

Wednesday, February 20th 2019

1st, 3rd, 4th Grade Lesson Plan: Reconciliation (C6)/Anointing of the Sick (C7)

- **Welcome** children to the small group as they arrive. Take attendance.
- **Opening Prayer (10-15 minutes)**
 - Gather around your prayer table- turn on the candle, bless the children with holy water if you'd like
 - Opening Song- Give Us Clean Hands- follow this link (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=onGbkeWkA64>) for the youtube video. You can also find it in the 1st-5th Grade Small Groups Playlist. Encourage your small group to sing along!
 - Scripture Reading: James 5:13-16

Using the Catholic Children's Bible, find this scripture reading together and have someone read it out loud. Ask your group: What do you think of when you think of the word healing? Can you think of a time when you or someone you know needed healing?
 - Write down any prayer intentions for the basket
 - Read the following prayer or do a spontaneous prayer. Begin and end with the sign of the cross. *Loving God, today we thank you for the ways you heal us through the sacraments of reconciliation and anointing of the sick. Please be with us when we are in need of healing and help us to be there for the people we know who need healing. Help us to have fun, stay safe, and grow in relationship with you in our session today. Amen.*
- **Check-ins (5-10 minutes)**
- **Journey of Faith (15-25 minutes)**
 - Tonight you'll be learning about the two Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. Start with Penance and Reconciliation (C6).

- I actually really like the story on the front page this time. Especially if you have a younger group, it would be a good way to begin this lesson focusing on repairing relationships. If you read the front page, be sure to use the discussion questions right away on the inside first page.
- Be sure to read the first two sections (Friendship with God and Others and the Brother who ran away). Or if you think your group already knows the story of the Prodigal Son, have them summarize it for you instead of reading it. I think these two sections do a really good job of approaching this tough subject. Then spend a little time on the discussion question on the bottom of the page.
- For the Already Forgiven section, you can break your group into two if you'd like and have each group read the story answer the question, and then tell the other group what the story was about and their answer to the questions. Or if you have a big group, break your group into groups of about three and have half of the groups do one story and half do the other and at least two groups share once they're done working.
- In First Grade, you will want to go through the "What Happens in Reconciliation" section because it will be pretty new to them, but don't feel obligated to go into too much detail; they'll get to this next year. With the older groups, maybe just ask them what they remember of what happens during the sacrament of reconciliation and just bring up anything they forget to mention.
- If I were you I'd skip the activity on the last page and move on to the next pamphlet since you have two to cover this week. If you do choose to do it, the answer is "He was lost and has been found"
- For the next pamphlet, go ahead and skip to the Four Steps of Healing. This describes how the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick looks. You can put the words Anointing of the Sick and Holy Oil on your Word Wall.
- Definitely read the two sections with the story and the difference between curing and healing. I think these are really hard things for kids to understand and the text does a good job of explaining it; just because you've received anointing doesn't mean you're going to be cured, but it will always help you heal in some way.

- You can ask each child in your group to write down the name of someone they know who is sick, and if anyone would like, they can write down a name to put in the prayer basket.
- If you think you have enough time left or if your group had a hard time grasping the healing/curing thing, you can do the activity on the last page to reinforce the point. Here are the answers: Healing- 4, 5, Curing- 2, 3, 6, Both- 1.
- **Activities (to fill the rest of the time you have)**
 - Visible Signs of Invisible Grace- 1st-4th

If you started this activity earlier in the year, this week you can do the last two envelopes (Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick) and send them home. Together as a group, discuss what the outward signs and symbols of that sacrament are (oil, water, bread, baptismal garment, candles, laying on of hands, things like that) and have someone draw or write that on the outside of the envelope. Then talk about how that sacrament gives us inner grace, or in other words how Jesus shows us his love through this sacrament. Write a few of those answers on a small piece of paper and put that inside the envelope.
 - Field Trip to the Worship Space/Discussion- 1st-4th

If you'd like, you can go to the Worship Space to take a look at the Reconciliation Room and the Oil of Anointing (which can be found in the ambry near the Easter candle and baptismal font). It's the oil that's labeled OI (oil of the infirmed). As you're doing this, have a discussion about what the children in your group know about these two sacraments. If they're 3rd or 4th graders, ask them what they remember about when they had their first Reconciliation or just ask everyone in general if they know of someone in their family receiving one or both of these sacraments.
 - Video- Anointing of the Sick- 3rd, 4th

This six and a half minute video from Busted Halo (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hEppjWNO2y4>) talks a little about some of the common misconceptions about anointing of the sick and who it's for and when it's done, which wasn't really addressed in the text, so it might be a good idea to watch it.

- Jesus Has Power to Heal Craft- 1st, 3rd

If you're interested in a craft, a fun and easy one would be this heart that says "Jesus has the power to heal" and has band-aids in the shape of a cross. You should be able to find plenty of paper, pipe cleaners, and stickers in the AV room and band-aids are in the green chest of drawers right inside the Faith Formation office in the top drawer with the other First aid supplies. If you're lucky, you might find some bright colored band-aids which would look really cool.



- Video- Brand New by Ben Rector- 1st-4th

This is a fun lyric video of the song Brand New by Ben Rector (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUYZB7gydAE>). It's not meant to be a religious song, but for me it's all about healing. It's a super upbeat, fun song and I think it'd be a great way to end this lesson about how, with God by our side, we can always become brand new after going through something difficult.

- **Closing Prayer (5 minutes)**

- Pray the Act of Contrition/Prayer of Sorrow. The words can be found in the Catholic Prayers app under "Basic Prayers" if you want to put them up on the screen or, since there are about a million versions of this prayer, I'm going to put the text to the version we use for First Reconciliation right here:

*My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.
Amen.*