

Wednesday, November 28th 2018

1st, 3rd, 4th Grade Lesson Plan: Baptism (C3)/Confirmation (C4)

- I. **Welcome** children to the small group as they arrive. Take attendance.
- II. **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- Love will Hold us Together- follow [this link](#) for the youtube video. Or search Love will Hold us Together by Matt Maher- Lyrics. Encourage your small group to sing along!
 - Scripture Reading: Ephesians 2:18-22
Using the Catholic Children's Bible, find this scripture reading together and have someone read it out loud. Ask your group: what does it mean to you to be part of the family of God?
 - 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, we thank you for your presence with us always and for the great family of God that is our Church. We thank you for the sacraments of baptism and confirmation which welcome us into your family. Help us to have fun, stay safe, and grow in relationship with you in our session today. Amen.*
- III. **Check-ins (5-10 minutes)**
- IV. **Journey of Faith (15-25 minutes)**
 - This week we're covering two different subjects, so I'll give you an idea of what to focus on so you have time to get through both. I'm tying them together by bringing up the point that both baptism and confirmation are about belonging to God's family and being welcomed into the Church.
 - Start with C3- Baptism. Read or summarize the first inside page. You don't need to read the "Now What?" section on the second middle page since that's specific to CIC and you don't need to spend much time talking about the oil, garment, and candle. I would focus on talking about how baptism is the beginning of our life in the church and a way we're welcomed into God's family. You don't have to put any

words on the Word Wall, but if you'd like to put "Water" up with the definition in context to baptism that the pamphlet gives, you can.

- A good discussion question about baptism would be "What do you know about your own baptism?" Most children in your group were probably baptized as babies, but if they were older when they were baptized ask them what they remember. If they were baptized as a baby, ask what they know about it. Where were they baptized? Who was the priest? Who are your godparents? How did your family celebrate? etc.
- If you'd like to do the symbol and sign matching game on the back page, feel free. Here are the answers: Oil- Membership, Easter Candle- sharing Christ's death and resurrection, Water- cleansing, Garment- new life, Baptismal Candle- light of Christ
- C4- Confirmation. You may want to read the first page; it's a good lead-in to the chapter.
- Read the section "Growing Up in the Faith," have each child write three things they couldn't do last year, read the Scripture adaptation, and the section about what happens at Confirmation.
- Ask what your group is looking forward to about Confirmation. If you'd like, share something about when you were confirmed or when you were going through formation for the Confirmation process.
- If you have time and want to read about the Gifts of the Spirit, go ahead, otherwise move on to an activity. Doing the Gifts of the Spirit in addition to learning about Baptism and Confirmation might be a lot for the 1st graders, but 3rd and 4th graders might already know most of the other things we've talked about so it might be nice to introduce something that might be new for them.

V. Activities (to fill the rest of the time you have)

- Visible Signs of Invisible Grace- 1st-4th

If you started this activity last time, this week you can complete the envelopes for Baptism and Confirmation. This activity helps kids to understand the concept of outward signs of inner grace. You'll receive seven envelopes on a ring. Each envelope is labeled with a sacrament. I would recommend doing one set of envelopes for the whole group, but if you really want each child to have one let me know and I might be able to get the materials together. Together as a group, discuss what the outward signs and symbols or 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.

- We all belong on God's Team!- 1st-3rd
Use the provided worksheet to have each child decorate their own jersey that shows that they're a part of God's Team. Maybe write "God's Team" on the front of the shirt and each child's name on the back. Let your group be creative with how they decorate their jerseys. Let me know if you would like copies of this.
- Baptism and Confirmation Crossword- 3rd, 4th
[This Crossword](#) would be a good review for older kids. It may be a little difficult for third graders, but if you think your third graders are super smart and can handle it then go for it! The answers are on the second page, so if you print it off yourself be sure the answers aren't on the back! Let me know if you want me to print this out for you.
- Video: Pope Francis speaks about Baptism- 3rd, 4th
[This video](#) is nice and short and includes Pope Francis speaking on what baptism means to us as Catholics. What he has to say ties into our lesson very nicely. He speaks in Italian so you'll have to read the subtitles.
- Video: We Belong to You- Trevor Thomson- 1st-4th
If your group likes music, [this song](#) would be a great song to finish up the session. It's all about what it looks like to belong to God. It's a nice reflection song.

VI. **Closing Prayer (5 minutes)**

Pray the Glory Be together and/or listen to We Belong to You (the link to the video is above).

- The words to the Glory Be can be found in the Catholic Prayers app under "Basic Prayers" if you want to put them up on the screen.