

Faith Lesson Plan and Faith Activity

Chapter 2 - God's Promise

Grades 1 & 2

Doctrinal Content

- God gives all people the ability to choose. (CCC, 1730-1731)
- Original Sin is the first sin committed by Adam and Eve. (CCC, 389, 397)
- Jesus is the Savior because he led people who were lost through sin back to God. (CCC, 457)
- Jesus is the Good Shepherd. (CCC, 754)

Invite - Let Us Pray

Invite the young people to gather in the prayer space and make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the leader's prayer. Proclaim the verse from Psalms together. Have the children move out of the prayer space and back to their seats.



Leader: God, we thank you for showing us how to live.

God chose his servant David.

He took David from the sheepfolds.

From tending sheep, God brought him
to shepherd Jacob and his People, Israel.

Based on Psalm 78:70-71

All: Thank you, Father, for sending faithful people
to help us know the way. Amen.

Say: My God, just as you sent your servant David to guide his people, we thank you for sending us Your Son, Jesus, to show us your love and to save us. Help us to search for your plan for our lives. Teach us to be more like Jesus and to love you as you love us. Thank you for this opportunity to learn more about you and about our faith.

Ask: Does anyone have anything or anyone they would like to pray for? Do you know someone who is sick? Are you having trouble in school? Do you find it hard to obey your parents? Ask God now in your own words to help with any problems or worries you may have.

Recite the “Hail Mary” together.

Discover (1)

Objectives

- Appreciate that God gives all people the ability to choose
- Recognize Original Sin as the first sin committed by Adam and Eve

Ask: Who remembers Adam and Eve?

Say: Remember how last week we talked about how God created everything, including people, and everything was perfect? Well, unfortunately, it did not stay perfect. Why; because of the **choice** of Adam and Eve to disobey God.

Say: Now I would like you to listen to this story from the Bible about the choice of Adam and Eve. Try to imagine what it would be like to be part of the story or what Jesus is trying to tell you.

Guide the young people through the process of Scripture reflection below.

Invite them to close their eyes, be still, and open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them in this passage.

Proclaim the Scripture.

Maintain several moments of silence.

Display and Read the following.

Free to Choose

What choice did Adam and Eve make?

God gives all people the freedom and ability to choose. The first book of the Bible tells a story about a choice made by Adam and Eve.



God's Word

The Garden of Eden

God put Adam and Eve in a garden called Eden. They had all they needed to live and be happy.

God told Adam and Eve that they were free to eat from all the trees in the garden, except one. God said, "When you eat from that tree, you will surely die."

Satan, a fallen angel and enemy of God and his People, disguised himself as a serpent and said to the woman, "This is not true. If you eat that fruit you will be like God."

Eve saw the tree's fruit and ate some. She gave some to Adam. He ate it, too.

Adam and Eve chose to do what they knew God did not want them to do. So God sent them away from the Garden of Eden.

Based on Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-6, 23

Catholic Faith Words

Original Sin the first sin committed by Adam and Eve and passed down to everyone

Review the Faith Word - Original Sin

Ask: Did God give Adam and Eve freedom to eat from all the trees in the garden?

Ask: What did God tell Adam and Eve not to do?

Ask: What did the serpent say to Eve?

Ask: What happened to Adam and Eve when they chose to disobey God?

Say: Everyone is given the ability to choose if they will do what God wants us to do. We always have the choice to sin, and not follow God's will. But, if we listen for God's direction and do what He wants of us, we will be much happier than if we don't.

Discover (2)

Objectives:

- Begin to understand our need for a savior
- Recognize Jesus as Savior because he led people who were lost through sin back to God
- Identify Jesus as the Good Shepherd

Say: This Original Sin committed by Adam and Eve was so big that there were very big consequences (like when your parents ground you or take away the TV when you break the rules), the worst of these consequences was that humans could not go to Heaven and be with God. Adam and Eve could not say sorry enough to get to heaven and love God in the same way as they had before they sinned.

Ask: So, did God just abandon Adam and Eve after they disobeyed Him?

Say: No, God did not turn away from Adam and Eve. The good news is that God loves us too much to leave us in sin, so God the Father planned to save us by sending his Son, Jesus, as our **Savior**. But first, God the Father had to get the people ready for his Son, so he made special promises called **Covenants**.

Review the following Faith Words

Catholic Faith Words

Savior a title for Jesus, who was sent into the world to save all people lost through sin and to lead them back to God the Father

Covenant a special promise between God and His people, where both promise to do something

Ask: What does it mean to make a promise? Have you ever made a promise?

Say: God made special promises, called covenants, with mankind. In fact, God made a promise to Noah that he would save his family and never flood the whole earth again. God also made a covenant with Abraham, that if Abraham followed God's way, then God would take care of Abraham and his family (who would be called the Israelites or Jews) in a special way forever. God saved Moses from dying as a baby so that he could help God free the Israelites from slavery. God also made a covenant with Moses and the Israelites that if they would follow the 10 commandments, God would give them a beautiful, good place to live and take care of them in a special way. Each time God made a Promise or a Covenant with people, the people chose not to do what God asked, they chose to sin.

Finally, God sent his own son, Jesus, to save us from sin and teach us how to love God and love one another. He did not sin and always did what God the Father asked of Him. Jesus became a man, taught us through how he acted and his stories, died on the cross, and rose from the dead, all to save us. Jesus saving us means that we can now join Him in Heaven forever.

Now when we say we are sorry, by going to the sacrament of confession, we are forgiven and move closer to God.

Say: Now I would like you to listen to another story from the Bible about Jesus, the Good Shepherd. Again, try to image what it would be like to be part of the story or what Jesus is trying to tell you.

Guide the young people through the process of Scripture reflection below.

Invite them to close their eyes, be still, and open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them in this passage.

Proclaim the Scripture.

Maintain several moments of silence.



God's Word

The Good Shepherd

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them...he...has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me." *John 10:11-14*

Ask: What do you think the story means? What is Jesus' message to us?

Explain the story to the children. Help the children to see that Jesus came to save us and loves us so much He died for us so we could be with Him. Jesus is telling us that we need someone to show us the way. Sometimes we go in the wrong direction and we need to turn back to God. Jesus helps us do this.

Display and Read the following.



Every time you make a choice, things happen. All choices have results, or consequences. Good choices have good consequences for you and for others. Bad choices can have bad consequences for you and may hurt others.



Draw a line from the bad choice on the left to the good choice on the right.

Bad Choices

Goofing off at school and not doing your homework ●

Making fun of others ●

Skipping your chores or letting someone else do them ●

Being careless with what you have been given ●

Not taking time to talk to God ●

Good Choices

● Taking care of your belongings

● Working hard and paying attention in class

● Praying every day

● Helping out at home without being asked

● Treating all people with kindness

Ask: What are some things someone might have stopped and thought about that caused them to make the good choices listed there?

Say: Let's watch this video about "stopping and thinking" before making choices.

YouTube Link: <http://youtu.be/Y7-oSGQT9YU>

Display and Read the following.

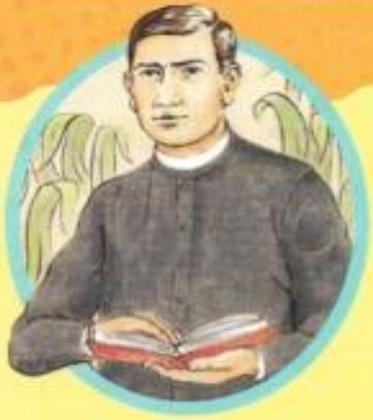
People of Faith Activity: Saint Cristóbal Magallanes Jara, 1869-1927

Say: Let's read about someone who chose to listen to God's plan for him. He most likely "stopped and thought" about most of his choices before making his decisions.

People of Faith

Saint Cristóbal Magallanes Jara, 1869-1927

Saint Cristóbal Magallanes Jara grew up in Mexico. When he was a boy, he was a shepherd. Later, as a priest, he tried to be like Jesus, the Good Shepherd. He took care of the people in his village by building schools, starting a newspaper, and training men to become priests. He was arrested on his way to say Mass at a farm. Some people thought that he was trying to rebel against the government. He wasn't, but he was killed anyway. Before he died, Saint Cristóbal forgave the people who killed him.



May 21

Discuss: How was Saint Cristobal like Jesus?

Learn more about Saint Cristóbal at aliveinchrist.osv.com

Say: Saint Cristóbal forgave the people who killed him, just like Jesus. He is considered one of the martyrs of the Catholic Action Movement in Mexico. Martyrs are people who have died for the faith and their beliefs. Three laymen and twenty-two devout priests were killed in the same period of persecution in Mexico. They were all beatified in 1992 and canonized in 2000.

Fun Fact of the Day

Did you know that before Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they could play with all the animals without getting hurt? Did you know that they could walk with and play with God? Did you know that they would not die or get sick?

Ask: What do you think it would be like to play with God like Adam and Eve? If you could play with any animal without getting hurt, what animal would you choose?

Faith Activity: Collage

Multiple Intelligences: Visual/Spatial

Have children cut out pictures in magazines that remind them of ways that Jesus cares for humans.

- Have children glue their pictures on a large piece of poster board.
- Display the collage in the prayer space.

What did the Young People Learn?

Student Name _____ Date _____

1. **Good _____ usually have good consequences or results.**
 - a. friendships
 - b. choices
 - c. fruits
2. **Adam and Eve's sin is called Original Sin because it was the _____ sin.**
 - a. most violent
 - b. biggest
 - c. first
3. **After Adam and Eve sinned, God promised a Savior to _____.**
 - a. lead people back to his friendship
 - b. show people how to grow food
 - c. be a good shepherd
4. **Because of the Original Sin committed by our first parents, _____.**
 - a. God sent them out of the Garden of Eden
 - b. sin was passed down to everyone
 - c. both a and b
5. **Saint Cristóbal Magallanes Jara led and protected his people in _____.**
 - a. Eden
 - b. Mexico
 - c. Israel
6. **Jesus said he was like a Good Shepherd because a shepherd _____.**
 - a. leads his sheep to food and water
 - b. protects the sheep from danger
 - c. both a and b
7. **A _____ is the result of a good or bad choice we make.**
 - a. mistake
 - b. promise
 - c. consequence

What did the Young People Learn? - Continued

8. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by _____.

- a. eating fruit God told her not to eat
- b. arguing with each other
- c. being selfish and unkind

9. After the first sin, God promised to send _____ for all people.

- a. new garden
- b. a Savior
- c. more laws

10. To _____ means to disobey God on purpose.

- a. repent
- b. sin
- c. choose

11. Match each option with its appropriate term.

Options

- 1. (____) Choice
- 2. (____) Eden
- 3. (____) Savior
- 4. (____) Original Sin
- 5. (____) Satan

Terms

- f. freedom to make a decision
- g. the one who can lead people back to God
- h. a fallen angel and enemy of God
- i. garden where Adam and Eve first lived
- j. the first sin committed by Adam and Eve

12. How can you make good choices that please God - at home or at school?

What did the Young People Learn? - Answer Key

1. Good _____ usually have good consequences or results.
 - a. friendships
 - b. choices
 - c. fruits
2. Adam and Eve's sin is called Original Sin because it was the _____ sin.
 - a. most violent
 - b. biggest
 - c. first
3. After Adam and Eve sinned, God promised a Savior to _____.
 - a. lead people back to his friendship
 - b. show people how to grow food
 - c. be a good shepherd
4. Because of the Original Sin committed by our first parents, _____.
 - a. God sent them out of the Garden of Eden
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5. Saint Cristóbal Magallanes Jara led and protected his people in _____.
 - a. Eden
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6. Jesus said he was like a Good Shepherd because a shepherd _____.
 - a. leads his sheep to food and water
 - b. protects the sheep from danger
 - c. both a and b
7. A _____ is the result of a good or bad choice we make.
 - a. mistake
 - b. promise
 - c. consequence
8. Adam and Eve disobeyed God by _____.
 - a. eating fruit God told her not to eat
 - b. arguing with each other

c. being selfish and unkind

9. After the first sin, God promised to send _____ for all people.

a. new garden

b. a Savior

c. more laws

10. To _____ means to disobey God on purpose.

a. repent

b. sin

c. choose

11. Match each option with its appropriate term.

1. 1 = freedom to make a decision

2. 2 = garden where Adam and Eve first lived

3. 3 = the one who can lead people back to God

4. 4 = the first sin committed by Adam and Eve

5. 5 = a fallen angel and enemy of God

12. How can you make good choices that please God - at home or at school?

Answers will vary but should give examples of actions that have good - not bad - consequences. Working hard in school, willingly doing chores at home, and treating others with kindness could be listed.