

Children's Liturgy Session Lesson Plan August 25th ,2019

Theme: "Strive to enter by the narrow door"

Make the children to stand in a circle

Bring to their mind that Jesus is standing in middle of the circle. Wish Him. Prompt them to close our 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 13:22-30)

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

Response: Glory to you, O Lord

He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching, and journeying toward Jerusalem. ²³And someone said to him, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" And he said to them, ²⁴"Strive to enter by the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able. ²⁵When once the householder has risen up and shut the door, you will begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us.' He will answer you, 'I do not know where you come from.' ²⁶Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank in your presence, and you taught in our streets.' ²⁷But he will say, 'I tell you, I do not know where you come from; depart from me, all you workers of iniquity!' ²⁸There you will weep and gnash your teeth, when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God and you yourselves thrust out. ²⁹And men will come from east and west, and from north and south, and sit at table in the kingdom of God. ³⁰And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."

The gospel of the Lord

Response: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Activity: entering through the narrow gate(asking two kids to stand like doors; first time let them stand wider/the next time they stand closer)- ask kids one by one to pass through- after both trials are done ask kids , when is it easier to pass and their reflections on it...

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 was speaking to us about the fire that he lighted on earth, and we are to spread the fire of good news and love over the world.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is asking us to learn to enter through the narrow gate to walk through the way to salvation.

How is it to pass through a narrow door?

Wait for Children's Response

What do you think is the main problem causing us the entry difficult?

Wait for Children's Response

Yes, the fatter we are, the harder it is to pass through the narrow door.

The more flesh is in us, the harder it is for us to pass through the narrow door. What can we say regarding our flesh. What causes our flesh to be fat?

Wait for Children's Response

Eating uncontrollably. Eating as per we like. Eating unhealthy foods. etc etc....makes us fatter. So our wishes sometimes are harmful for us. What can we do as a solution for it?

Wait for Children's Response

Balanced diet? Sometimes we like to eat chocolates more than anything. We may dislike things that our parents or elders are telling us as it will go against our wishes. We may sometimes get angry. Haven't to felt so sometimes?

Wait for Children's Response

Do you think they are doing this for making you angry or they don't like you?

Wait for Children's Response

No, they are instructing you so that you are growing as good children and you are safe. So when we do something that we don't like ,it is very hard to sacrifice our wishes, this is the narrow door. But even though this door is narrow to squeeze in, you find it, this is leading us to good.

Jesus says the same to us today in gospel. Sometimes in our life we wont be able to do things or get things as per we like. No need to be angry at that times. The sacrifice of our wishes might be a narrow door but it leads to goodness in our life..to salvation.

Can you imagine what will happen if all people in this world are doing things as they wish without taking care of others around?

Wait for Children's Response

Will world be a peaceful place? What is happening all around the world?

Wait for Children's Response

What did Jesus do for us? Did he do his own wish while living on earth?

He emptied himself for us all. He only did what Abba father told him to do. Eventhough Jesus found it very painful to endure the passion, he prayed for strength in garden of Gethsemane . do you remember it?

Jesus prayed, father if possible let this sufferings pass by, but not my wish but your wish be done. What if Jesus had prayed in selfish way? Can you imagine?

Imagine Jesus prayed: father I can suffer for others.. please save me and give me heaven...

What will have happened?

Wait for Children's Response

But when Jesus sacrificed his wish and comforts for us, he saved the while world wiping out our sins and opening us the way to heaven. Now if anyone who believes in Jesus and follow him can reach heaven. Jesus has shown us the way to live...the truth and life...

But it is very hard for us to do it by our own efforts...see even Jesus prayed to Abba father to endure his time of suffering, and he was sent help from heaven to strengthen Him to endure the cross. in the same way we must seek help during our times of trials and temptations. Eventhough it is difficult for us to sacrifice for others, we can accomplish it with the Help of Jesus. Jesus says, I am the way, the truth and the life...follow me. Abba father says "listen to him", mother Mary says "do whatever he tells you"

Let us strive to enter by the narrow door. Try to seek Jesus wish and elders opinions and listen them and obey them in all we do. Eventhough it might be hard sometimes, let us not be angry but seek help from Lord to accomplish it..eventhough it will be painful for us at that time, later we discover it was good for us.

Verses to remember (written on the white board): "Strive to enter by the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able..... And behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last." - Luke 13:24,30

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 showing us the way to salvation, help us to enter through the narrow gate of self-sacrifice as you did on cross. When our wish cross with lords wish, hep us by your grace to say "let your will be done". Help us to listen and obey our parents and elders and above all you oh lord by listening to what you say to us in prayer, through bible and our parents. You have already conquered the world for us, we hold your hands and walk, help us to enter the way of salvation through the narrow door. In Jesus name we pray

Children re-join the Holy Mass.
