

Second Grade: Lesson 1: Jesus Loves You and Wants Your Friendship

Lesson Objective:

This lesson increases the children's awareness of the personal love of God and His care and providence over their lives. In this lesson, it is important to create an environment where the child can encounter Christ directly.

Meditation on Sacred Scripture will provide an opportunity for Jesus to speak into their hearts. Catechists are encouraged to help children understand a friendship with Jesus by using analogies to human friendship.

Learning Outcomes: Students will ...

- Recognize that God knows and loves him/her personally (Ps 139, Isa 43:1-4, Jer 1:5)
- Encounter the Lord Jesus Christ through experiential activities such as guided meditations using Sacred Scripture and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (Ps 32:8, John 6:35, John 14:26, Heb 4:12)
- Recognize that Jesus wants to be in a relationship with him/her (John 15:9, John 15:16, 1 John 4:19) discuss what it takes to be a friend and have a friend (John 15:13; I John 3:18; CCC 1829)
- Retell Bible narratives about Jesus and the little children (Matt 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16)

Materials Needed:

- Pencils, crayons, prayer space, copies for today's activities

As Students Enter Class:

- They can complete the All About Me page.

Beginning of Class:

- Invite students to gather around your prayer space. Consider starting with your own prayer of thanksgiving and asking our Lord to bless all of you as you learn about his word and ways.
- Recite the Our Father and ask students to join in.
- Play an introduction game or ask students to share their All About Me Page.

Lesson Order	Implementation
	*Please note, classroom Catechists will not need to do the first two items, the Get Started Form or the Introduction to LANE Kids for Parents.
Lesson 1 Video	<p>This video is 4:33.</p> <p>Highlights: God knows and loves you very much. Reading the Bible will help us grow closer to God. We know God loves children because it is in the Bible. Matthew 19:13-15. Read this to students if you are not playing the video. Jesus says: "Let the children come to me".</p> <p>Ask students "How do you make friends with others?" After listening to some answers, make the connection that we can do the same with Jesus. Jesus is like a close friend. As we learn how to spend more time with Jesus, we become closer to Him.</p>
Jesus and the Children Activity	Have students complete the sentence starter: Jesus is my friend because They can color the picture if you have time.
Guided Meditation to Psalm 139	This video is 2:45; it reads the Psalm and allows for some quiet meditation time. Remind students that learning how to meditate takes time and practice and we will work on this throughout the year. If possible, dim the lights and encourage students to close their eyes and calm their minds so they can think about God.
Video: Lesson 1, Part 2	<p>This video is 4:23. What does it take to be a good friend?</p> <p>Highlights: How do we treat our friends? (Helpful, kind, considerate). Consider asking students to answer this question and record answers on the board. We share God's love when we are good friends to others.</p> <p>Who do you know that show's God's love? Ask students to share their answers. Then focus in on Jesus. Jesus shows God's love to us every day. How do you grow your relationship with Jesus?</p> <p>It is a lot like how you make a new friend. You spend time together, getting to know one another.</p>

<p>Video: Lesson 1, Part 2 continued</p>	<p>To spend time with Jesus you can:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Pray – talking and listening to Jesus 2) Read the Bible – reading the Bible is also a way of praying. 3) Ask Jesus to come into your heart 4) Choose a regular time and place to pray (is it in the morning when you wake up? After school when you get home? Before bed?) 5) When you pray every day, you will develop a routine (just like you have routines for getting ready for school or getting ready for bed). 6) Create a prayer space in your home – this can be a fun activity to do with someone in your family.
<p>Video – Creating a Prayer Space</p>	<p>This video is 10:29 in length. The first seven minutes are engaging and demonstrate the ways to build a prayer space at home, using items you can find at your house.</p> <p>Next, it prays The Hail Mary, then discusses the Patron Saints, and lastly, addresses why should we pray each day. These segments are also nicely done and explained in a way most children should understand.</p>
<p>Introduction to Adoration</p>	<p>Spending time in Adoration is one of today’s learning objectives. This video is 2:19 and explains that during Eucharistic Adoration, Jesus is truly present or in the room with us. When we spend time in Adoration, we show Jesus how thankful we are for our blessings and how much we love Him.</p>
<p>Video: How to Go to Adoration</p>	<p>This video is 4:31 and is WONDERFUL! A young girl, Christina and her father, talk about Adoration and how to go to Adoration in a question-and-answer form. It is great to hear about Adoration from this young girl’s perspective.</p>
<p>Live Link to Adoration</p>	<p>Now it’s time for you and your class to attend Adoration in your classroom. Consider dimming the lights and encourage 4-5 minutes of quiet time in Adoration. As always, adjust the time to do what best fits the needs of your students.</p>

Jesus, I Love You Activity	This is a coloring activity and you may consider having students do this in conjunction with the Live Adoration Link. Suggestion: Have students color the circles and practice saying, Jesus, I Love You before presenting the Live Link to Adoration.
Retell Bible Narrative	This is also one of the learning objectives for this lesson. Consider rereading Matthew 19:13-15 and then have students draw what happened. Encourage them to retell this story to someone at home. If you have time, you can also have students retell it in class.
Closing Prayer	Gather students around the prayer space and close with a traditional Catholic prayer.

Please note: This is a long lesson for the first day of class. It is fine if you cannot complete each activity. Consider saving one or two of the activities for next week, or another week that you have more time. As always, use your discretion for what is best for your students.