

Children's Liturgy Session Lesson Plan September 15th ,2019

Theme: **Lost but found!/come back and restore the Joy**

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 15:1-7)

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

Response: **Glory to you, O Lord**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes murmured, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

³So he told them this parable: ⁴"What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost, until he finds it? ⁵And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost.' ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸"Or what woman, having ten silver coins,^[a] if she loses one coin, does not light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it? ⁹And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

The gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Activity: Hide coins or round shaped cards with little words like “sorry”, “pardon” etc in a basket filled with paper pieces. : Let the kids remain in the circle, Pass the basket among the kids and ask them to find from the heap of paper pieces one card each/one coin each and then pass it on to the next as time permits.

Finally conclude with the message, our Lord searches finds each of his children from out of the mess no matter how messy it is. He never lets any one to be lost.

Gospel Reflection:

Make children to sit in the circle itself. 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 about Jesus telling us that we must follow Jesus, Trusting in Him fully and loving Him above everything.

Narrate the parable for the children

In today’s Gospel, Jesus is telling us a parable about a man losing one among his 100 sheep. He leaves the 99 in safety and sets off in search of the lost one. He loves each one of his sheep. After a long search, he finds it. Let us note how he brings the lost one back...can you recollect??

Wait for Children’s Response

Yes, the shepherd is not angry with the sheep. He puts it on the shoulder and come back rejoicing and celebrates the joy with his friends. The same way heaven rejoices in the coming back of a child who went away from god forgetting him...by seeing the pleasures of this world.

Jesus also narrates a story of lost coin. Can you recollect?

Wait for Children’s Response

The woman who had 10 coins lost one. She light a lamp and sweep the house and seek diligently until she finds it And when she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, as I have found my lost coin. The same way heaven rejoices in the coming back of a child who was lost from god.

In both parables, who is finding the lost? Can you guess?

Wait for Children’s Response

Yes Abba father. our father in heaven is a merciful father, loving us unconditionally and is waiting for us. When we realize that we did some mistakes, we must never be afraid to come to the lord and say sorry. He is our forgiving father who has given us our loving and forgiving parents too.

Have we lost anything precious anytime? Toys or book? What have we felt?

Wait for Children’s Response

We get sad, tensed, worried about the lost thing and will strive hard to get it back. No matter how long it will take or how messy it became, we wait patiently to gain it at any cost.

Wait for Children’s Response

What will you feel and do when you find it?

Wait for Children's Response

We will be so happy, and we rejoice. Isn't it?

If this mere thing is so valuable for us, how much are we valuable for our parents and also for our heavenly father?

Wait for Children's Response

We may sometimes feel so left out or feel guilty or angry during times. During sometimes when our parents correct us, we feel angry. Or when we get found out after doing a wrong, we feel so guilty.

We always try to go away from our parents and hide.

During these times, let us remember today's gospel. As you searched for the lost thing, with more love and efforts our heavenly father is searching us to be revealed out of our mess.

More than us, our parents are wishing that we come back to them. Because we are very precious to them. Through our parents we experience our heavenly father's love. So come back quickly to our parents as soon as we feel. Say sorry and restore back the lost happiness.

Why did Jesus carry the cross and die on the cross?

Wait for Children's Response

Yes, he carried all our sins and died for us, wiping all our sins away.

Wait for Children's Response

God the father forgave all our sins through Jesus. All those who believe in Jesus, is new creation and they got forgiveness of sins and they get the power not to sin anymore. The holy spirit helps us in this. We have to trust in god's abundant mercy and come back saying sorry, if we feel we did wrong. Evil traps us by giving us the feeling that we are not good and we are sinners, god will not like us or our parents will not like us, they will scold us etc etcwhen we hear such voices, let us learn to overcome it and trusting in Jesus, the mercy of god and run back to Jesus in repentance.

Our loving father who gave us Jesus is waiting for us to hug us, through our parents. So let us never make bad choices by getting trapped by the wrong voices. Always come back and get the happiness restored.

Even if someone do wrong against you too, never keep hard feelings against them, instead let us realize that if we pardon them, they will never run away from us. They will come back and be in happiness.

This brings joy in heaven.

Let us remember the prayer, Jesus taught...in it we pray "forgive us our debts as we forgive others" so let us forgive and get forgiven, thus bringing Joy of heaven.

Verses to remember (written on the white board) :- "there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents" Luke 15:7

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 thank you for giving us yourself and wiping our sins away. Give us grace to trust in gods forgiving mercy and love. Never let us go away from you at any situations through our foolish fears, no matter how messy it is. Help us to come back

repented and say sorry to our parents and to all, thus bringing back the joy of heaven. In Jesus name we pray amen.

Children re-join the Holy Mass.
