

First Grade: Lesson 8

Prayer Leads me to Jesus: Part 1

Lesson Objective:

After encountering Christ and learning more about Him in Sacred Scripture, the next two lessons give children the tools to grow in friendship with Christ. Although prayer is mentioned in lesson 3, it is explored here in more depth.

Learning Outcomes: Students Will ...

- Define prayer as talking to and listening to God.
- Share reasons why people pray (CCC 2743-2744).
- Recite traditional prayers independently, Sign of the Cross & Mealtime prayers.
- Identify appropriate times for prayer (morning, before bed, mealtime, etc.).

Materials Needed:

- Prayer space items, Bible, pencils, crayons, glue or tape
- Copies Needed: Traditional Catholic pray sheet, connect the dots Jesus carrying the cross, Sign of the Cross motions, Sign of the Cross matching (decide if you will be making one as a whole class or if each student will make one.)

As Students Enter Class:

- Have a coloring page available for students to color while waiting for everyone to arrive. (See last pages to print)

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- Since today's lesson discusses prayer, providing a sheet of children praying is nice. Or, consider finding one of the Bible or students reading the Bible. These two pictures were downloaded from coloringhome.com.

Beginning of class:

- Invite students to gather around your prayer space. Take a few minutes to relate opening prayer with your lesson topic, which is also prayer. Tell students that there are different ways to pray. One way, is to pray out loud with others, like we do in class. Another way is to pray quietly in your head and not say the words out loud. Another way is to sit quietly, close your eyes, and listen to God.
- Say the Our Father prayer. If students do not know it, you can echo pray – you say one line and then students repeat it. Follow this process until the prayer is finished.

Lesson Order	Implementation Ideas
Lesson 8 Video	<p data-bbox="639 239 1398 390">This video is 4:07 in length. It covers some of today's learning objectives. It also has coordinating pictures to accompany what Carla is saying.</p> <p data-bbox="639 432 1393 657">Highlights: Last week, we read about Jesus' death and resurrection and Pentecost, which is when the Holy Spirit sent the Apostles around the world to preach the Good News. Pentecost is also known as the birthday of the Catholic Church!</p> <p data-bbox="639 705 1393 930">Today we are talking about praying and how important prayer is in our lives. When we read the Bible, also called Sacred Scripture, Jesus' light is present to us. The Bible is the most precious book. The word of God comes alive to us when we read the Bible.</p> <p data-bbox="639 978 1398 1083">Prayer is listening AND talking to God. Praying will strengthen your relationship and friendship with Jesus.</p> <p data-bbox="639 1131 1403 1276">Creating a prayer space at home might make it easier to pray. Try to spend 5 minutes a day in silent prayer to deepen your relationship with God.</p> <p data-bbox="639 1325 1414 1587">Think about a time of day you would like to pray? Is it in the morning when you wake up? Possible before dinner? Or perhaps when you go to bed? It doesn't matter what time you pray; what matters is that you pray to Jesus each day. Did you know you can pray to Jesus many times of the day too!</p> <p data-bbox="639 1635 1398 1740">Sign the of the Cross: We make the sign of the cross when we begin or end a prayer. The sign of the cross is then demonstrated.</p> <p data-bbox="639 1789 1182 1860">There are 5 Main Types of Prayer:<ul data-bbox="688 1824 1101 1860" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="688 1824 1101 1860">● Blessing and Adoration</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Petition (what you or others need help with) • Intercession (praying to Mary or the Saints and asking them to take our prayers to Jesus) • Thanksgiving • Praise (tell God the Father and God the Son how much you love Him)
The Sign of the Cross Video	<p>This video is 2:00 in length.</p> <p>It features an animated cowboy that we have seen in previous lessons.</p> <p>Making the sign of the cross is a way to call upon God in all that we do.</p>
Sign of the Cross Song	<p>This is a Christine in Action Video. It is 1:50 in length and is very cute. It shows children how to make the sign of the cross, using good graphics.</p>
<p>Creating a Prayer Space</p> <p>You do not have to watch the entire video for students to get the gist.</p>	<p>This video is 10:30 in length.</p> <p>Watch the video (10:30) Ms. Savannah from the video encourages discussions throughout so you can start and stop as needed.</p> <p>Highlights of this video include how to make a prayer space at home, what objects we can use and why, and how we can make our own objects too.</p>
How to do a May Crowning at Home	<p>This video is 5:38 in length. It has music and pictures, but there are no words. It depicts a family setting up a May Crowning and reading the Bible.</p>
Prayers Activity	<p>This link takes you to Loyola Press and is most appropriate for students doing home study.</p>
<p>Basic Prayer in Song</p> <p>Students can stand during this video and follow the actions.</p>	<p>This Christine in Action video is 1:55 and meets the learning objectives for this lesson very well. As she sings, the words for the prayers appears on the screen. She prays the Sign of the Cross, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, and the Glory Be.</p>
Traditional Prayers of the Catholic Church	<p>This is a handout and can be taken home. Take time to review the prayer titles with students.</p>

	Consider having one or student students pick a prayer that you say all together.
Jesus Carries the Cross Dot to Dot	This is a connect the dots activity and it's a good idea to relate the Sign of the Cross to Jesus' carrying the cross and crucifixion and how we remember the importance of the cross every time we make the Sign of the Cross.
Sign of the Cross Motions	This sheet reviews the steps of making the Sign of the Cross.
Sign of the Cross Matching	This can be done individually or complete one all together as a group. Consider gluing on a large paper or poster board to create an anchor chart that will hang in your classroom.
Closing Prayer	Gather students around your prayer space and thank God for all the wonderful prayers we have that will help bring us closer to Him. Recite a prayer of your choice.



