

Faith Lesson Plan and Faith Activity

Chapter 1 - God's Gifts

Grades 1 & 2



Prayer

Ask: Does everyone know how to make the sign of the cross? *Show how to make the sign of the cross. Explain the sign of the cross is a prayer. A prayer to the Holy Trinity. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.*

Say: Let us Pray

Leader: God, we thank you for all that you have made. The earth and all that is in it belong to God; the world and all who live in it are God's.

All: Thank, you God, for creating each of us. Amen.

Say: Good Morning, Jesus. Thank you for this new day and new CCD School year to learn about you.

Rules and Introductions

Take a minute to ask the children about themselves, what they like, what they remember from CCD last year, etc.

Take a minute to explain the rules to the children for CCD. If teaching at home, the rules will be for home.

- Do not touch or play with the items in the desk or classroom
- Listen to all instructions from the teacher, teacher aides, and student helpers
- There is a time for fun, a time for listening, and a time for praying make sure you are doing what you are supposed to be doing

- Ask if you need to use the bathroom or leave the class
- Be kind to one another

Saint of the Day

Blessed Virgin Mary, first century

Mary was a special gift from God. God chose Mary to be the Mother of Jesus, his Son. When the Angel Gabriel told her, she would be the Mother of Jesus, he said, “Blessed are you!” Mary is also the Mother of the Church. That means that she is our Mother, too. Because Jesus is God, we call Mary “Mother of God.” The Hail Mary is the most well-known prayer about the Mother of God. We pray the Hail Mary when we pray the Rosary.

Discuss: What can Mary help you do today?

Activity

The Hail Mary

Recite the Hail Mary with the children. Help the children understand that we honor Mary when we pray the Hail Mary.

Faith Lesson

Say: We just took a minute to thank God for some of his gifts to us. Now we are going to talk about some of his gifts. God loves us so much that he wants us to be happy and have everything we need to be with him forever in heaven, so he gives us many gifts to help us.

Say: God created everything. He did not have to, but he wanted to. *Tell the children the story of creation Genesis 1:1-2:3. Emphasize that God created man special.*

Creation: Everything made by God

God created man in his own image and likeness. Does anyone know what this means?

It means that we can think and make choices. It also means that we were given the responsibility to care for the rest of God’s creation.

Free Will: The ability to choose to do something or not do something (God does not force us to do anything)

Ask: What are some of the gifts God has given us? *Get children to give examples*

Say: God gave us many gifts we can see and feel like nature, our parents, ice cream. God also gave us gifts that we cannot always feel or see like His love or Free will. How can we take care of these gifts and use them as God meant them to be used?

Ask: What do you think God's greatest gift is? (Jesus) - Son of God.

Son of God: A name for Jesus that tells you God is his Father. The Son of God is the Second Divine Person of the Holy Trinity.

Say: Jesus is God's greatest gift. He became a little baby, just like you were when you were born. But He was the most special baby ever to be born because He is the Son of God and he became a human being. He had a mother and father to help take care of him and teach him things. He was always obedient to God and to his parents. He never committed a sin.

Sin: A person's choice to disobey God on purpose and do what he knows is wrong. Accidents or mistakes are not sins.

He did all this because He loves us, wants to show us how to love each other and God, and wants us to be happy with Him in Heaven forever.

Say: Since God has given us so many gifts it is only right that we tell him thank you. How would you feel if you did something nice for someone else or gave someone a gift and they never said thank you? There are many ways to thank God for his gifts. King David from the Bible thanked God for his gifts through the Psalms.

Psalms: Poems and Prayers (They can be said or sung)

Here is part of one of David's Psalms: "O Lord, our Lord, how awesome is your name through all the earth! I will sing your majesty above the heavens... You have given him rule over the works of your hands, put all things under his feet: All sheep and oxen, even the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, the fishes of the sea, and whatever swims the paths of the seas" Psalm 8: 2, 7-9.

Say: Can anyone hear what David was saying to God with this Psalm?

David was praising and giving thanks to God. For the gift of creating us and all his creations that help us to praise, revere and serve God. This gives us hope to live with God forever and ever.

Fun Fact of the Day

Did you know that time is part of creation? What would it be like if God had not created time?

Faith Activity

Make a Creation holy card with prayer on the back

Materials: Construction paper, markers, prayer, scissors, glue stick, pictures, packing tape

Optional Faith Activity - Creation Walk

Take the children outside. Give them a twelve-inch circle of yarn or string.

Have them place their circles of yarn or string on the ground. Have them look carefully at all the things within the circle. They may see leaves, grass, bugs, dirt, rocks, etc.

Have the children name all the things inside the circles that God created.

Ask the children to step inside their circles. Then ask, what else inside the circle did God make?

What the Children Should Know

- Identity human beings as made in God's own image
- Understand the special role humans have in all of God's creation
- Appreciate Jesus as God's greatest gift, the Son of God who became man

What Did the Children Learn?

Psalm Son of God Jesus Choices Humans Free Will God Creation Sin David

1. You are made in the image and likeness of _____.
2. _____ is everything made by God.
3. _____ is the ability to choose to do something or not to do something.
4. _____ are poems and prayers from the Bible. They can be said or sung.
5. A person's choice to disobey God on purpose is called _____.
6. A name for Jesus that tells you God is His father. _____
7. What is God's greatest gift to us? _____
8. He was a shepherd and became king of God's people. _____
9. They are most special part of God's creation? _____
10. You are responsible for your _____.