

Children's Liturgy Session Lesson Plan November 3rd, 2019

Theme: Welcome Jesus to our life

Make the children to stand in a circle and hold their hands together.

Bring to their mind that Jesus is standing in middle of the circle. Wish Him. Prompt them to close eyes for talking to Jesus in prayer.

Say a prayer in children's own words or do 'Our father' and 'Hail Mary' together

The Sorry Prayer: (Optional)

Ask the Children to reflect on the past week and reflect on whether they would like to say sorry for anything they have done or said to someone, that must have hurt Lord Jesus.

After each prayer, respond: Lord have mercy.

Gospel acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia ...for welcoming gospel

Reading the gospel: (Luke 19:1-10)

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke,

Response: Glory to you, O Lord

He entered Jericho and was passing through. ² And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³ And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. ⁴ So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. ⁵ And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." ⁶ So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. ⁷ And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." ⁸ And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." ⁹ And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

The gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Activity: To introduce the story, a song is sung:

Zacchaeus was a wee little man, A wee little man was he.

(using both hands, to show the size of a very small man.)

He climbed up in the sycamore tree, the Saviour for to see.

(using both hands act as climbing up a tree)

And when the Saviour passed that way, He looked up in the tree,

(walk as if Jesus is walking and look up.)

And he said, "Zacchaeus, you come down from there;

For I'm going to your house today, for I'm going to your house today."

**And Zacchaeus came down from that tree, and he said,
"What a better man I'll be. I'll give my money to the poor.
What a better man I'll be. What a better man I'll be."**

(Show as if Zacchaeus is coming down and raise hand like cheering and sing the last lines)

Gospel Reflection:

Make children to sit in the circle. Bring Jesus who is sitting in middle to their notice and talk to him to speak through the Gospel that they heard.

Let us ponder.... Last week we heard Jesus telling a parable to teach us that prayers of a humble heart is always heard and so we must give thanks to lord and pray humbly for his mercy, for by ourselves we are not worthy but only through Jesus.

Today we see that Jesus is telling us the story of a little man named Zacchaeus, the tax collector.

Who is a tax collector?

Wait for Children's Response

Why didn't people like Zacchaeus?

Wait for Children's Response

People didn't like Zacchaeus because he was rich and had lot of money and a big house. They knew that he is taking some of the tax money for himself.

Why did Zacchaeus climb the sycamore tree?

Wait for Children's Response

Did Jesus look Zacchaeus the way others looked down on him?

Wait for Children's Response

we see through the story that Jesus looks at our heart, which seeks help of God in truth and not our physical appearance or who we are. Let our heart be seeking Jesus in truth and love, then we shall get the power to run for him, or climb up beyond our weakness, to see him and know him more. Love and trust knows no boundaries.

Let us see into our hearts ,what obstacles do we have to overcome to see Jesus, to know him more and follow Him? Are we trying to climb up to see Jesus ?

Our desire= our effort =sincere love..

When we put one step for our Lord, Jesus completes our steps to reach perfection.

What did Jesus ask Zacchaeus?

Wait for Children's Response

As Jesus calls Zacchaeus down, he expresses his wish to stay at Zacchaeus home. But the righteous ones murmured, holding their laws tightly.

What happened to Zacchaeus when he welcomed Jesus home?

Wait for Children's Response

As Zacchaeus welcomed Jesus to his house, great changes happened to him. Zacchaeus and family changed their way of living. Zacchaeus repented of his faults and began to walk the way of salvation. He not only promised to give away half his wealth, but also to repay anyone he had cheated.

This is the actual change that we all must have when Jesus enters us the change is from the heart and not show offs.

Let us think, have we ran away from Jesus by giving more importance to our own wishes or by faking just to show off?

Wait for Children's Response

Jesus, responded to Zacchaeus resolutions by saying that "today salvation has come to your house"

So how can we achieve it? What resolutions can we make for walking the way of salvation?

Wait for Children's Response

Yes, welcome Jesus to our life when we get His call, or when we hear about him; let us make sincere effort like Zacchaeus to see more of Jesus. The simple look of our loving Jesus is enough for us to be touched by His love. As Jesus love fill in us, let us feel sorry of what we have done hurting and then by Jesus help let us walk the way of salvation by

*helping others especially those who was hurt by us

*serving each other in love

As we decide to walk this way, the holy spirit will strengthen us and help us by filling us in God's love and grace.

Verses to remember (written on the white board): *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."* Luke 19:10

Intercession Prayers: If children have any personal prayer intentions, we pray for them.

And in response we pray: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayers.

Final Prayer: dear Jesus sorry for the times that we have ran away from you for our own wishes. But your love is amazing, and words give us hope that you have come to *'to seek and to save the lost'*. Help us by your grace, to stand firm in our resolutions, true in our heart seeking you and to walk the way of salvation as Zacchaeus did. Jesus have mercy on us. Amen

Children re-join the Holy Mass.
