Earth. Each race has dealt with the subject of death in a particular way, according to its culture. There are people, such as the Hindus, who cremate the corpses, and that is a current practice. Others, like the Egyptians, used to embalm the dead bodies of kings, and built pyramids for keeping their bodies. The majority simply buries the dead bodies. Some do not use wood coffins, they just wrap the bodies with cloth before burring them.

Generally, during the time frame between death and the destiny of the body, whether is by cremation or burial method, an attitude of respect, seriousness and sentiment is observed, hence, adepts of cremation keep the ashes of the dead, and others construct landmarks at the burial place, called graves, or mausoleums. So, during these hours between death and the destiny of the body, procedures vary according to each religion.

How about Spiritism? What direction and procedure does it offer? The Spiritist doctrine teaches us that what we call "death" is not more than the end of the physical body's functional life. The body is not regarded as an essential part of the human creature, but a mere instrument of the spirit which serves for its manifestation in Earth. Spiritism believes its worth is priceless, but of temporary usage. Hence, the reason we prefer to use the word disincarnating in lieu of death, for in truth, it is only the body which dies, leading the spirit to get separated of the body, consequently disincarnating itself. For this reason, spiritists learn to view death as a natural phenomenon, without despair, without bitterness, hence without that terrible sensation of loss from the passing away of a dear one. That what represents to some an irreparable loss, it is for the Spiritist just a temporary separation, for Spiritism explains that our loved one do not die; the soul simply separates from the instrument which is no longer of any use in the physical plane. After this separation, the spirit begins to live in a plane with a different vibration zone, invisible to the eyes of the flesh, and that is where we all go later on.

Naturally, the comfort we feel from the conviction of the immortality of the loved ones does not exempt us from the pain of missing having them close to us. Therefore, it is natural to get sad, the tears from the longing, when a loved one passes on. Even being certain of the later reunion, the separation always hurt. If it is ok to cry when we say bye to a loved one who travels to another city or another country, why would it not be ok to cry when a loved one passes on to the spiritual place?