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## Jesus, Our Example



## LESSON FOCUS

### Emphasis

As images of God we are created to act like God. We cannot act as God acts though, unless we know how He acts. God the Son became man to teach us about God, to show us how to act as images of God, to return God's love, and to help us return God's love. By returning the love rejected by Adam and Eve, Jesus draws us closer to God so that we can share God's life, grace. By sharing God's life, grace, it is possible for us to return God's love. With grace it is possible for us to choose to do what we know is right. With grace it is possible for us to act as images of God here on earth and to live with God someday in Heaven.

This lesson will briefly review Adam and Eve and Original Sin. The concept of Jesus as our Savior will be introduced. This lesson will also introduce Jesus preparing to do His work as a grown-up in His public life. We will talk about Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and Saint Joseph, Jesus' father on earth.

### Correspondence to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Christ: at the heart of catechesis: CCC 426–29  
 Why did the Word become Flesh?: CCC 456–60  
 Incarnation: CCC 461–63, 479, 483  
 Jesus as true God and true man: CCC 464–70, 480–83  
 Jesus' human nature: CCC 470–78, 482  
 Preparations for Christ's coming: CCC 522–24  
 Mysteries of Jesus' infancy: CCC 527–30, 563  
 Mary's predestination: CCC 488–89  
 Mary's consent: CCC 494, 511  
 Mary's divine Motherhood: CCC 495, 509  
 Obedience of Mary's faith: CCC 148–49  
 Annunciation of the angel to Joseph: CCC 497, 1846  
 Jesus' submission to Joseph: CCC 532  
 Joseph's role and calling: CCC 437

### Vocabulary

**Savior:** Jesus Christ

### Concepts of Faith

#### Who is our Savior?

*Jesus Christ, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity, who became man, is our Savior.*

#### Why did God the Son become man?

*God the Son became man to teach us about God, to show us how to act as images of God, to return God's love, and to help us return God's love.*

#### Who is Jesus' Mother?

*Mary is Jesus' Mother.*

#### Who was Jesus' father on earth?

*Joseph was Jesus' father on earth.*

## LESSON PRESENTATION

### Preparation

Set up a sacred space (see general instructions in the Introduction). Include a picture of the Holy Family. Pray the Glory Be together.

### Proclamation

Jesus Christ, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity, who became man, is our Savior.

# LESSON 7: JESUS OUR SAVIOR

## LESSON EXPLANATION

**Ask:** Who remembers the name of the first man? *Adam.*

Who remembers the name of the first woman? *Eve.*

Adam and Eve had minds to think and wills to make choices. Adam and Eve had an important choice to make. They had to choose whether to say “Yes” to God and to trust Him, or to believe the lies that the devil told them.

**Ask:** Who can tell us what Adam and Eve chose to do? *They chose to believe the devil and say “No” to God’s love.*

Adam and Eve chose to do something they knew was wrong. That was a sin. What is the sin of Adam and Eve called? *Original sin.*

When Adam and Eve committed Original Sin, certain things happened to them (see Lesson 5, “Adam and Eve—Original Sin”).

**Ask:** What are some of the things that happened to Adam and Eve? *They lost grace, God’s life; they could not live in Heaven someday; they hurt themselves so that they did not always choose to do what they knew was right; it was difficult for them to act as images of God.*

**Note to the teacher:** You may wish to write some of the key terms on the board in order to help the children recognize the words and remember these important events. Suggested words are: Adam and Eve, Original Sin, promised Savior, God the Son, Jesus.

Even though Adam and Eve made the wrong choice, God still loved them and wanted to help them.

Because Adam and Eve sinned, everyone born after them, except for Mary and Jesus, was born without grace, God’s life. Because God loves everyone so much, He promised that He would send a Savior to help all people. God knows how hard it is for all people to act as images of God after Original Sin. He promised to send someone to return God’s love so that we could share God’s life, grace. Grace helps all people (in the past, now, and forever) to return God’s love and act as images of God.

God the Father sent God the Son. We say that God the Son became man. That means that God the Son became a human being so that He is both God and man.

**Ask:** Who knows the name we call God the Son after He became man? *Jesus.*

**Ask:** What day do we celebrate as Jesus’ birthday? *Christmas. Everyone knows the Christmas story.*

Who would like to help me tell the story of Jesus’ birth? (Choose a student to help you briefly tell the Christmas story, or ask the whole class to help you by answering the following questions.)

What was the name of the city where Jesus was born? *Bethlehem.*

Was Jesus born in a hospital? *No.*

Where was Jesus born? *In a stable.*

What is Jesus’ Mother’s name? *Mary.*

What is the name of Jesus’ father on earth? *Joseph.*

**Note to the teacher:** You may wish to add the following words to the list on the board: Christmas, Mary, Joseph.

We do not know very much about Jesus when He was a little boy. We do know a story about Jesus when He was a little older than all of you are. This is a story about Jesus when He was twelve years old.

## SCRIPTURE STORY: Jesus in the Temple

Based on Luke 2:41–52

Every year Mary, Joseph, and Jesus would join their family and friends in a special celebration. They would all travel together to a city called Jerusalem. This trip would take a whole day or two because they did not have cars, trains, buses, or airplanes. Maybe some of the people had donkeys to ride, but most of the people walked the entire way. We know how much fun we have with our families and friends. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph must have enjoyed this time with their family and friends.

The year Jesus was twelve, something unusual happened on the trip home. Mary and Joseph discovered that Jesus was not with the group of their family and friends traveling home together. When they started for home, Mary probably thought that Jesus was with Joseph or with some of the other men. Joseph might have thought that Jesus was with Mary or with the children. But Jesus was not with either of them or their friends. Jesus was nowhere to be found.

Mary and Joseph went back to the city to look for Jesus. They might have looked where they had stayed or they might have looked by the markets where they had bought their food. Finally, on the third day, they looked for Him in the temple and there they found Him. The temple was a place where people prayed. It was like a church. Jesus was in the temple asking questions and talking to the men who taught the people about God. These men were very surprised at how much Jesus knew and at the answers Jesus gave them.

After a while Jesus, Mary, and Joseph went home. They lived in a city called Nazareth. Jesus obeyed His parents as He grew up. They were probably very happy in Nazareth while Jesus was growing up. Jesus was preparing to do His work as a grown-up. He was preparing to teach the people about God, to show the people how to act as images of God, to return God's love, and to help the people return God's love.

### Review Questions

1. Who traveled to Jerusalem with Mary, Joseph, and Jesus?

*Their family and friends traveled with them.*

2. When Jesus was twelve, what happened on the trip home?

*Mary and Joseph could not find Jesus.*

3. Where did Mary and Joseph finally find Jesus?

*They found him in the temple.*

4. Did Jesus obey Mary and Joseph while He was growing up?

*Yes.*

5. What was Jesus preparing to do?

*He was preparing to do His work as a grown-up—teaching the people about God and showing the people how to act as images of God, returning God's love, and helping the people return God's love.*



# LESSON 7: JESUS OUR SAVIOR

## ENHANCING THE LESSON • LESSON EXPLANATION PART 2

**Ask:** Who is Jesus' Mother? *Mary.*

**Who is Jesus' father on earth?** *Joseph. Joseph was Mary's husband and Jesus' father on earth. We also know that Joseph was a carpenter.*

**Does anyone know what carpenters do?** *They make or build things out of wood.*

That is right. Aside from that, we know very little about Saint Joseph. Even in the Bible, Saint Joseph's words are not written down. We do know that God the Father chose Joseph to take care of two great treasures—Jesus and Mary. There must have been a good reason for God's choice. Maybe it was that Saint Joseph is a good example for all of us of how to act as an image of God.

We know that before Jesus was born, Joseph was living in the town of Nazareth. He was going to be married to a wonderful young woman named Mary. He must have been very happy. But Mary came to Joseph and told him she was going to have a baby. He loved Mary, but he was not sure that she should be his wife because of this. God loved Joseph and knew Joseph would be a good man to care for Mary and Jesus. So God sent an angel to appear to Joseph in a dream.

The angel told Joseph not to be afraid to make Mary his wife. The angel said that the Holy Spirit performed a miracle for Mary. The angel also said, "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Joseph woke up and he said "Yes" to God. Like Mary, Joseph probably did not understand all the angel told him. Like Mary, he accepted God's will for him. Joseph shows us how to trust in God and how to act as images of God.

In the story "Jesus in the Temple", we saw Joseph and Mary in a frightening situation. They could not find Jesus. It is not hard to imagine Joseph's feelings on discovering Jesus' absence. Joseph was the head of the family, the one whose mission in life was to look after Jesus. What could have happened to him?

After looking for Jesus for three days, Mary and Joseph went to the temple, maybe to pray for God's help. And there they found Jesus. Prayer is our way of talking and listening to God. There are many different kinds of prayers we can say. We can praise God for His power, wisdom, and love. We can thank God for all He has given us. We can ask God for things we need. We can say we are sorry to God.

**Ask:** What kind of prayers do you think Saint Joseph might have said? *Prayers asking for help to find Jesus; prayers thanking God when they found Jesus.*

We should follow Saint Joseph's quiet example and turn to God in prayer every day. When we follow Saint Joseph's example we know what it is to live our lives as images of God.

*Have the students read and complete page 19 in their workbooks.*

### LESSON 7: JESUS, OUR SAVIOR

*Directions: To complete the sentences below, look at the numbers under each blank. Find the letter below that has the same number. Write that letter on the line. Read the sentence.*

Jesus was a   b     a     b     y   .  
                            2      1      2     25

Jesus is God the   s     o     n   .  
                            19     15     14

Jesus is our   s     a     v     i     o     r   .  
                            19     1     22     9     15     18

Jesus loves   u     s   .  
                            21     19

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

19

## Review Questions

### 1. Who is Jesus' Mother?

*Mary is Jesus' Mother.*

### 2. Who was Jesus' father on earth?

*Saint Joseph was Jesus' father on earth.*

### 3. What work did Joseph do?

*Joseph was a carpenter.*

### 4. What did the angel tell Joseph?

*The angel told Joseph not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife, and he told Joseph to name the baby Jesus.*

## LIVING THE LESSON • APPLICATION

(CCC 2676–77)

God the Father sent an angel to deliver a message about the Savior to Mary. (Remind the children that angels do not have bodies. But sometimes when God wanted certain people to be able to see or hear angels, God let the angels appear to have bodies. See Lesson 3, "Grace and Angels".) God wanted Mary to know His message. God sent the angel to Mary so that she would know His message. The angel's name was Gabriel.

Mary was very frightened when she saw Gabriel. So Gabriel quickly told her not to be afraid. Then Gabriel explained to Mary what God was inviting her to do. Gabriel told Mary that God was asking her to have a baby boy named Jesus. Gabriel said that Mary's baby would "be called Son of the Most High" (Luke 1:32). Mary said "Yes" to God.

Mary is a good example for us to follow. She put her trust in God even when she was afraid and did not understand all that was happening. We should follow Mary's example. When we are afraid and do not understand all that is happening in our lives, we can ask Mary to help us put our trust in God. We can say a prayer to Mary. We can say the Hail Mary.

Have the children listen while you say the Hail Mary:

*Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

Explain each phrase of the prayer as follows:

The prayer begins with the words "Hail, Mary". That is like saying, "Hello, Mary."

We go on to say, "full of grace" and "the Lord is with thee."

Grace is God's own life. This means that Mary was full of God's life. Mary was born with grace and she never sinned. She always acted as an image of God. The Lord was really with her, dwelling in her as her baby.

*Have the students read and complete page 20 in their workbooks.*

### LESSON 7: JESUS, OUR SAVIOR

Directions: Think about the Hail Mary prayer. Circle the correct word.

Hail, Mary, full of (grace),  
(go)

the LORD is (with) thee.  
(car)

Blessed (art) thou among women  
(good)

(in) blessed is (love)  
(and) (the)

fruit of thy womb, (Jesus)  
(good)

Holy (Mary), Mother of (God)  
(can) (of)

pray for (us) sinners, now and  
(not)

at the hour of (our) death.  
(down)

Amen.

# LESSON 7: JESUS OUR SAVIOR

Next we say, “Blessed art thou among women”. There are many good and famous women, but Mary is the best of all.

Then we say, “and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.” Mary is the Mother of Jesus.

We go on to say, “Holy Mary, Mother of God”. Mary is the Mother of Jesus. Jesus is God the Son. So Mary is the Mother of God.

We end the prayer by saying, “Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.” Since Mary is the Mother of God, He loves her very much, as we love our moms very much. God hears Mary’s prayers. We ask her to pray for us that we will always act as images of God. Then when we die, we will be happy in Heaven with Jesus and His Mother.

Have the children repeat each phrase of the prayer after you.

## STORY OF FAITH: Saint Anthony, the Finder of Lost Things

Did you know that there is a saint that you can pray to when you lose things? Well, there is such a saint. This saint lived in a town in Italy called Padua. This saint is Saint Anthony of Padua. He lived a long time ago. He was born in the year 1195. We do not know very much about him. We do know that when he was baptized his name was Ferdinand. His parents were wealthy and powerful. They wanted their son to become a great nobleman. At the age of fifteen Ferdinand joined a religious order, the Augustinian Order.

After he had been studying in the monastery for ten years, something happened to change Ferdinand’s life. Ferdinand heard about some men who belonged to the Franciscan Order. These men were killed because they were teaching about Jesus. (People who die because they believe in Jesus are called martyrs.) Ferdinand was so inspired by these men who suffered for Christ that he wanted to join the Franciscan Order. He wanted to become a Franciscan so that he might teach the Faith and maybe die for Christ. So Ferdinand left the Augustinian Order and joined the Franciscan Order. It was at this time that he took the name Anthony.

Anthony became a wonderful teacher. He could explain the most hidden meanings of Scripture and the teachings of the Church. He converted many people who had no faith. He loved to teach about God. Legend has it that one day when he was teaching some people who had no faith, he became so frustrated because they were not listening that he went to the river to teach to the fish. All the fish came to the surface to hear him.

The reason Saint Anthony is considered the finder of lost things comes from something that happened in his own life. One day a novice (someone who is living in a religious community and studying to see if he or she has a calling to that community) decided to leave the community. Not only did he leave without telling anyone, he also took Saint Anthony’s prayer book. Saint Anthony used this book when he prayed or taught the other monks. He had even made notes in the margins of the pages.

*Have the students complete the lesson review worksheet for Lesson 7 (found in the Appendix).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Lesson 7: Jesus Our Savior** Lesson Review Worksheet

Fill in the blanks with the words below.

	Mary	Jesus	Joseph
1. _____, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity, is our Savior.	Jesus		
2. _____ is Jesus’ mother.	Mary		
3. _____ is Jesus’ father on earth.	Joseph		

Circle the correct answer.

4. Was Adam the name of the first man?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
5. Was Eve the name of the first woman?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
6. When Adam and Eve committed Original Sin did they lose grace?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
7. Did God the Holy Spirit become man?	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No
8. Did God the Son become man?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No

\_\_\_\_\_

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Saint Anthony prayed very hard that his book would be found or returned to him. Saint Anthony's prayers were heard because the novice had a change of heart. He not only returned Saint Anthony's book but he returned to religious life. After Saint Anthony's death people began praying to him when they lost things. One of the monks made up a little prayer that goes, "The sea obeys and the fetters break, and lifeless limbs thou dost restore, while treasures lost are found again, when young or old thine aid implore."

Many miracles took place after Saint Anthony's death. Only one year after his death, Pope Gregory IX declared Anthony a saint. His feast day is June 13.

### CELEBRATION

#### Prayer

*Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.*

*Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

### ACTIVITIES

#### Puppets

Remind the children of the story "Jesus in the Temple". Tell the children that they will be making puppets to act out the story. Discuss with the children what puppets will be needed to act out the story. A puppet will be needed for each of the following characters: Mary, Joseph, Jesus, the teachers in the temple, and various friends and relatives. Puppets may also be made for animals, such as donkeys and dogs. Either you may assign the characters for the puppets or have the children choose which character they will make. After the puppets are made, read the story again, having the children act out various scenes, such as the crowd traveling, Mary and Joseph looking for Jesus, Jesus with the teachers in the temple, Mary and Joseph finding Jesus, etc. The puppet show may be acted out for another class or for the parents.

#### Materials needed:

brown lunch-bag-sized paper bags (one per child)  
crayons or markers  
construction paper, yarn, fabric scraps (optional)

**Note to the teacher:** It may be helpful to make a puppet ahead of time to show the children as an example.

Have the children lay their paper bags flat on their desks. Have the opening of the bags facing them. The side of the bag with the flap should be up. Have the children draw the mouths of their puppets first. The top of the mouth should be on the flap of the bag and the insides of the mouth should be under the flap. Have the children continue to add other features to their puppets.

**Optional:** The children may create the features of their puppets from construction paper and then glue the features on the paper bags. Yarn may be glued to the bags for hair or fur. Fabric may be glued to the bags for clothing.

Have the children place their hands in the bags. Their fingers should be in the top of the fold of the flaps and their thumbs underneath the flaps. When the children open and close their fingers, the puppets' mouths will open and close.

# LESSON 7: JESUS OUR SAVIOR

## Paperweights

Have the children paint their stones whatever color they choose. After the stones are dry, have the children glue pictures of Mary onto their stones. The children may give their stone paperweights to their parents as a gift.

### Materials needed:

round, smooth stone, approximately 2" to 3" in diameter (one per child)  
poster paints  
paintbrushes  
pictures of Mary from holy cards, Christmas cards, etc. (one per child)  
glue

## Holy Family Drawings

Have the children draw a picture of Mary, Joseph, or the Holy Family. They can print the title of their picture at the top of the paper (for example, "Hail Mary" for a picture of Mary; "Joseph, Jesus' father on earth" for a picture of Saint Joseph; or "Holy Family" for a picture of the Holy Family). Have the children discuss their pictures with the class, explaining what they think Mary or Joseph looked like, and why. Pictures may be displayed in the room or hallway.

### Materials needed:

drawing paper  
crayons or markers

## Class Discussion

After reading the story "Jesus in the Temple", discuss with the class what to do if someone becomes lost.

**Ask:** Has anyone ever been lost? What did you do? How did you feel? What happened?

What should someone who is lost do?

How can one avoid becoming lost?

## Handwriting Exercise

Print the following on the board: "Jesus Christ is our Savior."

Have the students copy the sentence in their best printing. They may decorate the paper with a picture of Jesus. Display their papers in the room or hallway.

### Materials needed:

lined printing paper  
pencils

## Watch a DVD

*Veggie Tales: Where Is God When I'm Scared?*

*The Virgin Mary, My Little Angels*

*Saint Joseph, My Little Angels*

*Mary, Mother of Jesus, Saints for Kids 5*

*Joseph, Saints for Kids 6*



## LESSON FOCUS

### Emphasis

God the Son became man to teach us about God, to show us how to act as images of God, to return God's love, and to help us return God's love. This lesson will focus on the miracles Jesus, God the Son, performed while He was on earth. These miracles show us God's love in a physical way and how we are to love others as images of God. These miracles help people to believe that Jesus is God the Son and they help people to follow Him.

### Correspondence to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Jesus' mission of Salvation: CCC 456–60  
 Jesus as true God and true man: CCC 464–70, 480–83  
 Jesus: the only Son of God: CCC 441–45, 454  
 Jesus as Messiah: CCC 436–40, 453  
 "The Kingdom of God is at hand": CCC 541–42, 567  
 Proclamation of the Kingdom of God: CCC 543–46  
 Miracles and other signs of the Kingdom: CCC 547–50, 567

### Vocabulary

**miracle:** an act that shows the power of God, helps people to have faith in what Jesus taught, and helps them to follow Him  
**magic:** tricks that make it seem that impossible things are happening

### Concepts of Faith

#### Who is Jesus?

*Jesus is God the Son who became man. He is our Savior.*

## LESSON PRESENTATION

### Preparation

Set up a sacred space (see general instructions in the Introduction). Include a picture of Jesus. Pray the Hail Mary together.

### Proclamation

Miracles, done by the power of God, help people believe in God and follow Him.

## LESSON EXPLANATION

When Jesus, God the Son, was about thirty years old, He left Nazareth and began to travel around Israel teaching people about God. As He traveled great crowds of people would follow Him. Jesus would show people how God loved them and how they were to love God here on earth and to live with Him someday in Heaven.

Jesus came to show God's love. One way Jesus would show God's love was by performing miracles. People that were sick or handicapped would come to Jesus and ask for His help. Jesus loved these people. Sometimes He would cure them.

# LESSON 8: MIRACLES

Jesus used His power as God the Son to help these people. Sometimes He would simply look at the people and say a few words to heal them. Sometimes He would touch the people with His hands when he healed them.

## Review Questions

**1. What did Jesus show the crowds about God?**

*Jesus showed the crowds how God loved them and how they were to love God here on earth and live with Him someday in Heaven.*

**2. How did Jesus show the crowds God's love?**

*Jesus showed God's love by performing miracles.*

**3. How did Jesus perform His miracles?**

*Jesus performed by His power as God the Son.*

## SCRIPTURE STORY: A Blind Man Named Bartimaeus

Based on  
Mark 10:46–52

Wherever Jesus traveled, large crowds of people followed Him because they had heard about His teachings. The people also heard about the miracles Jesus performed. One day as Jesus was leaving a city called Jericho, a blind man named Bartimaeus was sitting by the roadside. When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was passing by, he called to Jesus from the crowd. Bartimaeus called, "Jesus, have mercy on me!"

Many people told the blind man to be quiet, but he called out louder, "Have mercy on me!"

Then Jesus stopped and asked Bartimaeus to come to Him. Bartimaeus sprang up and came to Jesus. Jesus asked Bartimaeus, "What do you want me to do for you?"

*Have the students read and complete page 21 and 22 in their workbooks.*

### LESSON 8: MIRACLES

Directions: Read each sentence. Look at the rhyming word. Find the word that rhymes. Write the correct word on the line.

well      walk      Son      see

Jesus is God the s o n.  
It rhymes with bun.

Jesus made the blind man s e e.  
It rhymes with me.

Jesus made the lame man w a l k.  
It rhymes with talk.

Jesus made the sick people w e l l.  
It rhymes with bell.

21

### LESSON 8: MIRACLES

Directions: Look at the pictures. Read each sentence. One word is missing. Circle the word that belongs in the sentence. Print that word on the lines.

The m a n cannot see.  
man   cat   doll



Will you help m e?  
can   do   me

I will help y o u.  
you   is   for



Now the man c a n see.  
get   can   it

22

Bartimaeus answered, “Master, let me receive my sight.”

Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your faith has made you well.” Because Bartimaeus believed in Jesus, Jesus cured him. Immediately Bartimaeus could see. He started to follow Jesus on the road.

## Review Questions

**1. Why did the people follow Jesus?**

*The people followed Jesus because they heard about His teachings and about the miracles He performed.*

**2. What handicap did Bartimaeus have?**

*He could not see.*

**3. What did Bartimaeus want Jesus to do?**

*He wanted Jesus to heal him so he could see.*

**4. What did Jesus mean when He told Bartimaeus that his faith had healed him?**

*He meant that because Bartimaeus believed in Jesus, Jesus cured him.*

## ENHANCING THE LESSON • LESSON EXPLANATION PART 2

When Jesus lived on earth He helped many people. He healed the sick, the lame, and the blind. He was merciful and forgave people’s sins. Soon the people began to trust in Him and come to Him for help. In the Gospel of Mark we find a story about some people who turned to Jesus for help.

## SCRIPTURE STORY: The Paralyzed Man

Based on Mark 2:1–5, 11–12

All the people in town heard that Jesus was coming home from one of His travels. A large crowd gathered in and around the house where Jesus was preaching. The crowd was so large that there was no room by the door or in the house.

Four friends heard that Jesus was in town and they had an idea. They had a friend who could not walk. He was paralyzed. They carried their friend to the house where Jesus was teaching. But the crowd was so large that they could not get anywhere near Jesus.

The men had an idea of how to get close to Jesus. They carried their friend up to the roof of the house. The men removed part of the roof over the room in which Jesus was sitting. In those days the roofs of houses were not like our roofs today. Our roofs are made of wood and have shingles on them. But in those days the roofs were made with straw or reeds that were spread over the top of the house. After the men removed some of the roof, they lowered their friend on his stretcher down to Jesus.

When Jesus saw the faith of the men and their friend, He said, “Your sins are forgiven.” But the people did not understand why Jesus would say this. So Jesus, who knew what they were thinking, said, “Why do you question like this in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven’, or to say, ‘Rise, take up your pallet and walk’? But

**Note to the teacher:** You may wish to read and discuss several other miracles Jesus performed. These readings may be taken directly from Scripture, or from a children’s Bible. The following is a list of suggested readings:

Cleansing of a leper: Matthew 8:2–3

Curing Peter’s mother-in law: Matthew 8:14–15

Feeding of the five thousand: Matthew 14:15–21, John 6:1–5

Walking on water: Matthew 14:22–23, John 6:16–21

Healing of two blind men: Matthew 20:29–34

Miracle at Cana: John 2:1–11

Jesus heals the man at the pool: John 5:3–9

Jesus heals an official’s son: John 4:46–54

Jesus cleanses ten lepers: Luke 17:11–19

Jesus calms a storm: Luke 8:22–25



## LESSON 8: MIRACLES

that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,” he said to the paralyzed man, “I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home.” And the man got up and immediately took up the stretcher and went out before the crowd. All the people were amazed and glorified God.

The paralyzed man must have asked his friends to help him. He knew he could not go where Jesus was all by himself. He probably knew that if he asked, Jesus would help him. The friends of the man who was paralyzed showed great trust in Jesus, too. They knew their friend needed help and they brought him to Jesus because they trusted that Jesus would help them.

Jesus, God the Son, performed miracles to help people believe in Him. He loved the people and He wanted to show people God’s love.

### Review Questions

**1. How did the men get their friend in to see Jesus?**

*They made a hole in the roof and lowered their friend in to see Jesus.*

**2. What did Jesus first say to the man?**

*Jesus said, “Your sins are forgiven.”*

**3. What miracle did Jesus perform for the man?**

*Jesus healed the man so he could walk.*

**4. Why did Jesus perform miracles?**

*Jesus performed miracles to help people believe in Him, because He loved the people and He wanted to show the people God’s love.*

### LIVING THE LESSON • APPLICATION

Jesus, God the Son, performed miracles to help people believe in Him. He loved the people and He wanted to show people God’s love. The miracles were not done by magic, but by the power of God. Jesus did not need magic. Jesus is God the Son and, as God, He can do anything.

**Ask:** Have any of you ever seen a magic act, or do you know any magic tricks? (Allow the children time to share their experiences.)

Magic is done through tricks. Magic tricks make it seem that impossible things are happening. Magic is a trick, but miracles can only be done by the power of God.

**Note to the teacher:** You may want to teach the children a simple magic trick.

**Ask:** Can we perform miracles? *No.*

**What can we perform?** *Magic tricks.*

**Who can perform miracles?** *Jesus.*

**Have any of you ever visited someone who was sick?**

**Did you bring the sick person anything to show the person your love?**

By performing miracles, Jesus showed the people how God loves and how we should love as images of God. Jesus loved those who were sick. As images of God, we can show our love for others who are sick.

**Ask:** What are some things we can do for people who are sick? *Send cards, bring flowers, visit with them, say prayers for them, etc.*

Sometimes when we are sick, we have to go see a doctor. The doctor helps us feel better. He does not use miracles as Jesus did.

**Ask:** Does the doctor simply touch us to cure us? *No. The doctor uses his knowledge and medicine to help us.*

**How do doctors help us?** *By giving us medicine, by performing operations to repair what is wrong, by telling us what to do so that we may someday feel better, etc.*

**Note to the teacher:** You may want to have the children make cards or draw pictures to be sent to a local hospital or care facility to cheer the patients.

**Note to the teacher:** You may want to have a doctor or a nurse visit the classroom.

## STORY OF FAITH: Sara Visits the Doctor

Sara and her mom were leaving the doctor's office. The doctor had checked Sara's ears. The doctor had said that she had an ear infection and needed to take some medicine. So Sara and her mom were on their way to the pharmacy to get the medicine.

Sara's ear still hurt even after she left the doctor's office.

"Mom," Sara said, "I wish the doctor could just touch my ear and take the pain away. Yesterday in school we read about a miracle that Jesus performed. Jesus laid His hands on the person and that person was better right away. I wish the doctor could do what Jesus did. I wish the doctor could have healed my ear right away."

Sara's mom said, "You know that Jesus is God the Son. He is all-powerful. That is why He can perform miracles. The doctor cannot perform miracles as Jesus did. The doctor cannot cure your ear infection by touching your ear. But the doctor knows you have an ear infection and knows what medicine you can take to feel better."

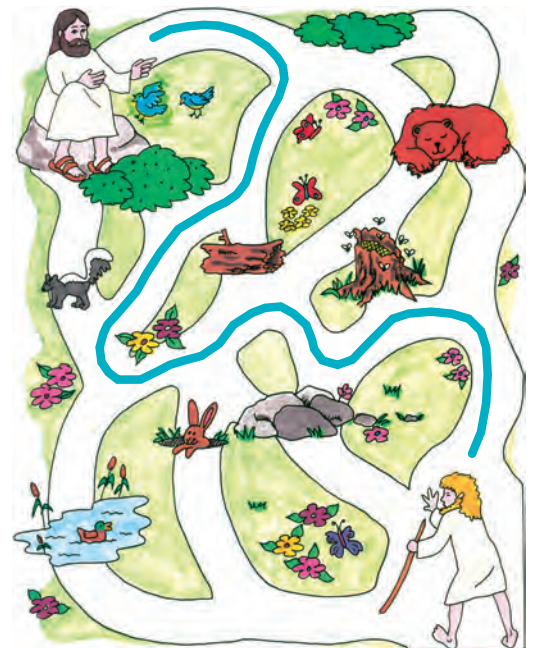
Sara and her mother stopped at the pharmacy to buy the medicine for Sara's ear. In the car on the way home Sara thought again about Jesus' miracles. It must have been wonderful to have lived during the time Jesus was on earth. Sara thought about what her mom had said. Sara knew that the doctor could not perform miracles as Jesus did, but she was glad that the doctor knew what medicine would stop the pain in her ear.

When Sara came home her sister, Ruth, gave Sara a get-well card. Ruth knew Sara was not feeling well, and she hoped that the card she had made would help Sara feel better.

*Have the students read and complete page 23 in their workbooks.*

### LESSON 8: MIRACLES

*Directions: Help the blind man find his way to Jesus.*



23

## LESSON 8: MIRACLES

Later that night when Sara was in bed, she thought about all of the people who had helped her feel better. She thought about her mom and the doctor. Sara knew her mom loved her and wanted her ear to feel better. She knew that the doctor wanted her to take the medicine so she would feel better. She thought about Ruth making her a card to cheer her. Sara knew God must love her very much to give her so many people to care for her. Sara knew that by caring for her, these people were showing their love for her and were acting as images of God.

### Review Questions

- 1. Why did Sara go to visit the doctor?**  
*She had an ear infection.*
- 2. What did Sara wish the doctor could do?**  
*She wished the doctor could take the pain away by simply touching her ear.*
- 3. What did Sara's mom tell her?**  
*Her mom told her that the doctor could not perform a miracle as Jesus could.*
- 4. How did the doctor help Sara?**  
*The doctor helped Sara by telling Sara's mom what medicine to buy.*
- 5. How did Sara's sister help her feel better?**  
*She made a get-well card for Sara.*
- 6. By loving her, who were Sara's mother, the doctor, and Ruth acting like?**  
*They were acting like images of God.*

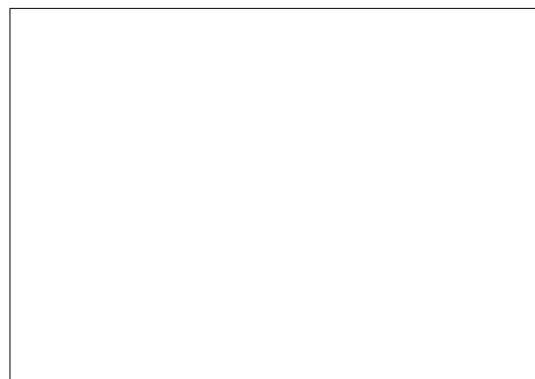
*Have the students complete the Lesson 8 review worksheet (found in the Appendix).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Lesson 8: Miracles

Lesson Review  
Worksheet

Draw a picture of your favorite miracle of Jesus.



Read each sentence. Circle True if the statement is true and False if the statement is not true.

- One way Jesus showed God's love was by performing miracles. ☒ True ☐ False
- Jesus performed His miracles by His power as God the Son. ☒ True ☐ False
- The miracles were performed by magic. ☐ True ☒ False

10 Lesson 8 Miracles

## CELEBRATION

### Prayer

*Dear Jesus, I know You are God the Son.  
You showed Your love by performing miracles for the sick.  
Help me to show my love by acting as an image of God toward those who are sick.  
Amen.*

## ACTIVITIES

### Bartimaeus and Jesus Pictures

Before class, you may wish to cut the drawing paper to fit inside the box lids. Remind the children of the story, “A Blind Man Named Bartimaeus”. Have the children draw the background from the story (for example, trees, a crowd of people, hills, clouds, etc.). Have the children glue their background pictures inside their box lids. Next, have the children draw a picture of Jesus and a picture of Bartimaeus. Have the children cut out the figures of Jesus and Bartimaeus, leaving a square tab at the bottom of their figures. Fold the tabs back and paste the bottoms of the tabs to the inside edge of the box lids. The figures will stand up and out from the background, forming a 3-D picture.

#### Materials needed:

lids from shoe boxes (one per child)  
heavy drawing paper  
crayons or markers  
scissors  
glue

### Miracle Pictures

Read several of Jesus’ miracles to the children (see the list of suggested readings at the end of the Lesson Explanation Part 2 section of this lesson). Have the children draw a picture of their favorite miracle and explain to the class why it’s their favorite.

#### Materials needed:

children’s Bible  
drawing paper  
crayons or markers

### Creative Drama

Have the children act out the story, “A Blind Man Named Bartimaeus”. Talk about how this miracle showed God’s love.

### Handwriting Exercise

Print the following on the board: “Jesus performed miracles because He is God the Son.”

Have the students copy the sentence in their best printing. They may decorate the paper with pictures of the miracles Jesus performed. Display their papers in the room or hallway.

#### Materials needed:

lined printing paper  
pencils

### Watch a DVD

*The Miracles of Jesus*  
*The Miracle Marker*

## LESSON FOCUS

### Emphasis

God the Son became man to teach us about God, to show us how to act as images of God, to return God's love, and to help us return God's love. By returning God's love, Jesus revived the friendship between God and man—the friendship forfeited by Adam and Eve. Furthermore, as God the Son, He is the perfect image of God. Jesus is our perfect example. He shows us God and how we should act as images of God. This lesson and the next lesson will present examples of Jesus teaching us how to act as images of God.

In this lesson the definition of prayer, the kinds of prayer, how to pray, and the appropriate times to pray will be discussed. In particular, the Our Father will be presented. It is suggested that the Our Father be a part of the children's daily prayers if it is not already.

### Correspondence to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Filial trust in prayer: CCC 2734–41, 2756  
Jesus at prayer: CCC 2598–606, 2620  
Jesus hears and answers prayer: CCC 2616, 2621  
Jesus teaches how to pray: CCC 2607–15, 2621  
Lord's Prayer:  
    "Our Father who art in Heaven": CCC 2777–802  
    "Hallowed be Thy name": CCC 2807–15, 2858  
    "Thy Kingdom come": CCC 2816–21, 2859  
    "Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven":  
        CCC 2822–27, 2860  
    "Give us this day our daily bread": CCC 2828–37,  
        2861  
    "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who  
        trespass against us": CCC 2838–45, 2862  
    "Lead us not into temptation": CCC 2846–49, 2863  
    "But deliver us from evil": CCC 2850–54, 2864  
Final doxology: CCC 2855–56, 2865  
Lord's Prayer as summary of the whole gospel:  
CCC 2761–76  
Prayer and the saints: CCC 2683–84, 2692  
Prayer in communion with Mary: CCC 2673–79, 2682  
Prayer to Jesus: CCC 2665–69, 2680  
Prayer to the Father: CCC 2664, 2680  
Prayer to the Holy Spirit: CCC 2670–72, 2681  
Prayers of blessing and adoration: CCC 2626–28, 2681  
Prayers of praise: CCC 2639–43, 2649  
Prayers of intercession: CCC 2634–36, 2647  
Prayers of petition: CCC 2629–33, 2646  
Prayers of thanksgiving: CCC 2637–38, 2648  
Seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer: CCC 2803–6, 2857  
What is prayer?: CCC 2559–65, 2590, 2644

### Vocabulary

**prayer:** raising our hearts and minds to God by talking and listening to Him

**hallowed:** holy

**praise:** to give glory and honor

### Concepts of Faith

#### What is prayer?

*Prayer is raising our minds and hearts to God by talking and listening to Him.*

#### What is the prayer that Jesus taught us?

*Jesus taught us the Our Father.*



# LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

## LESSON PRESENTATION

### Preparation

Set up a sacred space (see general instructions in the Introduction). Include a picture of a person or family at prayer. Pray the Guardian Angel prayer together.

### Proclamation

When we pray we raise our hearts and minds to God.

## LESSON EXPLANATION

When Jesus lived on earth, He often went off by Himself to pray. Jesus wants us to follow His example and to pray often. Prayer is raising our minds and hearts to God by talking and listening to Him.

**Ask:** How would you feel if you had a teacher who chose to ignore the students or chose not to speak to them?

How about if you said, “Good morning”, and the teacher would not answer?

What if you asked the teacher a question and the teacher turned away; or if you tried to tell the teacher something that happened and the teacher walked away?

**Would that be a good kind of teacher to have?** No.  
*The teacher would not get to know the children; the children would not get to know the teacher; and the children would never learn anything from the teacher.*

**What if you had a friend who chose never to talk to you? Would that be a good kind of friend to have?**  
No.

**Note to the teacher:** Exceptions should be noted for children and teachers who are unable to speak. It should be pointed out to the children that people who are unable to speak communicate with others in a different way. Sometimes they communicate by sign language or writing. We are not discussing people who cannot communicate through speech, but people who choose not to communicate at all.

God loves us very much—so much that He made us in His image. We should talk to God often, asking Him to help us act as images of God. There are many kinds of things we can talk (pray) to God about just as there are many things we talk to our friends about. We can say “thank you” to God for all the wonderful things He has given us.

**Ask:** What would you thank God for? *A nice day, good friends, brothers and sisters, our families, etc.*

**We can ask God for help. What might you want God to help you with?** *To act always as an image of God, to obey parents, to do good work in school, etc.*

**We can say “I’m sorry” to God. What are some examples of things we would say “I’m sorry” for?**  
*Disobeying, hitting, being angry, etc.*

**We can praise God when we pray. How would we praise God in prayer?** *God, You are so good and wonderful; God, You know what is best for us; God, You are a loving Father; etc.* (The idea of praising God might be unfamiliar to the children. Explain that a teacher may praise you by saying you have done a good job on your schoolwork. You might praise friends by telling them they can run really quickly, play the piano well, or that they are very smart. We might praise God by saying how wonderful we think He is.)

**What is the best time and place to pray?** *The answer given most often will be “When we are in church.”*

# LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

**Is during Mass at church the only time and place we can pray?** No. We can pray anytime and anywhere.

**What are some examples of places and times of prayer?** At the table before and after meals, in our bedrooms when we wake up or go to bed, at school before class, in the car on a trip, etc.

**Do we have to say our prayers out loud for God to hear us?** No. God hears all our prayers whether they are silent or spoken out loud. We can pray when we are all by ourselves or when we are with others.

**What are some times that we pray with others?** At Mass, at school, at home with our families, etc.

## Review Questions

### 1. What is prayer?

Prayer is raising our hearts and minds to God by talking and listening to Him.

### 2. Why do we pray?

We pray to say "thank you", to ask for help, to say "I'm sorry", and to praise God.

### 3. Where and when can we pray?

We can pray anywhere and anytime.

### 4. Do we have to pray out loud for God to hear us?

No. God hears all our prayers whether they are silent or spoken out loud.

### 5. Do we have to be alone to pray?

No. We can be alone or with others.

## SCRIPTURE STORY: Jesus Prays for Strength

Based on Luke 22:39–43 and  
Matthew 26:36–44

On the night before Jesus died, He went to a garden called Gethsemane to pray. Some of the Apostles went with Him. When they arrived, Jesus said to them, "Sit here, while I go over there to pray." Then He said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with Me." Going a little farther, Jesus knelt down and prayed, "My Father, if it be possible, let this chalice pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou will." Two more times Jesus prayed this prayer to His Father asking for strength. Then there appeared to Him an angel from Heaven, strengthening Him.

Jesus prayed to God the Father for the strength He needed to suffer and to die on the Cross. Jesus was willing to accept and to do what His Father asked. God the Father gave Jesus the strength He needed to do what was asked of Him. When we need to do something that is difficult for us to do, we should pray to God the way Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane. God will always give us the strength we need if we ask Him.

Have the students read and complete page 24 in their workbooks.

### LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES HOW US TO PRAY

Directions: Read the two sentences next to each picture. Draw a line under the sentence that tells about the picture.



We can pray when we eat.  
We can play.



We go to school.  
We can pray when we go to bed.



We can pray at church.  
We can help mom.



We can run.  
We can pray with boys and girls.



We pray to God.  
We can go to the store.

## Review Questions

1. What is the name of the garden where Jesus went to pray?  
*The garden was called Gethsemane.*
2. What did Jesus ask God the Father to give Him?  
*He asked for strength.*
3. Who came to strengthen Jesus?  
*An angel came to strengthen Him.*

## ENHANCING THE LESSON • LESSON EXPLANATION PART 2

**Ask:** Did you know that there is a prayer book in the Bible? What is it called? *The Book of Psalms is the prayer book of the Bible.*

**Have any of you ever read one of the psalms from the Bible?**

Even if you yourself have not read the psalms from the Bible, you have probably prayed or sung the psalms in some way. For instance, did you know that the verses of several psalms are used throughout the Mass? There are four places in the Mass where the psalms can be heard: during the Entrance Procession, after the First Reading, during the Prayer over the Offerings, and at Holy Communion time.

Like all prayers, the psalms speak to God. They may take the form of praise and adoration, thanksgiving, petition (asking God for something), or contrition (telling God we are sorry).

**Ask:** I will read a line from a Psalm. Can you guess what kind of prayer it is? “Praise the LORD with the lyre, make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!” (Psalm 33:2). (Lead children to answer that it is a prayer of praise.)

**How about this one?** “O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever” (Psalm 136:1). (Lead children to answer that it is a prayer of thanksgiving.)

**Let’s try one more:** “Deliver me from my enemies, O my God, protect me from those who rise up against me” (Psalm 59:1). (Lead the children to answer that it is a petition—asking God for help.)

Jesus used the psalms when He prayed.

**Ask:** Do you remember what He said while hanging on the Cross? He said, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” Matthew 27:46.

Here is the first line of Psalm 22. “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”

**Ask:** Are they the same? Yes. When Jesus was on the Cross, He prayed from the Book of Psalms.

**What do you suppose Jesus was trying to teach us?** He was teaching us that we need to pray, that we need to pray when we are hurting or afraid, that we can pray to God anytime, anywhere, out loud, or silently, and that God always hears our prayers.



## LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

### Review Questions

1. What is the prayer book in the Bible called?

*The Book of Psalms is the prayer book of the Bible.*

2. Where do we hear the psalms prayed?

*We hear the psalms prayed at Mass.*

3. What is one of the times in which Jesus prayed the psalms?

*Jesus prayed the psalms on the Cross.*

### LIVING THE LESSON • APPLICATION

When Jesus lived on earth He often went off by Himself to pray. One day His special friends, the Apostles, asked Jesus to teach them to pray, too (Luke 11:1).

Jesus told them to pray like this: "Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen" (Matthew 6:9–13).

Jesus told His friends it is important to pray every day. He told them that God hears all our prayers. God knows what is best for us and gives us all we need to be happy on earth and to be happy someday with Him in Heaven.

Tell the children that they will be learning this special prayer that Jesus taught—the Our Father. We call God our Father because He made us. We are His children. He loves us. We begin this special prayer by saying, "Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name." When we say these words, we mean, "Our Father in Heaven, Your name is holy." Next we say, "Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven." That means we will try to do what God asks us to do here on earth, just as the angels and saints do what God asks in Heaven. We ask God for our daily food by saying, "Give us this day our daily bread." When we say this we are not just asking for bread and other food for our bodies, we are asking for ways to learn about God. Then we say, "and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us". This means we should forgive people who do things that hurt us just as God forgives us when we make wrong choices and are sorry. We end this special prayer by saying, "and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Here we are asking for God's help so we can always act as images of God. We do not want to make wrong choices. We say "Amen" at the end of the prayer. This means that we believe what we have said in the prayer.

Have the children repeat each phrase of the Our Father after you.

*Have the students read and complete page 25 in their workbooks.*

#### LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

Directions: Cut out the boxes below. Glue the box with the correct word on each of the blanks.

Our Father Who art in Heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name. Thy  
kingdom come. Thy will be  
done on earth, as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily  
bread, and forgive us our  
trespasses, as we forgive  
those who trespass against  
us, and lead us not  
into temptation, but deliver  
us from evil. Amen.

	us
and	Father
we	name
us	come
not	will
Amen	Give

25

## LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

**Ask:** Have you heard this prayer at church? (Explain to the children that we say the Our Father during Mass.)

After they have learned the Our Father, tell them that they should join with all the people at Mass in saying this special prayer that Jesus taught us.

The Our Father may now be included in the children's daily prayers. You may wish to have them repeat each phrase after you until they are more familiar with the words.

**Note to the teacher:** You may wish to point out to the children that when the Our Father is said during Mass, the "Amen" is not said at the end of the prayer.

### Review Questions

1. What is the name of the special prayer Jesus taught us?

*The name of this prayer is the Our Father.*

2. What does "hallowed be Thy name" mean?

*It means God's name is holy.*

3. What does "Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven" mean?

*We will try to do what God asks us to do here on earth just as the angels and saints do what God asks in Heaven.*

4. When we say, "Give us this day our daily bread," does that mean we are just asking for food to eat?

*No. It also means we are asking for ways to learn about God.*

5. When we say, "and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil", what are we asking for?

*We are asking for God's help so we can always act as images of God.*

6. We pray the Our Father with other people at what special time?

*We pray the Our Father during Mass.*

### STORY OF FAITH: Mark's Prayer

In a few months, something very exciting would happen in Mark's family. Mark's mother was going to have a baby. Everyone in Mark's family was very excited and very happy!

Mark's mother unpacked all the baby clothes she had saved and made them ready for the new baby. Mark and his father painted the spare room, which would be the new baby's bedroom. Now the three of them just had to wait for the big day when the baby would be born.

Mark wanted the new baby to be a boy. Mark wanted a little brother very much. Mark learned in religion class that God always hears all of our prayers. Mark decided to pray that the new baby would be a boy. Every morning after he got up and every night before he fell asleep, Mark would pray, "Dear God, I really would like a baby brother. Please let this baby be a boy."

Soon the big day came! Mark waited at home with his grandmother while his father took his mother to the hospital. Before long, the phone rang.

It was Mark's father calling to say the baby had been born. It was a girl! Both Mark's mother and his new little sister were fine. Mark's father said Mark could visit them the next day.

Mark was so disappointed. He went to his room. He lay on his bed and prayed, "God, didn't You hear my prayer? I wanted a little brother. Why did You give me a little sister?"

The next day Mark's father took Mark to the hospital to visit his mother and to meet his new sister. Mark was anxious to see his mother, but he did not want to see his sister. Mark's mother was glad to see him. She told him how important he was to her and to the new baby. He was a big brother now. His job was to help his mother and father care for his little sister. Then Mark's mother asked if he wanted to see

## LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

his sister. Mark did not want to see his sister, but he did not want to hurt his mother's feelings either, so Mark said "Yes" to his mother.

The nurse came in carrying a small bundle. Mark's mother told him to sit in the big chair next to the bed. After he sat down the nurse put the bundle of blankets into his arms. She opened up the covers and inside was the tiniest baby Mark had ever seen. This tiny baby was so soft and warm. She had lots of fuzzy hair. Mark put his finger by her hand and she held on to his finger really tight. The baby opened her eyes. She seemed to look right at Mark. Suddenly Mark felt very grown-up. He wanted to protect his little sister from all the things that could hurt her. Mark thought about all the things he would do with his sister and all the things he would teach her. Mark was glad that God had given him a little sister. Mark understood that God knew what was best for Mark and his whole family. Mark knew that God wanted him to love and to care for his little sister and Mark was ready to do just that.

God always knows what is best for each of us. When we pray for something and we do not receive what we have prayed for, it is not because God did not hear us. It is because God knows what is best for us. We have to learn to trust in God. He loves us and will always care for us.

*Have the students read and complete page 26 in their workbooks.*

**LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY**

*Directions: Cut out each box. Glue the boxes in order according to the days of the week. Start with Sunday.*

<b>THURSDAY</b> Sing a song about Jesus.	<b>SUNDAY</b> Praise God today.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Say the Our Father.	<b>TUESDAY</b> Tell God that you are sorry.
<b>FRIDAY</b> Tell God that you love Him.	<b>SATURDAY</b> Ask God to help you be good.
<b>MONDAY</b> Say "thank you" to God today.	Have a great week! 

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### Review Questions

1. What was going to happen in Mark's family?  
*Mark's mother was going to have a baby.*
2. Did Mark want a brother or a sister?  
*Mark wanted a brother.*
3. What did Mark do every morning and every night?  
*He prayed for a brother.*
4. Did God hear Mark's prayer?  
*Yes.*
5. Did God answer Mark's prayer the way Mark wanted?  
*No.*
6. Who knows what is best for us?  
*God knows what is best for us.*

# LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

*Have the students complete the lesson review worksheet for Lesson 9 (found in the Appendix).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Lesson 9: Jesus Teaches Us How to Pray** Lesson Review Worksheet

Draw or write what you would like to tell God.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear God,

Love, \_\_\_\_\_

This is a sample for a prayer journal page. See Activities section for Lesson 9 in the Teacher's Manual.

Lesson 9 Jesus Teaches Us How to Pray 11

## CELEBRATION

### Prayer

*Our Father Who art in Heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.*

## ACTIVITIES

### Illustrated Our Father Booklet

Have the students draw a picture to represent each phrase of the Our Father on the appropriate page. The children may design a cover for the booklet on the blank piece of construction paper folded or cut to the same size as the booklet page. Punch holes in the set and have students fasten the cover and the paper together with the yarn to form Our Father booklets. The children may take their booklets home to help them learn the prayer.

#### Materials needed:

seven sheets of drawing paper with one of the seven petitions of the Our Father printed on each sheet (one set per child)  
blank construction paper (one sheet per child)  
10 × 12 inches of yarn (two pieces per child)  
hole punch  
crayons or markers

### Prayer Wheel

From the poster board, cut two large circles about 8 inches wide (one set per child).

Divide the bottom circle into 6 pie-shaped sections. Use a black marker to make the divisions distinct for the student. Cut out a pie-shaped wedge from the top circle, the same size as one of the sections on the bottom circle. If the students are able to cut carefully, this may be done by the teacher beforehand. Have the students draw and color pictures of something they are thankful for in each section. On the top circle, write the words, "Thank you, God, for . . .". Punch a hole in the middle of both pieces of poster board and fasten them together with a paper fastener (a brad), making sure that the top circle will turn freely.

#### Materials needed:

Half sheets of poster board or tag board  
paper  
crayons  
pencils  
scissors  
brads (paper fasteners)

Have the students take turns rotating the top circle of their wheels and telling the class about the pictures.

### Classroom Activity—Prayer Service

Conduct a prayer service with the children. To prepare for the service, have the children draw pictures of themselves praying in various places (for example, at home, in the bedroom, in the car, at church, etc.). Label a large piece of poster board, "We talk to God in prayer", and hang it on the wall. Begin with a favorite song about Jesus. Read Matthew 6:9–15 to the children. Have the children tape their pictures on the poster and tell the class what their pictures show. Then, have the children pray the Our Father together. End the prayer service with another song.

## Spiritual Bouquet

Select someone for whom the class can pray, or ask the students each to think of someone for whom they would like to pray. It could be their pastor, principal, parents, a friend, or someone else they know who is in need of prayers.

Have each student fold the construction paper in half to form a card. On the front of the card the students should draw flowers. On the inside they should write the prayers they will say for the person, and the number of times they will say it (for example, two Hail Marys, three Our Fathers, and one Glory Be). Make sure the numbers are reasonable. Help the students remember to say the prayers by praying in class with them. You or the students may give the spiritual bouquets to the people for whom they are praying.

### Materials needed:

construction paper (one sheet per child)  
crayons or markers  
pencils

## Prayer Journal

Have each child create a prayer journal. The prayer journal can be made by stapling sheets of writing paper together. A cover can be made by having the student print "My Prayer Journal" on the first page. Each day, have the children take five to ten minutes to write a note to God. Remind the children of the types of prayer: praise, contrition, petition, and thanksgiving. The pages can be stapled together to form a booklet, or a spiral notebook may be used.

## Prayer Corner

If you have not already done so, set aside a corner of your room for prayer. Display a picture or statue of Jesus, Mary, or one of the saints. Place a Bible, a basket, a candle (battery operated), and some children's prayer books in the corner. Provide something comfortable for the students to sit on, such as carpet squares or pillows. Set up guidelines for the use of the prayer corner. Suggest that the students draw pictures of what they want to thank God for and place their drawings in the basket.

## Handwriting Exercise

Print the following on the board: "Jesus taught us how to pray."

Have the students copy the sentence in their best printing. They may decorate the paper with pictures of them praying. Display their papers in the room or hallway.

### Materials needed:

lined printing paper  
pencils

## Watch a DVD

*Animated Rosary for Kids*  
*The Best of Little Children*  
*Prayers for Little Children*



# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

## LESSON FOCUS

### Emphasis

In this lesson we will present another example of Jesus teaching us how we are to act as images of God.

The eight beatitudes will be presented and explained in this lesson. The beatitudes will be defined as the “best attitudes”—ways an image of God should think, feel, and act. By living the beatitudes, we will be happy here on earth and be happy someday with God in Heaven.

### Correspondence to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Beatitudes: CCC 1716–17, 1725, 1820

Christian beatitude: CCC 1720–24, 1728–29

Desire for happiness: CCC 1718, 1727

Forgiveness: CCC 2842–45, 2862

Heaven: CCC 1023–29, 1052–53

New Law or Law of the Gospel: CCC 1965–74, 1977,  
1983–86

Peace: CCC 2302–6, 2330

Poverty of spirit: CCC 2544–47, 2556

Purity of heart: CCC 2517–19, 2531–33

### Vocabulary

**blessed:** holy; set apart for God

**mourn:** being sad

**meek:** not proud

**inherit:** to receive something from one’s parent or  
parents

**righteousness:** wanting to do what is right

### Concepts of Faith

**What are the eight beatitudes?**

*The eight beatitudes are the “best attitudes”—the ways  
an image of God should think, feel, and act.*

## LESSON PRESENTATION

### Preparation

Set up a sacred space (see general instructions in the Introduction). Include a picture of the Sermon on the Mount. Pray the Our Father together.

### Proclamation

God put us in the world to know, love, and serve Him, and so to come to Heaven.

## SCRIPTURE STORY: The Eight Beatitudes

(Matthew 5:3–12)

One day when Jesus was teaching His friends about God, Jesus told them of eight ways to live so that they might be happy here on earth and be happy someday with God in Heaven. These eight ways to live are called the eight beatitudes. The eight beatitudes are the “best attitudes”—the ways an image of God should think, feel, and act. We will study the beatitudes and what they mean so that we can follow them and act as images of God.

# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

## First Beatitude

**"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."**

Write the first beatitude on the board. Point out words the children may know (are, the, poor, in, for, is, of, etc.). Read the beatitude to the children.

**Ask:** Do you know what the word "blessed" means? *Holy; set apart for God.*

All the beatitudes start with the word "blessed". The beatitudes are the best attitudes we can have. They are ways we can act like God and become more like Him—holier.

Read the beatitude again. Explain to the children that "poor in spirit" means that having a lot of money or toys or fancy clothes should not be so important to us that we forget about God. God should come first in our lives. God, not things, should be most important to us. When we try to act as images of God in all we think and say and do, then the Kingdom of Heaven will be ours: we will share God's life here on earth and in Heaven.

**Ask:** How can we show that we are poor in spirit—that God means more to us than things? *By thanking God for all He has given us, by not being envious of what our friends have, by sharing what we have with others, by not asking our parents to buy something for us every time they go to the store, by not crying or complaining when we cannot have a certain toy or certain kinds of clothes, etc.*

## Second Beatitude

**"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."**

Write the second beatitude on the board. Help the children read the words that they are able to recognize. Read the beatitude to the children.

**Ask:** Can you guess what the word "mourn" means? *To feel sorrow or sadness.*

**What things make you sad?** *Being hurt, lonely, or sick, making wrong choices, etc.*

This second beatitude tells us that when we are sad, we should think of how much God loves us and we should remember that God cares for us. This can help us feel better. We should trust and believe that God is always with us so we are never alone, no matter how lonely and sad we feel. God comforts us when we feel sad.

**Ask:** What are some of the ways that you can act as images of God and try to help people who are sad feel better? *Give them a hug, hold their hand, listen to them talk about their problems, smile at them, tell them "I love you", etc.*

When we try to help someone who is sad feel better, we are comforting that sad person. We are acting as God acts.

**Ask:** How can we show that we trust in God? *By praying when we need help, by not complaining, by trying to find something good even in a bad situation, etc.*

**How can we comfort people (try to help them feel better) when they are sad?** *By smiling at them, giving them hugs, telling them we love them, doing kind things for them, holding their hands, etc.*

## Third Beatitude

**"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."**

Write the third beatitude on the board. As in the presentation of the other beatitudes, point out any words that are familiar to the children. Read the beatitude to the children. Explain to the children that in this beatitude Jesus was talking about people who are meek, or humble. This beatitude tells us that people who are humble will receive God's life here on earth and share His life in Heaven.



# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

**Ask:** Do you know what the word “humble” means? (Allow the children time to respond.) *Not bragging or thinking that you are better or more important than anyone else.*

A person who is humble does not always want to be first in line. Humble people would not always want their own way (for example, making their friends play games by their own rules). People who are humble love others—thinking of others before themselves.

When Jesus lived on earth, He always showed His love for all people. He healed people, He forgave people, and He was kind and gentle. If we are to act as images of God, we should act as Jesus did by showing our love for all people.

**Ask:** Can you think of things humble persons do? *Compliment their friends on the things they do well, pick up things off the floor even when they did not drop them, help at home and school even before they are asked, be kind to everyone even when someone else is not kind to them, etc.*

## Fourth Beatitude

**“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.”**

Write the fourth beatitude on the board. After the children read the words they recognize, read the complete beatitude to them.

**Ask:** What do you do when you are hungry or thirsty? *When we are hungry or thirsty, we want something to eat or drink. If we are very hungry or thirsty, we need something to eat or drink.*

This beatitude tells us that we should “hunger and thirst for righteousness”. That does not mean that we should want to be right all the time. It means that we should want to do what is right. When we want to do what is right we want to act as images of God, doing what God wants us to do. That means we should want to do what is right.

**Ask:** If we want to do what is right, whom should we want to be like? *God.*

Under the words “hunger and thirst for righteousness” write “want to do what is right”. So if we want to do what is right, we should always try to act as images of God, even when it is not easy. If we do that, then we will be happy here on earth and we will be happy someday with God in Heaven.

**Ask:** What are some of the ways we know what is right to do? What are some of the ways we act as images of God? *Follow the Ten Commandments, say our prayers, etc.*

## Fifth Beatitude

**“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”**

Write the fifth beatitude on the board. After the children read the words they know, read the complete beatitude to them. This beatitude talks about mercy.

**Ask:** Do you know what the word “mercy” means? (Allow the children to share their ideas.) *To show kindness and to treat others as you would want to be treated.*

God loves us and forgives us when we make wrong choices. If we want to act as images of God we should love others and forgive them when they hurt us. We should not try to get even with them or hurt them back. God never gets tired of loving us and so we should always try to treat everyone with love.

**Ask:** How can we show mercy to others? *By forgiving a friend who has done something to hurt us, being kind to someone who needs a friend, helping someone who is hurt, letting everyone play in our games, not calling names or making fun of others, being kind to a brother or sister, being kind to someone who might not be able to walk or to talk as well as we can, etc.*

**How does God show mercy to us?** *He loves us and forgives us when we make wrong choices.*

# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

## Sixth Beatitude

**"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."**

Write the sixth beatitude on the board. After the children read the words they know, read the beatitude to them. Point to the word "heart".

**Ask:** **Do you recognize this word?** (If they do not, help them sound it out. Draw a heart under the word. Ask the children what they think of when they see a heart. Help the children come to the answer "love". Write the word "love" under the heart.)

In the sixth beatitude, Jesus is inviting us to love as God loves. When we love as God loves we act as images of God in all we think, say, and do. We treat others as images of God, no matter how they treat us. When we act this way we will be happy here on earth and we will see God someday in Heaven.

Sometimes when we do something nice for our friends, they might forget to say "thank you."

**Ask:** **If this happens what should we do?** *God loves everyone, so as images of God we should love others, treating them as images of God even if they are not kind to us.* (Discuss this situation with the children, helping them see that we should continue to do nice things for people and to treat people in a nice way because that is how images of God act.)

**Sometimes our friends ask us to do things we know are not good. If this happens, what should we do?** (Discuss this situation with the children, helping them to find ways to say "No." Remind the children that they should act as images of God in all they think, say, and do.)

## Seventh Beatitude

**"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."**

Write the seventh beatitude on the board. Allow the children to read the words they recognize, and then read the complete beatitude to them.

**Ask:** **What do you think peacemakers do?** (Allow the children to discuss their ideas.) *Peacemakers help stop fights, arguments, or any kind of trouble. Peacemakers treat others as images of God. Peacemakers help everyone treat each other as images of God.*

When we act as peacemakers, God blesses us with His life, grace.

**Ask:** **How can we be peacemakers on the playground?** *By making sure everyone knows the rules before playing a game so that arguments will not happen; by helping others not to take the score in a game personally, but to enjoy playing; etc.*

Point out to the children that at Mass we share with others a sign of Christ's peace when we shake hands with those around us and say to them, "Peace be with you." Have the children share a sign of peace with each other.

## Eighth Beatitude

**"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."**

Write the eighth beatitude on the board. As in the previous presentations, help the children read the words they know. Read the beatitude to them. Explain to the children that sometimes people will make fun of or laugh at someone who is trying to do good things. Sometimes people will make fun of someone who makes the Sign of the Cross and prays before eating. Sometimes people will tease someone who likes to help with chores around the house. Sometimes people will laugh at someone who goes to church on Sunday.

## LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

**Ask:** Have any of these things ever happened to you? (Allow the children time to answer.)

Explain to the children that since they are made in the image of God, they should try to act as images of God in all they think, say, and do, no matter what anyone else does. It is not always easy to make the right choice and do what we know is right, especially when others are trying to talk us into choosing and doing something else.

We can pray to Jesus to help us to do what is right. We can pray for help to live the beatitudes as Jesus did, so that we can share God's life here on earth and be happy someday with God in Heaven.

**Note to the teacher:** This may be a good opportunity to discuss peer pressure with the class.

**Ask:** What can you do if someone makes fun of you or teases you when you are trying to do something good?  
*Not pay any attention to the person, tell a teacher, tell mom or dad, etc.*

Remind the children that just as they do not like it when someone laughs at or teases them, they should not laugh at or tease others when they are trying to do good.

*Have the students read and complete page 27 and 28 in their workbooks.*

## LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

*Directions: Read the sentences below. Color the picture.*



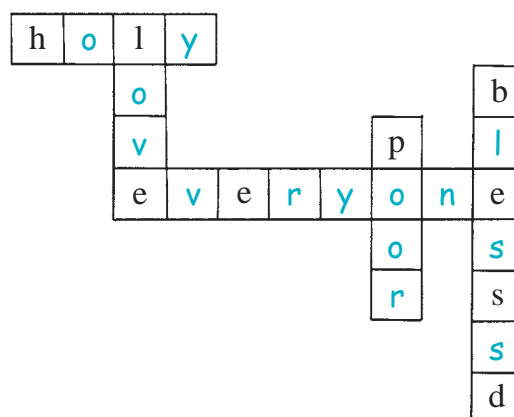
**Jesus told the people eight ways to live.**  
**Jesus said to be kind to others.**  
**Jesus asks us to love others**  
**as He loves us.**

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## LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

*Directions: Fill in the missing letters to make these words.*

holy      everyone      blessed  
love      poor



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# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

At the end of the lesson, have the students complete the Lesson 10 review worksheet and Unit 2 review worksheet (found in the Appendix).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Lesson 10: Jesus Teaches Us How to Act** Lesson Review Worksheet

Read each sentence. Circle True if the statement is true and False if the statement is not true.

1. We should thank God for all He has given us.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> True	<input type="radio"/> False
2. It is alright to be jealous of what others have.	<input type="radio"/> True	<input checked="" type="radio"/> False
3. We should help people feel better when they are sad.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> True	<input type="radio"/> False
4. We should help at home and school even before we are asked.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> True	<input type="radio"/> False
5. God wants us to be holy like he is.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> True	<input type="radio"/> False
6. We should forgive others when they hurt us.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> True	<input type="radio"/> False
7. It is alright to do what our friends ask us to do even if we know it is wrong.	<input type="radio"/> True	<input checked="" type="radio"/> False
8. If there is a fight on the playground we should cheer.	<input type="radio"/> True	<input checked="" type="radio"/> False
9. When someone teases us we should be mean to them.	<input type="radio"/> True	<input checked="" type="radio"/> False

12 Lesson 10 Jesus Teaches Us How to Act

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Unit 2: Jesus, Our Example** Unit Review Worksheet

(This test may be given orally.)

Answer each question.

1. Who lost grace for us? (10 points) <b>Adam and Eve.</b>
2. Who became man to save us? (10 points) <b>God the Son.</b>
3. Why did Jesus perform miracles? (10 points) <b>To show the power of God, to help people to have faith in what Jesus taught, and to help people to follow Him.</b>
4. Name two miracles Jesus performed? (20 points) <b>Accept appropriate answers.</b>
5. What prayer did Jesus teach us? (10 points) <b>The Our Father.</b>
6. Do we always pray alone? (10 points) <b>No, we can pray alone or with others.</b>
7. Name two places where we pray. (20 points) <b>Accept appropriate answers.</b>
8. Tell about one beatitude. (10 points) <b>Accept appropriate answers.</b>

2 Unit 2 Jesus, Our Example

## ENHANCING THE LESSON • LESSON EXPLANATION PART 2

When God created each of us, He placed a desire in our hearts for happiness. He did this so that we would be drawn to Him, because only He can fulfill this desire for happiness. Jesus taught us eight ways to find happiness here on earth, until we can go to Heaven and find total happiness with God. The beatitudes are the best attitudes we can have as images of God. They are the best ways to think, feel, and act. By living the beatitudes we can find happiness amidst the sorrows in our everyday lives.

**Ask:** All the beatitudes start with the same word. Does anyone remember what that word is? (Lead the children to answer) “Blessed.”

The word “blessed” means “holy; set apart for God”. The second step in a person being declared or named a saint is to declare that person “blessed”. (The first step in a person being declared a saint is to declare that persons “venerable”. See Lesson 16, “All Saints’ Day”, for more information.) Calling someone “blessed” means that person lived a holy life on earth and is in Heaven with God. So by starting all the beatitudes with the word “blessed”, Jesus is telling us that if we live the beatitudes we will be connected to God. We will be holy. We will be bright images of God. When we live the beatitudes and are bright images of God, we become a light to the rest of the world.

**Note to the teacher:** You will need a flashlight and a small box for the following optional instructions in parentheses are optional.

# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

Let me tell you what Jesus said about becoming a light to the world. He said, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven" (Matthew 5:14-16).

If all the lights in this room were off (turn off lights), I would need a flashlight (turn on flashlight) to light up the room. Would I put my flashlight under something (put flashlight under box)? Would anyone be able to see the light? Would it be better not to cover the flashlight so its light could shine around the room (uncover flashlight)? Lead the children to answer that the light is better uncovered. Jesus wants to show the whole world how to follow Him. He wants us to show people in our families, neighborhoods, schools, and wherever we go what the right choices are. He wants us to light the path to Heaven for others by doing good works, making right choices, and living the beatitudes.

*Have the students read and complete page 29 in their workbooks.*

## LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

*Directions: Look at the number under each line. Find the letter at the bottom of the page that has the same number. Write that letter on the line. Read the secret message.*

T H E      E I G H T  
20 8 5      5 9 7 8 20

B E A T I T U D E S

A N D      T H E      B E S T  
1 18 5      20 8 5      2 5 19 20

A T T I T U D E S

T O      H A V E  
20 15      8 1 22 5

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

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## CELEBRATION

### Prayer

*Dear Jesus, help us live the beatitudes as You did  
so that we may be happy here on earth  
and someday with You in Heaven. Amen.*

## ACTIVITIES

### Beatitude Posters

Have the children design a poster for each beatitude. These posters would include the beatitude, an everyday application, and a picture drawn by the students showing the beatitude being acted out. For example, one poster might read, “‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.’ Be kind to everyone on the playground.” The picture might show children playing together. Display the posters around the school or the classroom.

#### Materials needed:

construction paper  
crayons or markers  
pencils or pens

### Classroom Activity

After the beatitudes are presented, a “best attitudes” week could be declared. You can design and make badges as rewards for good attitudes and behavior (being kind, helpful, loving, etc.).

### Handwriting Exercise

Print the following on the board: “The beatitudes are the best attitudes for images of God to have.”

Have the students copy the sentence in their best printing. They may decorate the paper with a picture of someone living one of the beatitudes. Display their papers in the room or hallway.

#### Materials needed:

lined printing paper  
pencils

**14. Jesus' Touch: The Sacraments**

STORY OF FAITH: Sam and Sarah Meet Jesus

STORY OF FAITH: David's First Sacraments

**15. The Mass**

STORY OF FAITH: Troy Learns How to Make a Special Sacrifice of Love

**Unit 4—Holidays, Holy Days, and Liturgical Seasons**

**16. All Saints' Day**

**17. Thanksgiving**

**18. Advent and Christmas**

STORY OF FAITH: Waiting for the Savior

SCRIPTURE STORY: Mary's Wait Begins

SCRIPTURE STORY: Joseph Waits with Mary

SCRIPTURE STORY: The Wait Is Over

STORY OF FAITH: The Empty Manger

**19. Lent**

STORY OF FAITH: Sacrifices for Lent

STORY OF FAITH: Katie's Sacrifices

SCRIPTURE STORY: Forty Days in the Desert

**20. Holy Week—Easter**

SCRIPTURE STORY: Palm Sunday

SCRIPTURE STORY: Holy Thursday

SCRIPTURE STORY: Good Friday

SCRIPTURE STORY: Holy Saturday

**21. Easter Season**

SCRIPTURE STORY: Easter

SCRIPTURE STORY: Ascension of the Lord

SCRIPTURE STORY: Descent of the Holy Spirit

**Appendices**

**Prayers to Know**

**Family Notes**

**Lesson Review Worksheets**

**Unit Review Worksheets**

**Additional Activities**





## Jesus, Our Example



## LESSON FOCUS

### Emphasis

As images of God we are created to act like God. We cannot act as God acts though, unless we know how He acts. God the Son became man to teach us about God, to show us how to act as images of God, to return God's love, and to help us return God's love. By returning the love rejected by Adam and Eve, Jesus draws us closer to God so that we can share God's life, grace. By sharing God's life, grace, it is possible for us to return God's love. With grace it is possible for us to choose to do what we know is right. With grace it is possible for us to act as images of God here on earth and to live with God someday in Heaven.

This lesson will briefly review Adam and Eve and Original Sin. The concept of Jesus as our Savior will be introduced. This lesson will also introduce Jesus preparing to do His work as a grown-up in His public life. We will talk about Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and Saint Joseph, Jesus' father on earth.

### Correspondence to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Christ: at the heart of catechesis: CCC 426–29  
 Why did the Word become Flesh?: CCC 456–60  
 Incarnation: CCC 461–63, 479, 483  
 Jesus as true God and true man: CCC 464–70, 480–83  
 Jesus' human nature: CCC 470–78, 482  
 Preparations for Christ's coming: CCC 522–24  
 Mysteries of Jesus' infancy: CCC 527–30, 563  
 Mary's predestination: CCC 488–89  
 Mary's consent: CCC 494, 511  
 Mary's divine Motherhood: CCC 495, 509  
 Obedience of Mary's faith: CCC 148–49  
 Annunciation of the angel to Joseph: CCC 497, 1846  
 Jesus' submission to Joseph: CCC 532  
 Joseph's role and calling: CCC 437

### Vocabulary

**Savior:** Jesus Christ

### Concepts of Faith

#### Who is our Savior?

*Jesus Christ, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity, who became man, is our Savior.*

#### Why did God the Son become man?

*God the Son became man to teach us about God, to show us how to act as images of God, to return God's love, and to help us return God's love.*

#### Who is Jesus' Mother?

*Mary is Jesus' Mother.*

#### Who was Jesus' father on earth?

*Joseph was Jesus' father on earth.*

## LESSON PRESENTATION

### Preparation

Set up a sacred space (see general instructions in the Introduction). Include a picture of the Holy Family. Pray the Glory Be together.

### Proclamation

Jesus Christ, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity, who became man, is our Savior.

# LESSON 7: JESUS OUR SAVIOR

## LESSON EXPLANATION

**Ask:** Who remembers the name of the first man? *Adam.*

Who remembers the name of the first woman? *Eve.*

Adam and Eve had minds to think and wills to make choices. Adam and Eve had an important choice to make. They had to choose whether to say “Yes” to God and to trust Him, or to believe the lies that the devil told them.

**Ask:** Who can tell us what Adam and Eve chose to do? *They chose to believe the devil and say “No” to God’s love.*

Adam and Eve chose to do something they knew was wrong. That was a sin. What is the sin of Adam and Eve called? *Original sin.*

When Adam and Eve committed Original Sin, certain things happened to them (see Lesson 5, “Adam and Eve—Original Sin”).

**Ask:** What are some of the things that happened to Adam and Eve? *They lost grace, God’s life; they could not live in Heaven someday; they hurt themselves so that they did not always choose to do what they knew was right; it was difficult for them to act as images of God.*

**Note to the teacher:** You may wish to write some of the key terms on the board in order to help the children recognize the words and remember these important events. Suggested words are: Adam and Eve, Original Sin, promised Savior, God the Son, Jesus.

Even though Adam and Eve made the wrong choice, God still loved them and wanted to help them.

Because Adam and Eve sinned, everyone born after them, except for Mary and Jesus, was born without grace, God’s life. Because God loves everyone so much, He promised that He would send a Savior to help all people. God knows how hard it is for all people to act as images of God after Original Sin. He promised to send someone to return God’s love so that we could share God’s life, grace. Grace helps all people (in the past, now, and forever) to return God’s love and act as images of God.

God the Father sent God the Son. We say that God the Son became man. That means that God the Son became a human being so that He is both God and man.

**Ask:** Who knows the name we call God the Son after He became man? *Jesus.*

**Ask:** What day do we celebrate as Jesus’ birthday? *Christmas. Everyone knows the Christmas story.*

Who would like to help me tell the story of Jesus’ birth? (Choose a student to help you briefly tell the Christmas story, or ask the whole class to help you by answering the following questions.)

What was the name of the city where Jesus was born? *Bethlehem.*

Was Jesus born in a hospital? *No.*

Where was Jesus born? *In a stable.*

What is Jesus’ Mother’s name? *Mary.*

What is the name of Jesus’ father on earth? *Joseph.*

**Note to the teacher:** You may wish to add the following words to the list on the board: Christmas, Mary, Joseph.

We do not know very much about Jesus when He was a little boy. We do know a story about Jesus when He was a little older than all of you are. This is a story about Jesus when He was twelve years old.

## SCRIPTURE STORY: Jesus in the Temple

Based on Luke 2:41–52

Every year Mary, Joseph, and Jesus would join their family and friends in a special celebration. They would all travel together to a city called Jerusalem. This trip would take a whole day or two because they did not have cars, trains, buses, or airplanes. Maybe some of the people had donkeys to ride, but most of the people walked the entire way. We know how much fun we have with our families and friends. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph must have enjoyed this time with their family and friends.

The year Jesus was twelve, something unusual happened on the trip home. Mary and Joseph discovered that Jesus was not with the group of their family and friends traveling home together. When they started for home, Mary probably thought that Jesus was with Joseph or with some of the other men. Joseph might have thought that Jesus was with Mary or with the children. But Jesus was not with either of them or their friends. Jesus was nowhere to be found.

Mary and Joseph went back to the city to look for Jesus. They might have looked where they had stayed or they might have looked by the markets where they had bought their food. Finally, on the third day, they looked for Him in the temple and there they found Him. The temple was a place where people prayed. It was like a church. Jesus was in the temple asking questions and talking to the men who taught the people about God. These men were very surprised at how much Jesus knew and at the answers Jesus gave them.

After a while Jesus, Mary, and Joseph went home. They lived in a city called Nazareth. Jesus obeyed His parents as He grew up. They were probably very happy in Nazareth while Jesus was growing up. Jesus was preparing to do His work as a grown-up. He was preparing to teach the people about God, to show the people how to act as images of God, to return God's love, and to help the people return God's love.

### Review Questions

**1. Who traveled to Jerusalem with Mary, Joseph, and Jesus?**

*Their family and friends traveled with them.*

**2. When Jesus was twelve, what happened on the trip home?**

*Mary and Joseph could not find Jesus.*

**3. Where did Mary and Joseph finally find Jesus?**

*They found him in the temple.*

**4. Did Jesus obey Mary and Joseph while He was growing up?**

*Yes.*

**5. What was Jesus preparing to do?**

*He was preparing to do His work as a grown-up—teaching the people about God and showing the people how to act as images of God, returning God's love, and helping the people return God's love.*

# LESSON 7: JESUS OUR SAVIOR

## ENHANCING THE LESSON • LESSON EXPLANATION PART 2

**Ask:** Who is Jesus' Mother? *Mary.*

**Who is Jesus' father on earth?** *Joseph. Joseph was Mary's husband and Jesus' father on earth. We also know that Joseph was a carpenter.*

**Does anyone know what carpenters do?** *They make or build things out of wood.*

That is right. Aside from that, we know very little about Saint Joseph. Even in the Bible, Saint Joseph's words are not written down. We do know that God the Father chose Joseph to take care of two great treasures—Jesus and Mary. There must have been a good reason for God's choice. Maybe it was that Saint Joseph is a good example for all of us of how to act as an image of God.

We know that before Jesus was born, Joseph was living in the town of Nazareth. He was going to be married to a wonderful young woman named Mary. He must have been very happy. But Mary came to Joseph and told him she was going to have a baby. He loved Mary, but he was not sure that she should be his wife because of this. God loved Joseph and knew Joseph would be a good man to care for Mary and Jesus. So God sent an angel to appear to Joseph in a dream.

The angel told Joseph not to be afraid to make Mary his wife. The angel said that the Holy Spirit performed a miracle for Mary. The angel also said, "She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins" (Matthew 1:21). Joseph woke up and he said "Yes" to God. Like Mary, Joseph probably did not understand all the angel told him. Like Mary, he accepted God's will for him. Joseph shows us how to trust in God and how to act as images of God.

In the story "Jesus in the Temple", we saw Joseph and Mary in a frightening situation. They could not find Jesus. It is not hard to imagine Joseph's feelings on discovering Jesus' absence. Joseph was the head of the family, the one whose mission in life was to look after Jesus. What could have happened to him?

After looking for Jesus for three days, Mary and Joseph went to the temple, maybe to pray for God's help. And there they found Jesus. Prayer is our way of talking and listening to God. There are many different kinds of prayers we can say. We can praise God for His power, wisdom, and love. We can thank God for all He has given us. We can ask God for things we need. We can say we are sorry to God.

**Ask:** What kind of prayers do you think Saint Joseph might have said? *Prayers asking for help to find Jesus; prayers thanking God when they found Jesus.*

We should follow Saint Joseph's quiet example and turn to God in prayer every day. When we follow Saint Joseph's example we know what it is to live our lives as images of God.

*Have the students read and complete page 19 in their workbooks.*

### LESSON 7: JESUS, OUR SAVIOR

*Directions: To complete the sentences below, look at the numbers under each blank. Find the letter below that has the same number. Write that letter on the line. Read the sentence.*

Jesus was a   b     a     b     y   .  
                            2      1      2     25

Jesus is God the   s     o     n   .  
                            19     15     14

Jesus is our   s     a     v     i     o     r   .  
                            19     1     22     9     15     18

Jesus loves   u     s   .  
                            21     19

a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13

n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

19

## Review Questions

### 1. Who is Jesus' Mother?

*Mary is Jesus' Mother.*

### 2. Who was Jesus' father on earth?

*Saint Joseph was Jesus' father on earth.*

### 3. What work did Joseph do?

*Joseph was a carpenter.*

### 4. What did the angel tell Joseph?

*The angel told Joseph not to be afraid to take Mary as his wife, and he told Joseph to name the baby Jesus.*

## LIVING THE LESSON • APPLICATION

(CCC 2676–77)

God the Father sent an angel to deliver a message about the Savior to Mary. (Remind the children that angels do not have bodies. But sometimes when God wanted certain people to be able to see or hear angels, God let the angels appear to have bodies. See Lesson 3, “Grace and Angels”.) God wanted Mary to know His message. God sent the angel to Mary so that she would know His message. The angel’s name was Gabriel.

Mary was very frightened when she saw Gabriel. So Gabriel quickly told her not to be afraid. Then Gabriel explained to Mary what God was inviting her to do. Gabriel told Mary that God was asking her to have a baby boy named Jesus. Gabriel said that Mary’s baby would “be called Son of the Most High” (Luke 1:32). Mary said “Yes” to God.

Mary is a good example for us to follow. She put her trust in God even when she was afraid and did not understand all that was happening. We should follow Mary’s example. When we are afraid and do not understand all that is happening in our lives, we can ask Mary to help us put our trust in God. We can say a prayer to Mary. We can say the Hail Mary.

Have the children listen while you say the Hail Mary:

*Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

Explain each phrase of the prayer as follows:

The prayer begins with the words “Hail, Mary”. That is like saying, “Hello, Mary.”

We go on to say, “full of grace” and “the Lord is with thee.”

Grace is God’s own life. This means that Mary was full of God’s life. Mary was born with grace and she never sinned. She always acted as an image of God. The Lord was really with her, dwelling in her as her baby.

*Have the students read and complete page 20 in their workbooks.*

### LESSON 7: JESUS, OUR SAVIOR

Directions: Think about the Hail Mary prayer. Circle the correct word.

Hail, Mary, full of grace,  
the LORD is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women

in blessed is love  
and the

fruit of thy womb, Jesus  
good

Holy Mary, Mother of God  
can of

pray for us sinners, now and  
not

at the hour of our death.  
down

Amen.



# LESSON 7: JESUS OUR SAVIOR

Next we say, "Blessed art thou among women". There are many good and famous women, but Mary is the best of all.

Then we say, "and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus." Mary is the Mother of Jesus.

We go on to say, "Holy Mary, Mother of God". Mary is the Mother of Jesus. Jesus is God the Son. So Mary is the Mother of God.

We end the prayer by saying, "Pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen." Since Mary is the Mother of God, He loves her very much, as we love our moms very much. God hears Mary's prayers. We ask her to pray for us that we will always act as images of God. Then when we die, we will be happy in Heaven with Jesus and His Mother.

Have the children repeat each phrase of the prayer after you.

## STORY OF FAITH: Saint Anthony, the Finder of Lost Things

Did you know that there is a saint that you can pray to when you lose things? Well, there is such a saint. This saint lived in a town in Italy called Padua. This saint is Saint Anthony of Padua. He lived a long time ago. He was born in the year 1195. We do not know very much about him. We do know that when he was baptized his name was Ferdinand. His parents were wealthy and powerful. They wanted their son to become a great nobleman. At the age of fifteen Ferdinand joined a religious order, the Augustinian Order.

After he had been studying in the monastery for ten years, something happened to change Ferdinand's life. Ferdinand heard about some men who belonged to the Franciscan Order. These men were killed because they were teaching about Jesus. (People who die because they believe in Jesus are called martyrs.) Ferdinand was so inspired by these men who suffered for Christ that he wanted to join the Franciscan Order. He wanted to become a Franciscan so that he might teach the Faith and maybe die for Christ. So Ferdinand left the Augustinian Order and joined the Franciscan Order. It was at this time that he took the name Anthony.

Anthony became a wonderful teacher. He could explain the most hidden meanings of Scripture and the teachings of the Church. He converted many people who had no faith. He loved to teach about God. Legend has it that one day when he was teaching some people who had no faith, he became so frustrated because they were not listening that he went to the river to teach to the fish. All the fish came to the surface to hear him.

The reason Saint Anthony is considered the finder of lost things comes from something that happened in his own life. One day a novice (someone who is living in a religious community and studying to see if he or she has a calling to that community) decided to leave the community. Not only did he leave without telling anyone, he also took Saint Anthony's prayer book. Saint Anthony used this book when he prayed or taught the other monks. He had even made notes in the margins of the pages.

*Have the students complete the lesson review worksheet for Lesson 7 (found in the Appendix).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Lesson 7: Jesus Our Savior

Lesson Review  
Worksheet

Fill in the blanks with the words below.

Mary      Jesus      Joseph

1. Jesus, the second Person of the Blessed Trinity, is our Savior.
2. Mary is Jesus' mother.
3. Joseph is Jesus' father on earth.

Circle the correct answer.

- |  |                                      |                                     |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 4. Was Adam the name of the first man?                           | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No            |
| 5. Was Eve the name of the first woman?                          | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No            |
| 6. When Adam and Eve committed Original Sin did they lose grace? | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No            |
| 7. Did God the Holy Spirit become man?                           | <input type="radio"/> Yes            | <input checked="" type="radio"/> No |
| 8. Did God the Son become man?                                   | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes | <input type="radio"/> No            |



Saint Anthony prayed very hard that his book would be found or returned to him. Saint Anthony's prayers were heard because the novice had a change of heart. He not only returned Saint Anthony's book but he returned to religious life. After Saint Anthony's death people began praying to him when they lost things. One of the monks made up a little prayer that goes, "The sea obeys and the fetters break, and lifeless limbs thou dost restore, while treasures lost are found again, when young or old thine aid implore."

Many miracles took place after Saint Anthony's death. Only one year after his death, Pope Gregory IX declared Anthony a saint. His feast day is June 13.

### CELEBRATION

#### Prayer

*Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.*

*Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.*

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

### ACTIVITIES

#### Puppets

Remind the children of the story "Jesus in the Temple". Tell the children that they will be making puppets to act out the story. Discuss with the children what puppets will be needed to act out the story. A puppet will be needed for each of the following characters: Mary, Joseph, Jesus, the teachers in the temple, and various friends and relatives. Puppets may also be made for animals, such as donkeys and dogs. Either you may assign the characters for the puppets or have the children choose which character they will make. After the puppets are made, read the story again, having the children act out various scenes, such as the crowd traveling, Mary and Joseph looking for Jesus, Jesus with the teachers in the temple, Mary and Joseph finding Jesus, etc. The puppet show may be acted out for another class or for the parents.

#### Materials needed:

brown lunch-bag-sized paper bags (one per child)  
crayons or markers  
construction paper, yarn, fabric scraps (optional)

**Note to the teacher:** It may be helpful to make a puppet ahead of time to show the children as an example.

Have the children lay their paper bags flat on their desks. Have the opening of the bags facing them. The side of the bag with the flap should be up. Have the children draw the mouths of their puppets first. The top of the mouth should be on the flap of the bag and the insides of the mouth should be under the flap. Have the children continue to add other features to their puppets.

**Optional:** The children may create the features of their puppets from construction paper and then glue the features on the paper bags. Yarn may be glued to the bags for hair or fur. Fabric may be glued to the bags for clothing.

Have the children place their hands in the bags. Their fingers should be in the top of the fold of the flaps and their thumbs underneath the flaps. When the children open and close their fingers, the puppets' mouths will open and close.

# LESSON 7: JESUS OUR SAVIOR

## Paperweights

Have the children paint their stones whatever color they choose. After the stones are dry, have the children glue pictures of Mary onto their stones. The children may give their stone paperweights to their parents as a gift.

### Materials needed:

round, smooth stone, approximately 2" to 3" in diameter (one per child)  
poster paints  
paintbrushes  
pictures of Mary from holy cards, Christmas cards, etc. (one per child)  
glue

## Holy Family Drawings

Have the children draw a picture of Mary, Joseph, or the Holy Family. They can print the title of their picture at the top of the paper (for example, "Hail Mary" for a picture of Mary; "Joseph, Jesus' father on earth" for a picture of Saint Joseph; or "Holy Family" for a picture of the Holy Family). Have the children discuss their pictures with the class, explaining what they think Mary or Joseph looked like, and why. Pictures may be displayed in the room or hallway.

### Materials needed:

drawing paper  
crayons or markers

## Class Discussion

After reading the story "Jesus in the Temple", discuss with the class what to do if someone becomes lost.

**Ask:** Has anyone ever been lost? What did you do? How did you feel? What happened?

What should someone who is lost do?

How can one avoid becoming lost?

## Handwriting Exercise

Print the following on the board: "Jesus Christ is our Savior."

Have the students copy the sentence in their best printing. They may decorate the paper with a picture of Jesus. Display their papers in the room or hallway.

### Materials needed:

lined printing paper  
pencils

## Watch a DVD

*Veggie Tales: Where Is God When I'm Scared?*

*The Virgin Mary, My Little Angels*

*Saint Joseph, My Little Angels*

*Mary, Mother of Jesus, Saints for Kids 5*

*Joseph, Saints for Kids 6*

## LESSON FOCUS

### Emphasis

God the Son became man to teach us about God, to show us how to act as images of God, to return God's love, and to help us return God's love. This lesson will focus on the miracles Jesus, God the Son, performed while He was on earth. These miracles show us God's love in a physical way and how we are to love others as images of God. These miracles help people to believe that Jesus is God the Son and they help people to follow Him.

### Correspondence to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Jesus' mission of Salvation: CCC 456–60  
 Jesus as true God and true man: CCC 464–70, 480–83  
 Jesus: the only Son of God: CCC 441–45, 454  
 Jesus as Messiah: CCC 436–40, 453  
 "The Kingdom of God is at hand": CCC 541–42, 567  
 Proclamation of the Kingdom of God: CCC 543–46  
 Miracles and other signs of the Kingdom: CCC 547–50, 567

### Vocabulary

**miracle:** an act that shows the power of God, helps people to have faith in what Jesus taught, and helps them to follow Him  
**magic:** tricks that make it seem that impossible things are happening

### Concepts of Faith

**Who is Jesus?**  
*Jesus is God the Son who became man. He is our Savior.*

## LESSON PRESENTATION

### Preparation

Set up a sacred space (see general instructions in the Introduction). Include a picture of Jesus. Pray the Hail Mary together.

### Proclamation

Miracles, done by the power of God, help people believe in God and follow Him.

## LESSON EXPLANATION

When Jesus, God the Son, was about thirty years old, He left Nazareth and began to travel around Israel teaching people about God. As He traveled great crowds of people would follow Him. Jesus would show people how God loved them and how they were to love God here on earth and to live with Him someday in Heaven.

Jesus came to show God's love. One way Jesus would show God's love was by performing miracles. People that were sick or handicapped would come to Jesus and ask for His help. Jesus loved these people. Sometimes He would cure them.

# LESSON 8: MIRACLES

Jesus used His power as God the Son to help these people. Sometimes He would simply look at the people and say a few words to heal them. Sometimes He would touch the people with His hands when he healed them.

## Review Questions

**1. What did Jesus show the crowds about God?**

*Jesus showed the crowds how God loved them and how they were to love God here on earth and live with Him someday in Heaven.*

**2. How did Jesus show the crowds God's love?**

*Jesus showed God's love by performing miracles.*

**3. How did Jesus perform His miracles?**

*Jesus performed by His power as God the Son.*

## SCRIPTURE STORY: A Blind Man Named Bartimaeus

Based on  
Mark 10:46–52

Wherever Jesus traveled, large crowds of people followed Him because they had heard about His teachings. The people also heard about the miracles Jesus performed. One day as Jesus was leaving a city called Jericho, a blind man named Bartimaeus was sitting by the roadside. When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was passing by, he called to Jesus from the crowd. Bartimaeus called, "Jesus, have mercy on me!"

Many people told the blind man to be quiet, but he called out louder, "Have mercy on me!"

Then Jesus stopped and asked Bartimaeus to come to Him. Bartimaeus sprang up and came to Jesus. Jesus asked Bartimaeus, "What do you want me to do for you?"

*Have the students read and complete page 21 and 22 in their workbooks.*

### LESSON 8: MIRACLES

Directions: Read each sentence. Look at the rhyming word. Find the word that rhymes. Write the correct word on the line.

well      walk      Son      see

Jesus is God the s o n.  
It rhymes with bun.

Jesus made the blind man s e e.  
It rhymes with me.

Jesus made the lame man w a l k.  
It rhymes with talk.

Jesus made the sick people w e l l.  
It rhymes with bell.

21

### LESSON 8: MIRACLES

Directions: Look at the pictures. Read each sentence. One word is missing. Circle the word that belongs in the sentence. Print that word on the lines.

The m a n cannot see.  
man   cat   doll



Will you help m e?  
can   do   me

I will help y o u.  
you   is   for



Now the man c a n see.  
get   can   it

22

Bartimaeus answered, “Master, let me receive my sight.”

Jesus said to him, “Go your way; your faith has made you well.” Because Bartimaeus believed in Jesus, Jesus cured him. Immediately Bartimaeus could see. He started to follow Jesus on the road.

## Review Questions

**1. Why did the people follow Jesus?**

*The people followed Jesus because they heard about His teachings and about the miracles He performed.*

**2. What handicap did Bartimaeus have?**

*He could not see.*

**3. What did Bartimaeus want Jesus to do?**

*He wanted Jesus to heal him so he could see.*

**4. What did Jesus mean when He told Bartimaeus that his faith had healed him?**

*He meant that because Bartimaeus believed in Jesus, Jesus cured him.*

## ENHANCING THE LESSON • LESSON EXPLANATION PART 2

When Jesus lived on earth He helped many people. He healed the sick, the lame, and the blind. He was merciful and forgave people’s sins. Soon the people began to trust in Him and come to Him for help. In the Gospel of Mark we find a story about some people who turned to Jesus for help.

## SCRIPTURE STORY: The Paralyzed Man

Based on Mark 2:1–5, 11–12

All the people in town heard that Jesus was coming home from one of His travels. A large crowd gathered in and around the house where Jesus was preaching. The crowd was so large that there was no room by the door or in the house.

Four friends heard that Jesus was in town and they had an idea. They had a friend who could not walk. He was paralyzed. They carried their friend to the house where Jesus was teaching. But the crowd was so large that they could not get anywhere near Jesus.

The men had an idea of how to get close to Jesus. They carried their friend up to the roof of the house. The men removed part of the roof over the room in which Jesus was sitting. In those days the roofs of houses were not like our roofs today. Our roofs are made of wood and have shingles on them. But in those days the roofs were made with straw or reeds that were spread over the top of the house. After the men removed some of the roof, they lowered their friend on his stretcher down to Jesus.

When Jesus saw the faith of the men and their friend, He said, “Your sins are forgiven.” But the people did not understand why Jesus would say this. So Jesus, who knew what they were thinking, said, “Why do you question like this in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven’, or to say, ‘Rise, take up your pallet and walk’? But

**Note to the teacher:** You may wish to read and discuss several other miracles Jesus performed. These readings may be taken directly from Scripture, or from a children’s Bible. The following is a list of suggested readings:

Cleansing of a leper: Matthew 8:2–3

Curing Peter’s mother-in law: Matthew 8:14–15

Feeding of the five thousand: Matthew 14:15–21, John 6:1–5

Walking on water: Matthew 14:22–23, John 6:16–21

Healing of two blind men: Matthew 20:29–34

Miracle at Cana: John 2:1–11

Jesus heals the man at the pool: John 5:3–9

Jesus heals an official’s son: John 4:46–54

Jesus cleanses ten lepers: Luke 17:11–19

Jesus calms a storm: Luke 8:22–25

## LESSON 8: MIRACLES

that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,” he said to the paralyzed man, “I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home.” And the man got up and immediately took up the stretcher and went out before the crowd. All the people were amazed and glorified God.

The paralyzed man must have asked his friends to help him. He knew he could not go where Jesus was all by himself. He probably knew that if he asked, Jesus would help him. The friends of the man who was paralyzed showed great trust in Jesus, too. They knew their friend needed help and they brought him to Jesus because they trusted that Jesus would help them.

Jesus, God the Son, performed miracles to help people believe in Him. He loved the people and He wanted to show people God’s love.

### Review Questions

- 1. How did the men get their friend in to see Jesus?**  
*They made a hole in the roof and lowered their friend in to see Jesus.*
- 2. What did Jesus first say to the man?**  
*Jesus said, “Your sins are forgiven.”*
- 3. What miracle did Jesus perform for the man?**  
*Jesus healed the man so he could walk.*
- 4. Why did Jesus perform miracles?**  
*Jesus performed miracles to help people believe in Him, because He loved the people and He wanted to show the people God’s love.*

### LIVING THE LESSON • APPLICATION

Jesus, God the Son, performed miracles to help people believe in Him. He loved the people and He wanted to show people God’s love. The miracles were not done by magic, but by the power of God. Jesus did not need magic. Jesus is God the Son and, as God, He can do anything.

**Ask:** Have any of you ever seen a magic act, or do you know any magic tricks? (Allow the children time to share their experiences.)

Magic is done through tricks. Magic tricks make it seem that impossible things are happening. Magic is a trick, but miracles can only be done by the power of God.

**Note to the teacher:** You may want to teach the children a simple magic trick.

**Ask:** Can we perform miracles? *No.*

**What can we perform?** *Magic tricks.*

**Who can perform miracles?** *Jesus.*

**Have any of you ever visited someone who was sick?**

**Did you bring the sick person anything to show the person your love?**

By performing miracles, Jesus showed the people how God loves and how we should love as images of God. Jesus loved those who were sick. As images of God, we can show our love for others who are sick.



**Ask:** What are some things we can do for people who are sick? *Send cards, bring flowers, visit with them, say prayers for them, etc.*

Sometimes when we are sick, we have to go see a doctor. The doctor helps us feel better. He does not use miracles as Jesus did.

**Ask:** Does the doctor simply touch us to cure us? *No. The doctor uses his knowledge and medicine to help us.*

**How do doctors help us?** *By giving us medicine, by performing operations to repair what is wrong, by telling us what to do so that we may someday feel better, etc.*

**Note to the teacher:** You may want to have the children make cards or draw pictures to be sent to a local hospital or care facility to cheer the patients.

**Note to the teacher:** You may want to have a doctor or a nurse visit the classroom.

## STORY OF FAITH: Sara Visits the Doctor

Sara and her mom were leaving the doctor's office. The doctor had checked Sara's ears. The doctor had said that she had an ear infection and needed to take some medicine. So Sara and her mom were on their way to the pharmacy to get the medicine.

Sara's ear still hurt even after she left the doctor's office.

"Mom," Sara said, "I wish the doctor could just touch my ear and take the pain away. Yesterday in school we read about a miracle that Jesus performed. Jesus laid His hands on the person and that person was better right away. I wish the doctor could do what Jesus did. I wish the doctor could have healed my ear right away."

Sara's mom said, "You know that Jesus is God the Son. He is all-powerful. That is why He can perform miracles. The doctor cannot perform miracles as Jesus did. The doctor cannot cure your ear infection by touching your ear. But the doctor knows you have an ear infection and knows what medicine you can take to feel better."

Sara and her mother stopped at the pharmacy to buy the medicine for Sara's ear. In the car on the way home Sara thought again about Jesus' miracles. It must have been wonderful to have lived during the time Jesus was on earth. Sara thought about what her mom had said. Sara knew that the doctor could not perform miracles as Jesus did, but she was glad that the doctor knew what medicine would stop the pain in her ear.

When Sara came home her sister, Ruth, gave Sara a get-well card. Ruth knew Sara was not feeling well, and she hoped that the card she had made would help Sara feel better.

*Have the students read and complete page 23 in their workbooks.*

### LESSON 8: MIRACLES

*Directions: Help the blind man find his way to Jesus.*



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## LESSON 8: MIRACLES

Later that night when Sara was in bed, she thought about all of the people who had helped her feel better. She thought about her mom and the doctor. Sara knew her mom loved her and wanted her ear to feel better. She knew that the doctor wanted her to take the medicine so she would feel better. She thought about Ruth making her a card to cheer her. Sara knew God must love her very much to give her so many people to care for her. Sara knew that by caring for her, these people were showing their love for her and were acting as images of God.

### Review Questions

- 1. Why did Sara go to visit the doctor?**  
*She had an ear infection.*
- 2. What did Sara wish the doctor could do?**  
*She wished the doctor could take the pain away by simply touching her ear.*
- 3. What did Sara's mom tell her?**  
*Her mom told her that the doctor could not perform a miracle as Jesus could.*
- 4. How did the doctor help Sara?**  
*The doctor helped Sara by telling Sara's mom what medicine to buy.*
- 5. How did Sara's sister help her feel better?**  
*She made a get-well card for Sara.*
- 6. By loving her, who were Sara's mother, the doctor, and Ruth acting like?**  
*They were acting like images of God.*

*Have the students complete the Lesson 8 review worksheet (found in the Appendix).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Lesson 8: Miracles

Lesson Review  
Worksheet

Draw a picture of your favorite miracle of Jesus.

Read each sentence. Circle True if the statement is true and False if the statement is not true.

- One way Jesus showed God's love was by performing miracles. ☒ True ☐ False
- Jesus performed His miracles by His power as God the Son. ☒ True ☐ False
- The miracles were performed by magic. ☐ True ☒ False

10 Lesson 8 Miracles

## CELEBRATION

### Prayer

*Dear Jesus, I know You are God the Son.  
You showed Your love by performing miracles for the sick.  
Help me to show my love by acting as an image of God toward those who are sick.  
Amen.*

## ACTIVITIES

### Bartimaeus and Jesus Pictures

Before class, you may wish to cut the drawing paper to fit inside the box lids. Remind the children of the story, “A Blind Man Named Bartimaeus”. Have the children draw the background from the story (for example, trees, a crowd of people, hills, clouds, etc.). Have the children glue their background pictures inside their box lids. Next, have the children draw a picture of Jesus and a picture of Bartimaeus. Have the children cut out the figures of Jesus and Bartimaeus, leaving a square tab at the bottom of their figures. Fold the tabs back and paste the bottoms of the tabs to the inside edge of the box lids. The figures will stand up and out from the background, forming a 3-D picture.

#### Materials needed:

lids from shoe boxes (one per child)  
heavy drawing paper  
crayons or markers  
scissors  
glue

### Miracle Pictures

Read several of Jesus’ miracles to the children (see the list of suggested readings at the end of the Lesson Explanation Part 2 section of this lesson). Have the children draw a picture of their favorite miracle and explain to the class why it’s their favorite.

#### Materials needed:

children’s Bible  
drawing paper  
crayons or markers

### Creative Drama

Have the children act out the story, “A Blind Man Named Bartimaeus”. Talk about how this miracle showed God’s love.

### Handwriting Exercise

Print the following on the board: “Jesus performed miracles because He is God the Son.”

Have the students copy the sentence in their best printing. They may decorate the paper with pictures of the miracles Jesus performed. Display their papers in the room or hallway.

#### Materials needed:

lined printing paper  
pencils

### Watch a DVD

*The Miracles of Jesus*  
*The Miracle Marker*

## LESSON FOCUS

### Emphasis

God the Son became man to teach us about God, to show us how to act as images of God, to return God's love, and to help us return God's love. By returning God's love, Jesus revived the friendship between God and man—the friendship forfeited by Adam and Eve. Furthermore, as God the Son, He is the perfect image of God. Jesus is our perfect example. He shows us God and how we should act as images of God. This lesson and the next lesson will present examples of Jesus teaching us how to act as images of God.

In this lesson the definition of prayer, the kinds of prayer, how to pray, and the appropriate times to pray will be discussed. In particular, the Our Father will be presented. It is suggested that the Our Father be a part of the children's daily prayers if it is not already.

### Correspondence to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Filial trust in prayer: CCC 2734–41, 2756  
Jesus at prayer: CCC 2598–606, 2620  
Jesus hears and answers prayer: CCC 2616, 2621  
Jesus teaches how to pray: CCC 2607–15, 2621  
Lord's Prayer:  
    "Our Father who art in Heaven": CCC 2777–802  
    "Hallowed be Thy name": CCC 2807–15, 2858  
    "Thy Kingdom come": CCC 2816–21, 2859  
    "Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven":  
        CCC 2822–27, 2860  
    "Give us this day our daily bread": CCC 2828–37,  
        2861  
    "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who  
        trespass against us": CCC 2838–45, 2862  
    "Lead us not into temptation": CCC 2846–49, 2863  
    "But deliver us from evil": CCC 2850–54, 2864  
Final doxology: CCC 2855–56, 2865  
Lord's Prayer as summary of the whole gospel:  
CCC 2761–76  
Prayer and the saints: CCC 2683–84, 2692  
Prayer in communion with Mary: CCC 2673–79, 2682  
Prayer to Jesus: CCC 2665–69, 2680  
Prayer to the Father: CCC 2664, 2680  
Prayer to the Holy Spirit: CCC 2670–72, 2681  
Prayers of blessing and adoration: CCC 2626–28, 2681  
Prayers of praise: CCC 2639–43, 2649  
Prayers of intercession: CCC 2634–36, 2647  
Prayers of petition: CCC 2629–33, 2646  
Prayers of thanksgiving: CCC 2637–38, 2648  
Seven petitions of the Lord's Prayer: CCC 2803–6, 2857  
What is prayer?: CCC 2559–65, 2590, 2644

### Vocabulary

**prayer:** raising our hearts and minds to God by talking and listening to Him

**hallowed:** holy

**praise:** to give glory and honor

### Concepts of Faith

#### What is prayer?

*Prayer is raising our minds and hearts to God by talking and listening to Him.*

#### What is the prayer that Jesus taught us?

*Jesus taught us the Our Father.*

# LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

## LESSON PRESENTATION

### Preparation

Set up a sacred space (see general instructions in the Introduction). Include a picture of a person or family at prayer. Pray the Guardian Angel prayer together.

### Proclamation

When we pray we raise our hearts and minds to God.

## LESSON EXPLANATION

When Jesus lived on earth, He often went off by Himself to pray. Jesus wants us to follow His example and to pray often. Prayer is raising our minds and hearts to God by talking and listening to Him.

**Ask:** How would you feel if you had a teacher who chose to ignore the students or chose not to speak to them?

How about if you said, “Good morning”, and the teacher would not answer?

What if you asked the teacher a question and the teacher turned away; or if you tried to tell the teacher something that happened and the teacher walked away?

**Would that be a good kind of teacher to have?** No.  
*The teacher would not get to know the children; the children would not get to know the teacher; and the children would never learn anything from the teacher.*

**What if you had a friend who chose never to talk to you? Would that be a good kind of friend to have?**  
No.

**Note to the teacher:** Exceptions should be noted for children and teachers who are unable to speak. It should be pointed out to the children that people who are unable to speak communicate with others in a different way. Sometimes they communicate by sign language or writing. We are not discussing people who cannot communicate through speech, but people who choose not to communicate at all.

God loves us very much—so much that He made us in His image. We should talk to God often, asking Him to help us act as images of God. There are many kinds of things we can talk (pray) to God about just as there are many things we talk to our friends about. We can say “thank you” to God for all the wonderful things He has given us.

**Ask:** What would you thank God for? *A nice day, good friends, brothers and sisters, our families, etc.*

**We can ask God for help. What might you want God to help you with?** *To act always as an image of God, to obey parents, to do good work in school, etc.*

**We can say “I’m sorry” to God. What are some examples of things we would say “I’m sorry” for?**  
*Disobeying, hitting, being angry, etc.*

**We can praise God when we pray. How would we praise God in prayer?** *God, You are so good and wonderful; God, You know what is best for us; God, You are a loving Father; etc.* (The idea of praising God might be unfamiliar to the children. Explain that a teacher may praise you by saying you have done a good job on your schoolwork. You might praise friends by telling them they can run really quickly, play the piano well, or that they are very smart. We might praise God by saying how wonderful we think He is.)

**What is the best time and place to pray?** *The answer given most often will be “When we are in church.”*



## LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

**Is during Mass at church the only time and place we can pray?** No. We can pray anytime and anywhere.

**What are some examples of places and times of prayer?** At the table before and after meals, in our bedrooms when we wake up or go to bed, at school before class, in the car on a trip, etc.

**Do we have to say our prayers out loud for God to hear us?** No. God hears all our prayers whether they are silent or spoken out loud. We can pray when we are all by ourselves or when we are with others.

**What are some times that we pray with others?** At Mass, at school, at home with our families, etc.

### Review Questions

**1. What is prayer?**

Prayer is raising our hearts and minds to God by talking and listening to Him.

**2. Why do we pray?**

We pray to say "thank you", to ask for help, to say "I'm sorry", and to praise God.

**3. Where and when can we pray?**

We can pray anywhere and anytime.

**4. Do we have to pray out loud for God to hear us?**

No. God hears all our prayers whether they are silent or spoken out loud.

**5. Do we have to be alone to pray?**

No. We can be alone or with others.

### SCRIPTURE STORY: Jesus Prays for Strength

Based on Luke 22:39–43 and  
Matthew 26:36–44

On the night before Jesus died, He went to a garden called Gethsemane to pray. Some of the Apostles went with Him. When they arrived, Jesus said to them, "Sit here, while I go over there to pray." Then He said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with Me." Going a little farther, Jesus knelt down and prayed, "My Father, if it be possible, let this chalice pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as Thou will." Two more times Jesus prayed this prayer to His Father asking for strength. Then there appeared to Him an angel from Heaven, strengthening Him.

Jesus prayed to God the Father for the strength He needed to suffer and to die on the Cross. Jesus was willing to accept and to do what His Father asked. God the Father gave Jesus the strength He needed to do what was asked of Him. When we need to do something that is difficult for us to do, we should pray to God the way Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane. God will always give us the strength we need if we ask Him.

*Have the students read and complete page 24 in their workbooks.*

#### LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES HOW US TO PRAY

Directions: Read the two sentences next to each picture. Draw a line under the sentence that tells about the picture.



We can pray when we eat.  
We can play.



We go to school.  
We can pray when we go to bed.



We can pray at church.  
We can help mom.



We can run.  
We can pray with boys and girls.



We pray to God.  
We can go to the store.



## Review Questions

1. What is the name of the garden where Jesus went to pray?  
*The garden was called Gethsemane.*
2. What did Jesus ask God the Father to give Him?  
*He asked for strength.*
3. Who came to strengthen Jesus?  
*An angel came to strengthen Him.*

## ENHANCING THE LESSON • LESSON EXPLANATION PART 2

**Ask:** Did you know that there is a prayer book in the Bible? What is it called? *The Book of Psalms is the prayer book of the Bible.*

**Have any of you ever read one of the psalms from the Bible?**

Even if you yourself have not read the psalms from the Bible, you have probably prayed or sung the psalms in some way. For instance, did you know that the verses of several psalms are used throughout the Mass? There are four places in the Mass where the psalms can be heard: during the Entrance Procession, after the First Reading, during the Prayer over the Offerings, and at Holy Communion time.

Like all prayers, the psalms speak to God. They may take the form of praise and adoration, thanksgiving, petition (asking God for something), or contrition (telling God we are sorry).

**Ask:** I will read a line from a Psalm. Can you guess what kind of prayer it is? “Praise the LORD with the lyre, make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!” (Psalm 33:2). (Lead children to answer that it is a prayer of praise.)

**How about this one?** “O give thanks to the LORD, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever” (Psalm 136:1). (Lead children to answer that it is a prayer of thanksgiving.)

**Let’s try one more:** “Deliver me from my enemies, O my God, protect me from those who rise up against me” (Psalm 59:1). (Lead the children to answer that it is a petition—asking God for help.)

Jesus used the psalms when He prayed.

**Ask:** Do you remember what He said while hanging on the Cross? He said, “My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?” Matthew 27:46.

Here is the first line of Psalm 22. “My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?”

**Ask:** Are they the same? Yes. When Jesus was on the Cross, He prayed from the Book of Psalms.

**What do you suppose Jesus was trying to teach us?** He was teaching us that we need to pray, that we need to pray when we are hurting or afraid, that we can pray to God anytime, anywhere, out loud, or silently, and that God always hears our prayers.

## LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

### Review Questions

1. What is the prayer book in the Bible called?

*The Book of Psalms is the prayer book of the Bible.*

2. Where do we hear the psalms prayed?

*We hear the psalms prayed at Mass.*

3. What is one of the times in which Jesus prayed the psalms?

*Jesus prayed the psalms on the Cross.*

### LIVING THE LESSON • APPLICATION

When Jesus lived on earth He often went off by Himself to pray. One day His special friends, the Apostles, asked Jesus to teach them to pray, too (Luke 11:1).

Jesus told them to pray like this: "Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen" (Matthew 6:9–13).

Jesus told His friends it is important to pray every day. He told them that God hears all our prayers. God knows what is best for us and gives us all we need to be happy on earth and to be happy someday with Him in Heaven.

Tell the children that they will be learning this special prayer that Jesus taught—the Our Father. We call God our Father because He made us. We are His children. He loves us. We begin this special prayer by saying, "Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name." When we say these words, we mean, "Our Father in Heaven, Your name is holy." Next we say, "Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven." That means we will try to do what God asks us to do here on earth, just as the angels and saints do what God asks in Heaven. We ask God for our daily food by saying, "Give us this day our daily bread." When we say this we are not just asking for bread and other food for our bodies, we are asking for ways to learn about God. Then we say, "and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us". This means we should forgive people who do things that hurt us just as God forgives us when we make wrong choices and are sorry. We end this special prayer by saying, "and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." Here we are asking for God's help so we can always act as images of God. We do not want to make wrong choices. We say "Amen" at the end of the prayer. This means that we believe what we have said in the prayer.

Have the children repeat each phrase of the Our Father after you.

*Have the students read and complete page 25 in their workbooks.*

#### LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

Directions: Cut out the boxes below. Glue the box with the correct word on each of the blanks.

Our Father Who art in Heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name. Thy  
kingdom come. Thy will be  
done on earth, as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily  
bread, and forgive us our  
trespasses, as we forgive  
those who trespass against  
us, and lead us not  
into temptation, but deliver  
us from evil. Amen.

	us
and	Father
we	name
us	come
not	will
Amen	Give

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## LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

**Ask:** Have you heard this prayer at church? (Explain to the children that we say the Our Father during Mass.)

After they have learned the Our Father, tell them that they should join with all the people at Mass in saying this special prayer that Jesus taught us.

The Our Father may now be included in the children's daily prayers. You may wish to have them repeat each phrase after you until they are more familiar with the words.

**Note to the teacher:** You may wish to point out to the children that when the Our Father is said during Mass, the "Amen" is not said at the end of the prayer.

### Review Questions

1. What is the name of the special prayer Jesus taught us?

*The name of this prayer is the Our Father.*

2. What does "hallowed be Thy name" mean?

*It means God's name is holy.*

3. What does "Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven" mean?

*We will try to do what God asks us to do here on earth just as the angels and saints do what God asks in Heaven.*

4. When we say, "Give us this day our daily bread," does that mean we are just asking for food to eat?

*No. It also means we are asking for ways to learn about God.*

5. When we say, "and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil", what are we asking for?

*We are asking for God's help so we can always act as images of God.*

6. We pray the Our Father with other people at what special time?

*We pray the Our Father during Mass.*

### STORY OF FAITH: Mark's Prayer

In a few months, something very exciting would happen in Mark's family. Mark's mother was going to have a baby. Everyone in Mark's family was very excited and very happy!

Mark's mother unpacked all the baby clothes she had saved and made them ready for the new baby. Mark and his father painted the spare room, which would be the new baby's bedroom. Now the three of them just had to wait for the big day when the baby would be born.

Mark wanted the new baby to be a boy. Mark wanted a little brother very much. Mark learned in religion class that God always hears all of our prayers. Mark decided to pray that the new baby would be a boy. Every morning after he got up and every night before he fell asleep, Mark would pray, "Dear God, I really would like a baby brother. Please let this baby be a boy."

Soon the big day came! Mark waited at home with his grandmother while his father took his mother to the hospital. Before long, the phone rang.

It was Mark's father calling to say the baby had been born. It was a girl! Both Mark's mother and his new little sister were fine. Mark's father said Mark could visit them the next day.

Mark was so disappointed. He went to his room. He lay on his bed and prayed, "God, didn't You hear my prayer? I wanted a little brother. Why did You give me a little sister?"

The next day Mark's father took Mark to the hospital to visit his mother and to meet his new sister. Mark was anxious to see his mother, but he did not want to see his sister. Mark's mother was glad to see him. She told him how important he was to her and to the new baby. He was a big brother now. His job was to help his mother and father care for his little sister. Then Mark's mother asked if he wanted to see

## LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

his sister. Mark did not want to see his sister, but he did not want to hurt his mother's feelings either, so Mark said "Yes" to his mother.

The nurse came in carrying a small bundle. Mark's mother told him to sit in the big chair next to the bed. After he sat down the nurse put the bundle of blankets into his arms. She opened up the covers and inside was the tiniest baby Mark had ever seen. This tiny baby was so soft and warm. She had lots of fuzzy hair. Mark put his finger by her hand and she held on to his finger really tight. The baby opened her eyes. She seemed to look right at Mark. Suddenly Mark felt very grown-up. He wanted to protect his little sister from all the things that could hurt her. Mark thought about all the things he would do with his sister and all the things he would teach her. Mark was glad that God had given him a little sister. Mark understood that God knew what was best for Mark and his whole family. Mark knew that God wanted him to love and to care for his little sister and Mark was ready to do just that.

God always knows what is best for each of us. When we pray for something and we do not receive what we have prayed for, it is not because God did not hear us. It is because God knows what is best for us. We have to learn to trust in God. He loves us and will always care for us.

*Have the students read and complete page 26 in their workbooks.*

**LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY**

*Directions: Cut out each box. Glue the boxes in order according to the days of the week. Start with Sunday.*

<b>THURSDAY</b> Sing a song about Jesus.	<b>SUNDAY</b> Praise God today.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> Say the Our Father.	<b>TUESDAY</b> Tell God that you are sorry.
<b>FRIDAY</b> Tell God that you love Him.	<b>SATURDAY</b> Ask God to help you be good.
<b>MONDAY</b> Say "thank you" to God today.	Have a great week! 

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### Review Questions

1. What was going to happen in Mark's family?  
*Mark's mother was going to have a baby.*
2. Did Mark want a brother or a sister?  
*Mark wanted a brother.*
3. What did Mark do every morning and every night?  
*He prayed for a brother.*
4. Did God hear Mark's prayer?  
*Yes.*
5. Did God answer Mark's prayer the way Mark wanted?  
*No.*
6. Who knows what is best for us?  
*God knows what is best for us.*

# LESSON 9: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO PRAY

*Have the students complete the lesson review worksheet for Lesson 9 (found in the Appendix).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Lesson 9: Jesus Teaches Us How to Pray** Lesson Review  
Worksheet

*Draw or write what you would like to tell God.*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear God,

Love, \_\_\_\_\_

This is a sample for a prayer journal page. See Activities section for Lesson 9 in the Teacher's Manual.

Lesson 9 Jesus Teaches Us How to Pray 11

## CELEBRATION

### Prayer

*Our Father Who art in Heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth, as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
Amen.*



## ACTIVITIES

### Illustrated Our Father Booklet

Have the students draw a picture to represent each phrase of the Our Father on the appropriate page. The children may design a cover for the booklet on the blank piece of construction paper folded or cut to the same size as the booklet page. Punch holes in the set and have students fasten the cover and the paper together with the yarn to form Our Father booklets. The children may take their booklets home to help them learn the prayer.

#### Materials needed:

seven sheets of drawing paper with one of the seven petitions of the Our Father printed on each sheet (one set per child)  
blank construction paper (one sheet per child)  
10 × 12 inches of yarn (two pieces per child)  
hole punch  
crayons or markers

### Prayer Wheel

From the poster board, cut two large circles about 8 inches wide (one set per child).

Divide the bottom circle into 6 pie-shaped sections. Use a black marker to make the divisions distinct for the student. Cut out a pie-shaped wedge from the top circle, the same size as one of the sections on the bottom circle. If the students are able to cut carefully, this may be done by the teacher beforehand. Have the students draw and color pictures of something they are thankful for in each section. On the top circle, write the words, "Thank you, God, for . . .". Punch a hole in the middle of both pieces of poster board and fasten them together with a paper fastener (a brad), making sure that the top circle will turn freely.

#### Materials needed:

Half sheets of poster board or tag board  
paper  
crayons  
pencils  
scissors  
brads (paper fasteners)

Have the students take turns rotating the top circle of their wheels and telling the class about the pictures.

### Classroom Activity—Prayer Service

Conduct a prayer service with the children. To prepare for the service, have the children draw pictures of themselves praying in various places (for example, at home, in the bedroom, in the car, at church, etc.). Label a large piece of poster board, "We talk to God in prayer", and hang it on the wall. Begin with a favorite song about Jesus. Read Matthew 6:9–15 to the children. Have the children tape their pictures on the poster and tell the class what their pictures show. Then, have the children pray the Our Father together. End the prayer service with another song.



## Spiritual Bouquet

Select someone for whom the class can pray, or ask the students each to think of someone for whom they would like to pray. It could be their pastor, principal, parents, a friend, or someone else they know who is in need of prayers.

Have each student fold the construction paper in half to form a card. On the front of the card the students should draw flowers. On the inside they should write the prayers they will say for the person, and the number of times they will say it (for example, two Hail Marys, three Our Fathers, and one Glory Be). Make sure the numbers are reasonable. Help the students remember to say the prayers by praying in class with them. You or the students may give the spiritual bouquets to the people for whom they are praying.

### Materials needed:

construction paper (one sheet per child)  
crayons or markers  
pencils

## Prayer Journal

Have each child create a prayer journal. The prayer journal can be made by stapling sheets of writing paper together. A cover can be made by having the student print "My Prayer Journal" on the first page. Each day, have the children take five to ten minutes to write a note to God. Remind the children of the types of prayer: praise, contrition, petition, and thanksgiving. The pages can be stapled together to form a booklet, or a spiral notebook may be used.

## Prayer Corner

If you have not already done so, set aside a corner of your room for prayer. Display a picture or statue of Jesus, Mary, or one of the saints. Place a Bible, a basket, a candle (battery operated), and some children's prayer books in the corner. Provide something comfortable for the students to sit on, such as carpet squares or pillows. Set up guidelines for the use of the prayer corner. Suggest that the students draw pictures of what they want to thank God for and place their drawings in the basket.

## Handwriting Exercise

Print the following on the board: "Jesus taught us how to pray."

Have the students copy the sentence in their best printing. They may decorate the paper with pictures of them praying. Display their papers in the room or hallway.

### Materials needed:

lined printing paper  
pencils

## Watch a DVD

*Animated Rosary for Kids*  
*The Best of Little Children*  
*Prayers for Little Children*

# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

## LESSON FOCUS

### Emphasis

In this lesson we will present another example of Jesus teaching us how we are to act as images of God.

The eight beatitudes will be presented and explained in this lesson. The beatitudes will be defined as the “best attitudes”—ways an image of God should think, feel, and act. By living the beatitudes, we will be happy here on earth and be happy someday with God in Heaven.

### Correspondence to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

Beatitudes: CCC 1716–17, 1725, 1820

Christian beatitude: CCC 1720–24, 1728–29

Desire for happiness: CCC 1718, 1727

Forgiveness: CCC 2842–45, 2862

Heaven: CCC 1023–29, 1052–53

New Law or Law of the Gospel: CCC 1965–74, 1977,  
1983–86

Peace: CCC 2302–6, 2330

Poverty of spirit: CCC 2544–47, 2556

Purity of heart: CCC 2517–19, 2531–33

### Vocabulary

**blessed:** holy; set apart for God

**mourn:** being sad

**meek:** not proud

**inherit:** to receive something from one’s parent or  
parents

**righteousness:** wanting to do what is right

### Concepts of Faith

**What are the eight beatitudes?**

*The eight beatitudes are the “best attitudes”—the ways  
an image of God should think, feel, and act.*

## LESSON PRESENTATION

### Preparation

Set up a sacred space (see general instructions in the Introduction). Include a picture of the Sermon on the Mount. Pray the Our Father together.

### Proclamation

God put us in the world to know, love, and serve Him, and so to come to Heaven.

## SCRIPTURE STORY: The Eight Beatitudes

(Matthew 5:3–12)

One day when Jesus was teaching His friends about God, Jesus told them of eight ways to live so that they might be happy here on earth and be happy someday with God in Heaven. These eight ways to live are called the eight beatitudes. The eight beatitudes are the “best attitudes”—the ways an image of God should think, feel, and act. We will study the beatitudes and what they mean so that we can follow them and act as images of God.

# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

## First Beatitude

**"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."**

Write the first beatitude on the board. Point out words the children may know (are, the, poor, in, for, is, of, etc.). Read the beatitude to the children.

**Ask:** Do you know what the word "blessed" means? *Holy; set apart for God.*

All the beatitudes start with the word "blessed". The beatitudes are the best attitudes we can have. They are ways we can act like God and become more like Him—holier.

Read the beatitude again. Explain to the children that "poor in spirit" means that having a lot of money or toys or fancy clothes should not be so important to us that we forget about God. God should come first in our lives. God, not things, should be most important to us. When we try to act as images of God in all we think and say and do, then the Kingdom of Heaven will be ours: we will share God's life here on earth and in Heaven.

**Ask:** How can we show that we are poor in spirit—that God means more to us than things? *By thanking God for all He has given us, by not being envious of what our friends have, by sharing what we have with others, by not asking our parents to buy something for us every time they go to the store, by not crying or complaining when we cannot have a certain toy or certain kinds of clothes, etc.*

## Second Beatitude

**"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."**

Write the second beatitude on the board. Help the children read the words that they are able to recognize. Read the beatitude to the children.

**Ask:** Can you guess what the word "mourn" means? *To feel sorrow or sadness.*

**What things make you sad?** *Being hurt, lonely, or sick, making wrong choices, etc.*

This second beatitude tells us that when we are sad, we should think of how much God loves us and we should remember that God cares for us. This can help us feel better. We should trust and believe that God is always with us so we are never alone, no matter how lonely and sad we feel. God comforts us when we feel sad.

**Ask:** What are some of the ways that you can act as images of God and try to help people who are sad feel better? *Give them a hug, hold their hand, listen to them talk about their problems, smile at them, tell them "I love you", etc.*

When we try to help someone who is sad feel better, we are comforting that sad person. We are acting as God acts.

**Ask:** How can we show that we trust in God? *By praying when we need help, by not complaining, by trying to find something good even in a bad situation, etc.*

**How can we comfort people (try to help them feel better) when they are sad?** *By smiling at them, giving them hugs, telling them we love them, doing kind things for them, holding their hands, etc.*

## Third Beatitude

**"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth."**

Write the third beatitude on the board. As in the presentation of the other beatitudes, point out any words that are familiar to the children. Read the beatitude to the children. Explain to the children that in this beatitude Jesus was talking about people who are meek, or humble. This beatitude tells us that people who are humble will receive God's life here on earth and share His life in Heaven.

# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

**Ask:** Do you know what the word “humble” means? (Allow the children time to respond.) *Not bragging or thinking that you are better or more important than anyone else.*

A person who is humble does not always want to be first in line. Humble people would not always want their own way (for example, making their friends play games by their own rules). People who are humble love others—thinking of others before themselves.

When Jesus lived on earth, He always showed His love for all people. He healed people, He forgave people, and He was kind and gentle. If we are to act as images of God, we should act as Jesus did by showing our love for all people.

**Ask:** Can you think of things humble persons do? *Compliment their friends on the things they do well, pick up things off the floor even when they did not drop them, help at home and school even before they are asked, be kind to everyone even when someone else is not kind to them, etc.*

## Fourth Beatitude

**“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.”**

Write the fourth beatitude on the board. After the children read the words they recognize, read the complete beatitude to them.

**Ask:** What do you do when you are hungry or thirsty? *When we are hungry or thirsty, we want something to eat or drink. If we are very hungry or thirsty, we need something to eat or drink.*

This beatitude tells us that we should “hunger and thirst for righteousness”. That does not mean that we should want to be right all the time. It means that we should want to do what is right. When we want to do what is right we want to act as images of God, doing what God wants us to do. That means we should want to do what is right.

**Ask:** If we want to do what is right, whom should we want to be like? *God.*

Under the words “hunger and thirst for righteousness” write “want to do what is right”. So if we want to do what is right, we should always try to act as images of God, even when it is not easy. If we do that, then we will be happy here on earth and we will be happy someday with God in Heaven.

**Ask:** What are some of the ways we know what is right to do? What are some of the ways we act as images of God? *Follow the Ten Commandments, say our prayers, etc.*

## Fifth Beatitude

**“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.”**

Write the fifth beatitude on the board. After the children read the words they know, read the complete beatitude to them. This beatitude talks about mercy.

**Ask:** Do you know what the word “mercy” means? (Allow the children to share their ideas.) *To show kindness and to treat others as you would want to be treated.*

God loves us and forgives us when we make wrong choices. If we want to act as images of God we should love others and forgive them when they hurt us. We should not try to get even with them or hurt them back. God never gets tired of loving us and so we should always try to treat everyone with love.

**Ask:** How can we show mercy to others? *By forgiving a friend who has done something to hurt us, being kind to someone who needs a friend, helping someone who is hurt, letting everyone play in our games, not calling names or making fun of others, being kind to a brother or sister, being kind to someone who might not be able to walk or to talk as well as we can, etc.*

**How does God show mercy to us?** *He loves us and forgives us when we make wrong choices.*

# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

## Sixth Beatitude

**"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God."**

Write the sixth beatitude on the board. After the children read the words they know, read the beatitude to them. Point to the word "heart".

**Ask:** **Do you recognize this word?** (If they do not, help them sound it out. Draw a heart under the word. Ask the children what they think of when they see a heart. Help the children come to the answer "love". Write the word "love" under the heart.)

In the sixth beatitude, Jesus is inviting us to love as God loves. When we love as God loves we act as images of God in all we think, say, and do. We treat others as images of God, no matter how they treat us. When we act this way we will be happy here on earth and we will see God someday in Heaven.

Sometimes when we do something nice for our friends, they might forget to say "thank you."

**Ask:** **If this happens what should we do?** *God loves everyone, so as images of God we should love others, treating them as images of God even if they are not kind to us.* (Discuss this situation with the children, helping them see that we should continue to do nice things for people and to treat people in a nice way because that is how images of God act.)

**Sometimes our friends ask us to do things we know are not good. If this happens, what should we do?** (Discuss this situation with the children, helping them to find ways to say "No." Remind the children that they should act as images of God in all they think, say, and do.)

## Seventh Beatitude

**"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God."**

Write the seventh beatitude on the board. Allow the children to read the words they recognize, and then read the complete beatitude to them.

**Ask:** **What do you think peacemakers do?** (Allow the children to discuss their ideas.) *Peacemakers help stop fights, arguments, or any kind of trouble. Peacemakers treat others as images of God. Peacemakers help everyone treat each other as images of God.*

When we act as peacemakers, God blesses us with His life, grace.

**Ask:** **How can we be peacemakers on the playground?** *By making sure everyone knows the rules before playing a game so that arguments will not happen; by helping others not to take the score in a game personally, but to enjoy playing; etc.*

Point out to the children that at Mass we share with others a sign of Christ's peace when we shake hands with those around us and say to them, "Peace be with you." Have the children share a sign of peace with each other.

## Eighth Beatitude

**"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."**

Write the eighth beatitude on the board. As in the previous presentations, help the children read the words they know. Read the beatitude to them. Explain to the children that sometimes people will make fun of or laugh at someone who is trying to do good things. Sometimes people will make fun of someone who makes the Sign of the Cross and prays before eating. Sometimes people will tease someone who likes to help with chores around the house. Sometimes people will laugh at someone who goes to church on Sunday.

## LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

**Ask:** Have any of these things ever happened to you? (Allow the children time to answer.)

Explain to the children that since they are made in the image of God, they should try to act as images of God in all they think, say, and do, no matter what anyone else does. It is not always easy to make the right choice and do what we know is right, especially when others are trying to talk us into choosing and doing something else.

We can pray to Jesus to help us to do what is right. We can pray for help to live the beatitudes as Jesus did, so that we can share God's life here on earth and be happy someday with God in Heaven.

**Note to the teacher:** This may be a good opportunity to discuss peer pressure with the class.

**Ask:** What can you do if someone makes fun of you or teases you when you are trying to do something good?  
*Not pay any attention to the person, tell a teacher, tell mom or dad, etc.*

Remind the children that just as they do not like it when someone laughs at or teases them, they should not laugh at or tease others when they are trying to do good.

*Have the students read and complete page 27 and 28 in their workbooks.*

## LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

*Directions: Read the sentences below. Color the picture.*



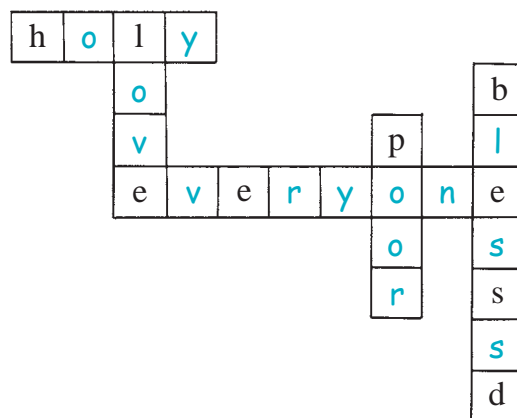
**Jesus told the people eight ways to live.**  
**Jesus said to be kind to others.**  
**Jesus asks us to love others**  
**as He loves us.**

27

## LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

*Directions: Fill in the missing letters to make these words.*

holy      everyone      blessed  
love      poor



28



# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

At the end of the lesson, have the students complete the Lesson 10 review worksheet and Unit 2 review worksheet (found in the Appendix).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Lesson 10: Jesus Teaches Us How to Act** Lesson Review Worksheet

Read each sentence. Circle True if the statement is true and False if the statement is not true.

1. We should thank God for all He has given us.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> True	<input type="radio"/> False
2. It is alright to be jealous of what others have.	<input type="radio"/> True	<input checked="" type="radio"/> False
3. We should help people feel better when they are sad.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> True	<input type="radio"/> False
4. We should help at home and school even before we are asked.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> True	<input type="radio"/> False
5. God wants us to be holy like he is.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> True	<input type="radio"/> False
6. We should forgive others when they hurt us.	<input checked="" type="radio"/> True	<input type="radio"/> False
7. It is alright to do what our friends ask us to do even if we know it is wrong.	<input type="radio"/> True	<input checked="" type="radio"/> False
8. If there is a fight on the playground we should cheer.	<input type="radio"/> True	<input checked="" type="radio"/> False
9. When someone teases us we should be mean to them.	<input type="radio"/> True	<input checked="" type="radio"/> False

12 Lesson 10 Jesus Teaches Us How to Act

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Unit 2: Jesus, Our Example** Unit Review Worksheet

(This test may be given orally.)

Answer each question.

1. Who lost grace for us? (10 points) <b>Adam and Eve.</b>
2. Who became man to save us? (10 points) <b>God the Son.</b>
3. Why did Jesus perform miracles? (10 points) <b>To show the power of God, to help people to have faith in what Jesus taught, and to help people to follow Him.</b>
4. Name two miracles Jesus performed? (20 points) <b>Accept appropriate answers.</b>
5. What prayer did Jesus teach us? (10 points) <b>The Our Father.</b>
6. Do we always pray alone? (10 points) <b>No, we can pray alone or with others.</b>
7. Name two places where we pray. (20 points) <b>Accept appropriate answers.</b>
8. Tell about one beatitude. (10 points) <b>Accept appropriate answers.</b>

2 Unit 2 Jesus, Our Example

## ENHANCING THE LESSON • LESSON EXPLANATION PART 2

When God created each of us, He placed a desire in our hearts for happiness. He did this so that we would be drawn to Him, because only He can fulfill this desire for happiness. Jesus taught us eight ways to find happiness here on earth, until we can go to Heaven and find total happiness with God. The beatitudes are the best attitudes we can have as images of God. They are the best ways to think, feel, and act. By living the beatitudes we can find happiness amidst the sorrows in our everyday lives.

**Ask:** All the beatitudes start with the same word. Does anyone remember what that word is? (Lead the children to answer) “Blessed.”

The word “blessed” means “holy; set apart for God”. The second step in a person being declared or named a saint is to declare that person “blessed”. (The first step in a person being declared a saint is to declare that persons “venerable”. See Lesson 16, “All Saints’ Day”, for more information.) Calling someone “blessed” means that person lived a holy life on earth and is in Heaven with God. So by starting all the beatitudes with the word “blessed”, Jesus is telling us that if we live the beatitudes we will be connected to God. We will be holy. We will be bright images of God. When we live the beatitudes and are bright images of God, we become a light to the rest of the world.

**Note to the teacher:** You will need a flashlight and a small box for the following optional instructions in parentheses are optional.

# LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

Let me tell you what Jesus said about becoming a light to the world. He said, "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven" (Matthew 5:14-16).

If all the lights in this room were off (turn off lights), I would need a flashlight (turn on flashlight) to light up the room. Would I put my flashlight under something (put flashlight under box)? Would anyone be able to see the light? Would it be better not to cover the flashlight so its light could shine around the room (uncover flashlight)? Lead the children to answer that the light is better uncovered. Jesus wants to show the whole world how to follow Him. He wants us to show people in our families, neighborhoods, schools, and wherever we go what the right choices are. He wants us to light the path to Heaven for others by doing good works, making right choices, and living the beatitudes.

*Have the students read and complete page 29 in their workbooks.*

## LESSON 10: JESUS TEACHES US HOW TO ACT

*Directions: Look at the number under each line. Find the letter at the bottom of the page that has the same number. Write that letter on the line. Read the secret message.*

T H E      E I G H T  
20 8 5      5 9 7 8 20

B E A T I T U D E S

A N D      T H E      B E S T  
1 18 5      20 8 5      2 5 19 20

A T T I T U D E S

T O      H A V E  
20 15      8 1 22 5

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

29

## CELEBRATION

### Prayer

*Dear Jesus, help us live the beatitudes as You did  
so that we may be happy here on earth  
and someday with You in Heaven. Amen.*

## ACTIVITIES

### Beatitude Posters

Have the children design a poster for each beatitude. These posters would include the beatitude, an everyday application, and a picture drawn by the students showing the beatitude being acted out. For example, one poster might read, “‘Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.’ Be kind to everyone on the playground.” The picture might show children playing together. Display the posters around the school or the classroom.

#### Materials needed:

construction paper  
crayons or markers  
pencils or pens

### Classroom Activity

After the beatitudes are presented, a “best attitudes” week could be declared. You can design and make badges as rewards for good attitudes and behavior (being kind, helpful, loving, etc.).

### Handwriting Exercise

Print the following on the board: “The beatitudes are the best attitudes for images of God to have.”

Have the students copy the sentence in their best printing. They may decorate the paper with a picture of someone living one of the beatitudes. Display their papers in the room or hallway.

#### Materials needed:

lined printing paper  
pencils