Teaching with Primary Sources at the University of Central Florida
4000 Central Florida Boulevard, ED 206 J
Orlando, Florida 32816
Saturday, January 24, 2015
10:10 – 11:10 a.m.

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# The Church of God in Christ Washington, DC

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### Analyzing Photographs & Prints

#### Primary Sources

Go back and forth between the areas, there is no correct order

### Observe

- Identify and note details
- Describe what you see
  - What do you notice first?
- What people and objects are shown?
- What other details can you see?

### Reflect - Generate and test hypotheses about the image

- Why do you think this image was made?
- What's happening in the image?
- What can you learn from examining this image?
- If someone made this today, what would be different?
  - What would be the same?

#### Question

Ask questions to lead to more observations and reflections

– What do you wonder about.....who? What? When? Where? Why? How?

What more do you want to know, and how can you find out?

#### Subjects:

Afro American History, Holiness, Pentecostal, Washington, DC, Migration North, Biographies, Samuel Kelsey, Music, Church of God in Christ, Humanities, Social Science, Religion, Culture, Great Depression, New Deal, World War II, culture

#### Resources:

- African-American Perspectives, 1818-1907 type Holiness
- Poor Pilgrim's work in
- http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/r?ammem/murray:@field%28DOCID+@lit%28lcrbmrpt2214div4%29%29
- American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936-1940
- type Pentecostal
- http://www.loc.gov/metilyop.sol.www/l:qtid
- God Was Happy, Mother Horn
- Historic American Sheet Music: 1850-1920 type Colored or Negro
- Colored Festival
- http://www.loc.gov/item/ihas.100007590/
- Inventing Entertainment: The Edison Companies type colored or Negro
- The Negro's Lament Song
- http://www.loc.gov/item/ihas.100010016/

### Primary Sources

### 1. Engage students

- Primary sources help students relate in a personal way to events of the past and promote a deeper understanding
  of history as a series of human events.
- Because primary sources are snippets of history, they encourage students to seek additional evidence through research.
- First-person accounts of events helps make them more real, fostering active reading and response.

### 2. Develop critical thinking skills

- State standards support teaching with primary sources, which require students to be both critical and analytical as they read and examine documents and objects.
- Primary sources are often incomplete and have little context. Students must use prior knowledge and work with multiple primary sources to find patterns.
- In analyzing primary sources, students move from concrete observations and facts to questioning and making inferences about the materials.
- Questions of creator bias, purpose, and point of view may challenge students' assumptions.

### 3. Construct knowledge

- Inquiry into primary sources encourages students to wrestle with contradictions and compare multiple sources that represent differing points of view, confronting the complexity of the past.
- Students construct knowledge as they form reasoned conclusions, base their conclusions on evidence, and connect primary sources to the context in which they were created, synthesizing information from multiple sources.
- Integrating what they glean from comparing primary sources with what they already know, and what they learn from research, allows students to construct content knowledge and deepen understanding.

# The quote "A picture is worth a thousand words" has been true in determining the activities at Samuel Kelsey's church in Washington, DC

Primary documents are opening new research on Pentecostal churches. Covering church activities the location of African Americans in cities, the dress styles, choirs, youth, seating of men and women, shouting, use musical instruments, observing the minister preaching can encourage scholars to find new approaches to studying and teaching African American church worship.

### **CATEGORY Key Ideas and Details**

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.11-1 STANDARD

Determine the central ideas or information of a primary source; provide an accurate summary that makes clear the relationships among the key details and ideas.

### Time Frame

#### United States Government

- The Great Depression and World War II, 1929 -1945 during President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's New Deal, 1933-1945 program, Works Progress Administration (WPA) introduced jobs to writers, artists and others.
- Researchers should note that the Library of Congress (American Memory Collection) is the Library's larger Federal Writers' series and the WPA collection.
- The following pictures were made while Gordon Parks was working for the Works Progress Administration which employed almost eight million people between 1935-1943
- Users are reminded that these primary materials are provided by the Library of Congress for educational and scholarly purposes and that transmission or reproduction of protected items beyond that allowed by fair use requires the writer to ask for permission. **No known restrictions on use of pictures**. For information, see U.S. Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information Black & White.

### DIRECTIONS

Go to the Library of Congress, American Memory using advanced searching to follow the prompts to

- America from the Great Depression to World War II: Black and White Photographs from the Farm Security Administration - Office of War In (FSA-OWI), 1935-1945
- go to Search, Descriptive Information (Bibliographic Records)
- Search Keywords for Black-and-White Photos type
- Church of God in Christ
- You will find pictures of the Church of God in Christ; (Pastor, Samuel Kelsey, Washington, D.C.) created non-digital content in 1942 by the famous photographer Gordon Parks (1912-1993). These WPA pictures were digitized to prevent archival lost. Scholars today are accessing, locating and consuming digital content. Many of the women had on hats (Pentecostal tradition). Another example of WPA historical material one can locate.

## Scenario Groups for Research Parks, Gordon, 1912-2006 pictures

- Family (scenario group one)
- Work
- Play
- Faith (scenario group two)
- Education
- Race
- Poverty (scenario group three)
- Map of Washington, DC
- Music Youtube

http://memory.loc.gov/mss/mesn/042/042.1.txt

## Church of God in Christ Pictures Creator: Parks, Gordon, 1912-2006, photographer



Photo Courtesy of the Gordon Parks Museum, Fort Scott, KS

Elder Samuel Kelsey, pastor, Church of God in Christ, Washington, D.C., opening a Sunday morning 11:00a.m. church service with a song. The guest pastor is standing behind singing.



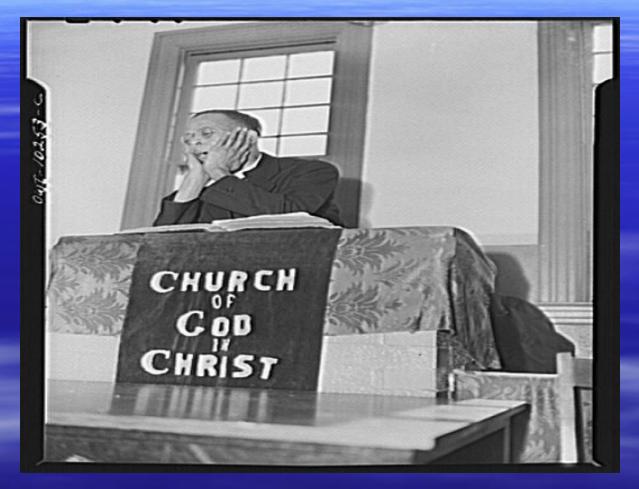
### "I am so glad Jesus Lifted Me" - Song

The one female member is clapping and the other female is playing the tambourine. Look at the hair styles and pleasant smiles

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.WHST.11
- STANDARD Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of church service and/or activities



### Guest Minister Praying and Preaching Sermon



## Rev. Samuel Kelsey Calling for people in the audience to Repent



## Scenario One, Pictures 9-13

- Question
- Observe
- Reflect
- World War II
- President Roosevelt
- Work Progress Administration
- Gordon Parks
- Samuel Kelsey
- History of the Church of God in Christ
- Describe the opening order of service
- Family, work and play Parks, Gordon, 1912-2006

## "I Cried and He Delivered Me" Song "I Will Go With Him" Song



OBSERVE, REFLECT, QUESTION

### A young lady coming to accept Jesus as her Savior



## Questions - Answers by Bishop C.H. Mason, founder of the Church of God in Christ

- Do people tremble when they are under the power of God? And if so is it right? Yes. Psalm 2:11, which says, "Serve the Lord with fear and rejoice with trembling.
- Well, if one is sanctified will he shake? Answer, Yes. Jeremiah sanctified. Jeremiah 1:5 and he did shake Habakkuk said his belly tumbled and his lips quivered. Habakkuk 3:16.
- Can one fall under the power when he is not seeking God? Yes. Paul. Act 9:4. Felix trembled while Paul preached to him. Act 24:25
- If the church is praying to God.....and some fall on their faces are they hypnotized? No. It shows that God is in the people of God, of truth. 1 Corinthians 41:24-25
- Mason also related that his experience of Azusa Revival was not just a reinforcement of racial unity or free worship but true Spiritual empowerment.
- He related the ability not only to speak in tongues but in "all kinds of drawing and spiritual writing" and to interpret the same.
- Baptizing new believers and healing the sick through prayer.

Five people joined the church



## Greeting New Members



## Scenario Two, Pictures 15-19

- Question
- Observe
- Reflect
- Describe church activities and/or order of service
- Discuss your religious life
- Music
- In-dept look at people
- Living in Washington, DC
- Faith, education, race Parks, Gordon, 1912-2006
  In what ways did African-Americans identify themselves during this era?
- In what ways did others identify African-Americans during this era?

## "My Soul is a Witness for My Lord" — Song https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search;\_ylt=A2KLqlUBzbBUL38Als38w8QF;\_ylu=X3oDMTBzMW01N2szBHNIYwNjZC1jbG9zZQRzbGsDY2xvc2UEdnRpZAM-?ei=UTF-



This is "Happy Collection Time" at the Church of God in Christ. Notice the usher is smiling, with a flower in her hair, dressing in white with gloves as she offers the plate.



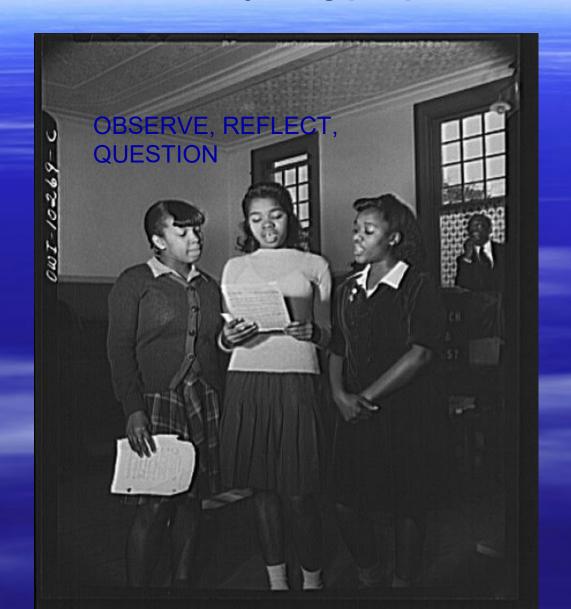
The Choir renders a hymn selection to the congregation of the Church of God in Christ.



## Elder Samuel Kelsey at the far right, leading his deacons and other men in song



## Three members from the young peoples' choir singing



Elder S. Kelsey, pastor of the Church of God in Christ, blessing his Sunday morning congregation with a prayer before closing service.



## Scenario Three, Pictures, 21-26

- Question
- Observe
- Reflect
- Music choir singing hymns, men's choir, youth group
- Closing of church service
- Washington, DC
- Location of church
- Poverty in Washington Parks, Gordon, 1912-2006
- Map of Washington, DC
  - "Little Boy" song by Bishop Kelsey
    - http://wn.com/reverend\_kelsey\_and\_his\_congregation

## Closing Benediction

- Rev. Kelsey's bellowed his benediction. His congregation, too, deserve their credit, for in their spoken and sung responses they stoke the fire of the reverend's rhetoric. Now that's power.
- Kelsey was plainly a charismatic preacher, not because he claimed the power of healing but because he bellowed belief into his congregation, overwhelming their minds with the simple power of his own undoubted belief. He had an intimate acquaintance with his flock, stage-managing their responses as he and they chanted 'Amen! at one another.

#### CCSS.ELA-Literacy.WHST.11

EXPECTATION Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.

## Summary

History of the Church of God in Christ, founded 1907 in Memphis, TN,

- 1929-1945 The Great Depression, few jobs, little food
- 1942, WPA, Gordon Parks B/W film of a church service
- Primary Sources: pictures
- Role of men, women and youth in the church services.
- The role of music in the church service.
- Who was Gordon Parks and Samuel Kelsey?
- What was done for the new member's of the church?
- Evaluation: State three facts you learned and one fact from your scenario group?
- Give at least five terms you learned and apply them in a narrative.
- Curriculum Resources: MP3 players, DVDs, Blogs, itunes, computer and a printer with a scanner.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.WHST.11STANDARD Write informative/explanatory texts, including the narration of events

## Summary

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.WHST.11EXPECTATION Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation provided (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).

During the United States Great Depression, using Work Progress Administration (WPA) original photographs, we explore worship services reflecting the richness of ethnic group traditions and cultural experiences.

Q&A