

Second Grade: Lesson 12

Choosing Right and Wrong

Lesson Objective:

This lesson builds upon the previous lesson and explores the notion of conscience and examining one's conscience in preparation for the sacrament of Reconciliation. It is important to discuss real life situations that occur in the life of an average second grader.

Learning Outcomes: Students will ...

- Identify conscience as God's gift to help us know what is right and wrong (CCC 1776-1802).
- Develop the practice of examination of conscience using the two great commandments: love of God and love of neighbor (CCC Glossary: Examination of Conscience).
- Discuss respect for parents, teachers and other legitimate authorities.
- Role plays loving and selfish choices in real life situations (e.g., with peers, family, neighbors).
- Demonstrate obedience to rules, regulations, and legitimate authority.

Materials Needed:

- Prayer space items, Bible, crayons, pencils, glue, construction paper, scissors
- Copies needed: Pictures of good and poor choices (enough for one set per two students), Examination of Conscience handout, 10 Commandments and Reconciliation handout, Learn the Act of Contrition, Beatitudes Art Activity

As Students Enter Class:

- Consider having a picture sort available; enough for two students to work together. The pictures have children who are doing the right thing and then not so great things. This goes with our lesson today of choosing between right and wrong.
- Picture sorts give students the opportunity to look at the pictures and decide on the categories or headings in which they belong. The children need to be able to explain their reasoning more than coming up with a right or wrong answer.
- The main goal is to activate students' prior knowledge on the subject matter and to encourage engagement into the lesson.
- For your convenience, pictures are at the end of this lesson plan.

Beginning of Class:

- Invite students to gather around your prayer space and pray a traditional Catholic prayer.
- Provide a few minutes for students to share their thoughts as to the categories or headings they placed their pictures into.
- Ask them what they think today's lesson is going to be about, based on the pictures.

	<p>Next, there are real life examples of right and wrong.</p> <p>Before we receive Holy Communion, we need to be clean on the inside. That is why we go to confession, also known as reconciliation. Before we go to confession, we have to prepare, by doing an examination of conscience. This means we take time to think and remember the ways we have not followed God's Commandments or lived up to the expectations he has made for us.</p> <p>Just like the father in the Prodigal Son parable, God is always excited when we come to Him and ask for forgiveness. But how do we make a confession, when God and Jesus are both in Heaven?</p> <p>Stop and discuss the above question.</p> <p>Well, the priest works on behalf of Christ and when we are in the confessional (the place where confession takes place) we talk to the priest and tell him our sins. We can tell the priest anything (because anything you say is top secret) and he will not tell anyone. You can feel safe to tell the priest your sins. The priest will talk with you and you will have a conversation. This is why we have to prepare for confession. Some people write their sins down so they won't forget them.</p> <p>After we go to confession, we feel so good and happy on the inside. Our sins are forgiven and we try again to live the best life we can, while following God's laws.</p> <p>The 10 Commandments and the Beatitudes will help you with making a good examination of conscience. Let's take some time learning about both of these.</p>
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10 Commandments Song	This Christine in Action video is 1:14 in length. Hand movements also accompany the words. Encourage students to join in the hand movements. You may want to show this twice. Once for students to listen and watch, and then the second time they can join in.
The Beatitudes in the Bible	<p>This video is 2:19 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: The Beatitudes are examples of how God wants us to live. Jesus taught them to people during what is known as the Sermon on the Mount.</p> <p>Open your Bibles to Matthew 5:1-12. Carla reads the Beatitudes and pictures accompany while she reads. You are also welcome to read them to your students as well.</p> <p>Please refer to the end of this lesson for a reference sheet about the Beatitudes.</p>
Beatitudes Art Activity*	This is a cut and paste activity. You can do now or at the end of the lesson.
Beatitudes Song	<p>This Christine in Action video is 1:33 in length.</p> <p>This is a nice review of what students just heard from the Bible.</p>
Act of Contrition	<p>It will be helpful for you to review/explain to students what the Act of Contrition is and why we pray it at the end of our confession. Act of Contrition handouts were sent home at the end of session 11.</p> <p>*There is also a cute and paste activity for this prayer. You could do it now or at the end of the lesson.</p>
Act of Contrition Song	This is another Christine in Action Song that words that appear on the screen. It is 1:08 in

	length. The prayer is repeated twice and it is the "newer" version of the Act of Contrition.
Intro into the Activities	<p>This video is .50 in length. Carla encourages students to start memorizing the Act of Contrition by praying it during the week.</p> <p>She reminds students that Reconciliation is a celebration and God is happy when we come to Him and confess our sins.</p>
<p>Examination of Conscience</p> <p>One idea is to make two copies for each student; one to take home and one to use in class, as they prepare for First Reconciliation.</p> <p>Consider writing a quick note to families, encouraging them to review the contents of this packet regularly, so students feel more comfortable when they make their First Confession. Let parents know you are reviewing this in class as well.</p>	<p>This is a lengthy handout filled with good information. Review the contents of the handout with your students, highlighting the 5 steps to a good confession.</p> <p>Review the Examination of Conscience suggestions ahead of time and select 3-4 to review in class today.</p> <p>Consider revisiting this document as often as you can each class until students make their First Confession.</p>
The 10 Commandments and Reconciliation	This is also helpful for students first confession. You may want two copies, one to keep in class and one to send home.
Learn the Act of Contrition Activity *	Pass out one to each student and make sure you have one to assemble on the board or wall, as a model for students to look at.

	<p>If possible, cut the strips out before class. It will take more class time for students to cut them themselves.</p> <p>Working together, students cut and paste the Act of Contrition in order. You will need construction paper for students to glue the strips on.</p>
Beatitudes Art Activity*	<p>Follow the directions given on the handout.</p> <p>If time is running out, you could use this as an opening activity for your next class.</p>
Closing Prayer	<p>Gather around your prayer space and pray the Act of Contrition. 😊</p>

PICTURES FOR PICTURE SORT ACTIVITY:









What are the Beatitudes teaching us? *

BEATITUDE	SIMPLE TERMS
Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of God.	Happy is the person who realizes that they need Jesus as a Savior, because we cannot save ourselves. Once we realize that we need God to help us, instead of trying to handle it on our own, we will be taken care of. We will also have the honor of having a place in Heaven.
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.	If you are sad because of sad or bad things that have happened, you can still be content because Jesus will comfort you.
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the Earth.	Happy is the person who is gentle and can control their emotions and actions, for they will be rewarded.
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.	Happy are the people who want to do right and know God more than anything else, for God will give them what they need. This beatitude is not about the literal meaning of being hungry or thirsty.
Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.	Happy are the people who are kind and forgiving to other people, for they will be shown kindness and forgiveness, too.
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.	It is easy for everyone to understand doing the right thing on the outside for others to see, but what Jesus is taking about here is changing the heart, the way we think and feel, on the inside. When we are doing the right things and for the right reasons, with a pure heart/intention, then we will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.	Happy are the people who work to make peace and doing good for others. We need to stand up for peace and for what is right. By doing Jesus says we will be rewarded with the title, 'child of God.'
Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.	People who are hurt, suffer, or are treated badly because they have done right can be happy knowing they will have the kingdom of Heaven to look forward to.
Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.	You can be happy when people make fun of you, hurt you, or say things that are mean and wrong against you, because of your faith and love of Jesus. Be excited and happy because just like the other heroes of the Bible, your reward is going to be great when you get to Heaven.

*Source is Children's Ministry Deals Website