

HOLY SEALING

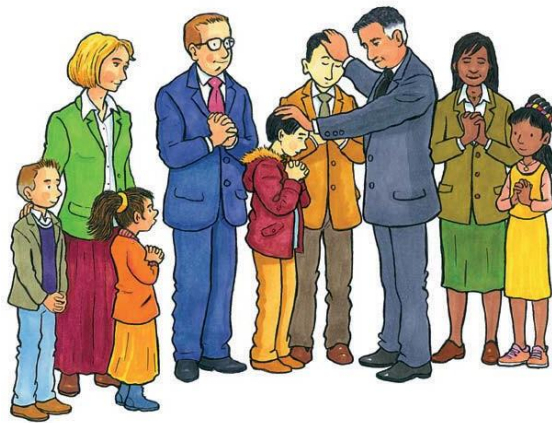
Acts 8: 14-17



Contents

Message	We become children of God through the act of Holy Sealing.
Learning Objectives	The children will learn: <ul style="list-style-type: none">■ How Holy Sealing is performed.■ The significance of the act of Holy Sealing.■ Baptism with water together with Holy Sealing constitutes the birth of a child of God.
Bible Text	Acts 8: 14-17

Holy Sealing



George, Natasha, and their parents returned home from attending a divine service that was held by their Apostle. While they ate their lunch, they discussed what they remembered from the service. George was especially excited as he talked because he was able to hear and see the Apostle throughout the divine service. In the middle of the discussion, George asked his parents, "Why did the Apostle put his hands on the heads of everyone who stood in front of the altar?"

Their mother explained, "The Apostle laid his hands on the people so that they could be sealed."

Natasha looked a little puzzled, "Sealed? What does that mean?"

Their father answered, "The Apostle places his hands on someone so they can receive the gift of the Holy Spirit through the sacrament of Holy Sealing. When a person receives the Holy Spirit they are sealed and they become a child of God."

George asked, "Did the first Apostles seal people in the Bible?"

Their father explained, "It happened in the New Testament at Pentecost after the disciples received the Holy Spirit. Then a short time after Pentecost, Philip, who was a helper to the Apostles, went to Samaria. Many listened to what he said about Jesus and some were baptised. When the Apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people had accepted the word of God and were baptised, Apostles Peter and John went to them.

As the two Apostles travelled to Samaria they prayed that the people might receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. When the Apostles arrived they laid their hands on the people so that they could receive the Holy Spirit."

Natasha asked, "Have I been sealed?" Both their parents answered, "Yes!"

George smiled at his mother and said, "I am so happy that I was given the gift of the Holy Spirit when I was sealed!"

The family continued to discuss the divine service as they finished eating their dinner.

Suggestions for the Teacher

Lead-In

Show the picture to the children. Discuss with them what they see. Ask what she/he may feel....

Let some of the children play the Holy Sealing in a role-play. Instruct them before.

Provide disguise of a minister.

Alternatively ask who has a tribal scar on his cheek. What does this mean?

Lesson Instructions

Begin telling the story...

Discuss with the children...

- Did the first Apostles seal people in the Bible? (Yes. Apostle Peter and John in Samaria)
- What do you know about the Holy Sealing?
(The Apostle dispenses the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands.)
- What is the result of this? (By receiving the Holy Spirit, one becomes a child of God.)
- Who are the Apostles in your district church?
- What must happen before somebody is sealed? (He/she must be baptised.)
- What does he/she vow? (To live a life according to the New Apostolic faith)

Have the children repeat...

- When the Apostles laid their hands on the people, the people received the Holy Spirit.
- Baptism with water together with Holy Sealing constitutes the birth of a child of God.

Real-Life Application (explain the following)

- Ask: Who has a tribal scar on his cheek? What does it mean? (Belong to a tribe)
- Holy Baptism is the prerequisite of Holy sealing:
Like a farmer who prepares the field before he plants the seed.
- What is the result of Holy Sealing?
(The life of God is planted in our soul. We belong to the family of God.
If we nurture the gift of the Holy Spirit, the nature of Christ will grow within us.)

Repeat the Message

We become children of God through the act of Holy Sealing.