

Children's Liturgy Session Lesson Plan September 22nd, 2019

Theme: A Good Steward of God

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 16:1-13)

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

Response: Glory to you, O Lord

He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. ²And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.'³ And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.'⁵ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' ⁶He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.'⁷ Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'⁸ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails, they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

¹⁰"One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? ¹³No servant

can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”

The gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Activity: Passing the Parcel

Children are given a parcel to pass on. It is good to put on a music as the parcel passes and as the music stops the person holding the parcel is out.

After the game, the message is given that the game moved on because we passed the parcel as it came to us. What if we were reluctant to pass the parcel? The game will not take place and that act was so selfish. We were generous and we liked to play, that is why we passed it on and everybody is happy.

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 about our Merciful loving father in heaven who is waiting for us to come back. When we realize that we did some mistakes, we must never be afraid to come to the lord and say sorry.

Narrate the parable for the children

In today's parable Jesus is narrating us a story of a Master who had a steward/Manager. Do you know who a steward/manager is?

Steward/manager is a person who is entrusted to manage or look after his master's property. He must be very faithful and honest to his master and dealing fairly with all other workers in the master's house, by meeting their needs and supervising that all matters are going good even in the absence of the master.

So, in this parable, the master entrusted his properties to the steward/manager. Later he come to know that the steward/manager is wasting all his properties by living carelessly and is not doing his duties well. Hence the master thought of taking back off his stewardship.

Can you guess how he might have been wasting master's properties?

Wait for Children's Response

By living selfishly, enjoying himself, charging more from the master's debtors etc...

The steward didn't know to do any other jobs, so he thought wisely in the last moments, when his means of life got threatened due to his dishonesty towards master.

Do you remember what did he do?

Wait for Children's Response

Yes, he called all debtors of his master and started reducing their debts 100 measure of oil to 50, 100 measure of wheat to 80. He thought of gaining friendship with the debtors of his master before he loose his job so that these people will help him in trouble times.

The master saw this wise action of the steward. Even though he was dishonest, and master was crossed with him, the wise action of the steward to gain friendship by doing good, pleased the Master and thus he too cancelled of his faults.

Why did Jesus narrate this parable?

Can you guess who is the Master in this parable that Jesus refers to, who are the managers/stewards and what have the master entrusted?

Wait for Children's Response

Yes, Master is our Loving Lord. We are his faithful managers. All things that we have are the property of our Loving god who blessed us with everything.

How can we be good faithful stewards of our lord? What is Jesus asking us to do through this parable?

Wait for Children's Response

Yes, Jesus is asking us to be faithful in all that god has entrusted us. If we are faithful even in little things that God has given us, then He will entrust us with more.

Can you list down few things that god has entrusted us?

Wait for Children's Response

Family, Studies, skills, the nature around, resources that we use, food, toys, etc..

Are we faithfully using it? Or have we used it selfishly during sometimes?

Wait for Children's Response

Imagine, that we are entrusted by our parents to play with our little sibling during a time that our mother was busy doing something in kitchen. Where we able to keep our sibling happy all time? Have we fought with him in matter of sharing toys or bossed him sometime?

Or in some occasions, have we wasted food or water?

Wait for Children's Response

Yes sometimes, we all have behaved like the steward of the parable. But Jesus points out that, once the steward realized that His master was not feeling good of his behaviour, he decides to use his stewardship to reduce the debts of his master's debtors. This was considered wise by the master.

Even though we have behaved selfishly by using god given things for ourselves or carelessly, lord says that, now we realized it so use it now for the good of others so that the dishonest selfish acts we did before will be cancelled off by the good that we do now.

What can we do to make our lord happy?

Wait for Children's Response

Let us not try to make ourselves happy in world but instead let us realize that what all we have is blessing from God and is given to us to use in thanksgiving for the good of all. Let us in god's grace be really a good manager for god, managing all His blessings faithfully using the resources to do as much good as we can for the glory

of God and the eternal good of others — others who will go before you and welcome you home.

Let us feel sorry for all the times that we misused or selfishly used Gods properties given to us as his blessings.

Verses to remember (written on the white board) :- “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much” Luke 16:10

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 Loving Lord thank you for blessing us with all that we have. We realize that you are our source of everything that we have. We are sorry for being unfaithful and selfish. Give us your grace to be faithful in all you have entrusted us and to be your faithful steward using everything for the good and happiness of others. In Jesus name we pray, amen

Children re-join the Holy Mass.
