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Second Grade: Lesson 3: Jesus Forgives Sins

Lesson Objective:

In catechetical texts, sin is generally discussed in the context of preparing for the sacrament of Reconciliation. However, this lesson helps children to better understand the origin of sin, its consequences for the human race, and the reason why they need a Savior. The "bad news" of sin prepares them to appreciate the kerygma or "good news" of Jesus. Children should understand that Jesus' sacrifice on the cross atones for their personal sins.

Learning Outcomes: Students will ...

- Recognize that sin separates them from God and one another (CCC 1487, Isa 59:2, Rom 6:23)
- Discuss that original sin entered the world through Adam and Eve (Gen 3; CCC 404)
- Understand and articulate the "good news" that Jesus died on the cross for their sins so that they can go to heaven (CCC 619 -623, Matt 1:21, Rom 5:8, 1 John 2:2, John 14:6).
- Retell the Bible narrative of the fall of man (Gen 3:1-24) and Bible stories that focus on reconciliation through God's mercy and forgiveness: Jesus forgives those who kill Him (Luke 23:33-34); Story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32); Parable of Unforgiving Servant (Matt 18:21-35), and define prayer as talking and listening to God.

Materials Needed:

- Pencils, crayons, prayer space, Bible, copies of image of Divine Mercy for art response, Mortal and Venial Sin Game prepared and ready to play, Different Levels of Sin sorting activity (one set of sentences copied and cut, ready to sort as a whole class).

As Students Enter Class:

- Consider two simple questions of the day that are a review from last week. These are true/false questions. Have students write their name and true or false on two sticky notes and place them on the board under each sentence: 1) Prayer does not help us grow a deeper relationship with God. 2) We can pray in different ways and in different places.

Beginning of Class:

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- 1) Gather students around your prayer space and open class with a traditional Catholic prayer. Consider having a student pick from the Our Father or Hail Mary.
- 2) Review your questions of the day and students' answers. Encourage students to share and discuss their answers and why they chose true or false.

Lesson Order	Implementation
Lesson 3 Video	<p>This video is (7:35). You can play this video for students or watch it ahead of time and introduce the lesson yourself.</p> <p>Highlights:</p> <p>Prayer brings us into a deeper relationship with God. Prayer can be in many forms and we can pray in many places. Encourage a class discussion about when and how we pray.</p> <p>Why did God send Jesus into the world? When God created the world, he created Adam and Eve. They lived in the Garden of Eden. When Adam and Eve sinned, they broke the relationship people had with God. Therefore, we needed a Savior to come to Earth to save us from the original sin of Adam and Eve.</p> <p>Genesis 3:1-24, page 25. If you are not playing the video, then you will read this out loud to students. It is the story of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and explains how the snake tempted Eve to pick the forbidden fruit.</p> <p>The Good News: Jesus died on the cross to remove this original sin from our souls so we can live in Heaven with God forever.</p>
Parable of the Unforgiving Servant	<p>This video is (6:20). You can play the video for students or view it ahead of time. Read from Matthew 18:21-35 (pg. 1491).</p> <p>Highlights:</p> <p>How many times do we forgive others? 7 times? Jesus says no, 70X7. In this parable, the King checked servants' accounts. One servant didn't have the money to pay the large debt he owed. The king was going to</p>

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Parable of the Unforgiving Servant Continued	<p>put him in jail but the servant begged forgiveness. The king forgave the servant and wiped his debt clean. When the servant was in town, he saw one of his servants who owed him a few dollars. He refused to forgive his servant and put him in jail. He did not show the same mercy and forgiveness that the king showed him. This parable is talking about sin. God has mercy for us and we need to show the same mercy towards other people who have hurt us.</p>	
What is Sin?	<p>This video is 5:16. It explains with illustrations venial and grave sins and how they are different from one another. It is important to note that sin goes against our love of God and our love of neighbors. Grave sin destroys and venial sins hurt.</p> <p>Consider a movement break at this time. Try a learn and move activity. Example: Invite students to stand and form a circle if you have the room; toss a ball or small stuffed animal and ask a student to give an example of a sin. Then discuss if it is venial or grave. If students are quiet or nonresponsive, then you give an example and ask students if it is a sin or not? Venial or grave?</p>	
A Kids Perspective on Sin	<p>This video is 3:03. This is a great video made by children and it uses practical second grade examples of sin while incorporating a bible verse.</p> <p>Discussion: Invite students to share what stood out to them from this video. Reinforce that we all sin but we are blessed with the Sacrament of Reconciliation and we can ask forgiveness.</p>	
What is Grace?	<p>This video is 2:46. It explains what grace is and how Jesus saves mankind by dying on the cross. The love Jesus has for all of us, outweighs all of our sins. This video also explains how the love of Jesus 2000 years ago is important in our lives today.</p>	
Meditation Response on Psalm 51	<p>This video is 2:45. It reads Psalm 51 and has illustrations to help students understand the content. At the end, students can sit for approximately 45 seconds in silence.</p>	

	<p>If you feel students are getting restless, try dimming the lights and read a part of Psalm 51. Then provide a few seconds of silence, encouraging students to think about the words they heard. Invite students to share their thoughts. If students are quiet, consider sharing your thoughts to model your thinking and how to meditate on the word of God.</p>	
Intro Into activities	<p>(.58) If you chose not to play this for students, which is fine to do, consider sharing an image of the Divine Mercy and Sister Faustina. This will engage students with the art response for today's lesson.</p>	
Art Response Art Response Continued	<p>Allow students time to color the image of the Divine Mercy. Consider freezing the video where it displays the image so students can use it as a guide for coloring. While students color, explain how Jesus forgives us over and over throughout our lives. How wonderful it is to know that when we make a mistake, we can confess and receive forgiveness.</p>	
Different Levels of Sin	<p>While students are coloring the above image, set up this sorting activity. Consider doing this as a whole class rather than individually. Write the three headings on the board or tape them on the wall. Cut out the examples and pass them out to students. Each child reads their sin sentence and as a class decide what level of sin it belongs under. Depending on the amount of time you have, you can sort through all the examples or just a few.</p>	
Mortal and Venial Sin Game	<p>Time permitting, play this game. If not, consider playing it during another class when you have more time.</p>	
Closing Activity and Prayer	<p>Ask a few follow up questions based on today's learning objectives. Examples: What is original sin? How is Jesus dying on the cross good news for us? What did we learn from the parable of the unforgiving servant? Gather students around your prayer space and end class with Our Father.</p>	

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