

St. Laurence Catholic Parish
Kindergarten Faith Formation
Week 14 Lesson Plan



Unit 3 – How does Jesus Christ teach us to live a moral life?

EQ #1: *Why does Jesus want me to love myself and others?*

Circle of Grace Part 2: The Traffic Signal and a Safety Plan

CATECHIST PREPARATION

To prepare for this week's lesson:

- We will continue with Part 2 of *Circle of Grace* lesson.
- Review the appropriate grade-level learning targets from the *Catechetical Framework for Lifelong Faith Formation* (CFLFF) posted at the end of this lesson plan and on the Catechist website at <https://stlaurence.org/the-catechist> for KINDERGARTEN. Keep these targets in mind as you prepare for and progress through the weekly lesson, making discussion points based upon these specific age-appropriate targets.
- Establish a comfortable learning space in your classroom for your session.
- Create a Prayer Table (or check out How to Make a Prayer Table for Kids) in a special corner of the classroom. Keep a Bible reverently displayed there to be used for readings in your lessons. When proclaiming *The Word* to children, it is more impactful to read directly from the Bible and not just from their workbooks. This gives them the sense that this is not just any book, but rather the Word of God.
- Reflect upon the Scriptural passage that today's lesson is based upon or extends. Incorporate your understanding of this passage into your teaching today with your learners.

I CORINTHIANS 3: 16-17,
1 JOHN 4: 11-13, Psalm 139: 1-16

Supplies you may want to have on hand before beginning the Lesson:

- A Catholic family or children's Bible (go to [USCCB](#) for approved Bible translations); on campus, we use the [ST. MARY'S PRESS CHILDREN'S BIBLE](#), a classroom set of which is located in the "CCE" storage cabinet.
- An electronic device with reliable internet access (i.e., an in-class mounted TV or TV cart if a video will be watched as part of the lesson)
- Sticky notes
- Art or any unlined paper
- Crayons, markers and pencils as needed (located in the "CCE" storage and your class bin)
- Supplies mentioned in the appropriate grade-level *Circle of Grace* lesson(s) that you will be covering.

→ **NOTE THAT THE FAITH FORMATION STAFF will prepare the lesson supplements and activity items necessary to implement your kindergarten lesson. These will be provided in a separate basket placed inside your class bin. These items will include any printouts or support resources included at the end of the lesson plans, the manipulatives/handouts used in the lesson activities and the grade-level parent letters (to go home with your learners at the end of the lesson implementation).**

There may be some *additional* class supply items which you will need to pull from the workroom (i.e., butcher paper, construction paper, etc.) that the staff has not prepared for you. Please check your *Circle of Grace* supply basket and take whatever else you need from the supplies in the RE workroom.

Note that a hard copy of the kindergarten *Circle of Grace* lesson referred to in the EXPLAIN section of this weekly outline is contained in the *Circle of Grace* kindergarten folder placed in your class bin. Each class has been provided with one (1) copy of the underlying COG lesson for their grade. Secondary copies will only be provided upon individual request by the facilitators. The grade-level COG lessons can also be found electronically on the Catechist webpage at <https://stlaurence.org/the-catechist>.



BEGINNING THE LESSON with CIRCLE OF GRACE

Raise your hands above your head and then bring your outstretched arms slowly down. Extend your arms in front of you and then behind you; embrace all of the space around you then slowly reach down to your feet, knowing that God is in this space with you. This is your Circle of Grace. You are in it.

WHAT IS A CIRCLE OF GRACE?

- Share todays Essential Question: *Why does Jesus want me to love myself and others?*
- Ask questions:
 - *We know that we are all children of God and that he made each of us in his image and likeness. Why did he make us to be like him?*

- *How does God want us to live as his children?*
- *What is respect? How do we respect ourselves and each other?*
- *How do we know if an action is respectful?*
- *What is our Circle of Grace?*
- *Why is it important to know about our Circle of Grace?*

These lessons are meant to be presented to your learners by a catechist and are not lessons which should be turned over to the children to be completed by themselves, as there are certain prompts and activities that need to be navigated through and important topics to be discussed as a class.

- **CIRCLE OF GRACE LESSON PART 2 (p.8): [THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL AND A SAFETY PLAN](#)**
(A hard copy can be found in the *Circle of Grace* folder in your class bin)

FURTHER ACTIVITIES

- Video [CIRCLE OF GRACE SONG](#), [GOD MADE ME](#), [GOD'S STORY: GOD MADE PEOPLE](#), [GOD MADE YOU AND ME SING-A-LONG](#), [THANK YOU LORD FOR MAKING ME SONG](#)
- Practice the [COG MEDITATION](#) together
- Crafts/Activities: [GOD MADE ME UNIQUE SNOWFLAKE](#), [I AM A CHILD OF GOD MIRROR](#), [GOD MADE ME SPECIAL ACTIVITY SHEETS](#)
- Coloring Sheet [CIRCLE OF GRACE](#)
- Feel free to choose your own activities that are relevant to today's lesson.

[Circle of Grace \(Above\):](#) Repeat

CLOSING PRAYER

Gather together in your dedicated prayer space and ask the children to quiet their minds and hearts as you pray together. Begin with the [SIGN OF THE CROSS](#) and recite a favorite prayer, choose one from the [COMMON PRAYERS BY GRADE](#), sing the [OUR FATHER](#) or ask the children to offer up their [INTERCESSORY INTENTIONS](#). Conclude by praying the [SIGN OF THE CROSS](#).



APPENDIX

"In the story of *Creation* found in the *Book of Genesis* (see [Genesis 1: 25-28](#)) of the Bible, we learn that God created (and continues to create) *all* human beings – past, present and future. As God's creations, we are *connected to each other* as the *Children of God*. Every one of us has been especially *loved into existence by God Himself*. God wants nothing more from us than to love Him back and to be in a relationship with Him.

God creates each and every human being (even those we don't know or maybe are not fond of) as a *unique* and *unrepeatable* person. We are each special and *greatly valued* in God's eyes.

There is only one of each of us - there will never be another you! (Think about all of those special gifts or traits that make you you!) As God's children, we are all created in God's image – that is, we are meant to be reflections of God's love in this world and shine His light onto others. He expects us to see and treat each other as He sees each of us – i.e., with dignity (value) that is deserving of love, kindness and respect!

We must remember that God is *always* present with us in our lives – i.e., when we are happy of course, but most especially when we are sad, scared or even confused. One way that we can find help from God is by remembering our *Circle of Grace*, which is *God's love and goodness that*

always surrounds us and all others. Everyone has a *Circle of Grace*. God helps us know what belongs in our *Circle of Grace* by allowing us to experience peace, love or contentment when something or someone good comes into our *Circle of Grace*.

God desires to help us especially when we are hurt, scared or unsafe. The Holy Spirit prompts (alerts) us that something does not belong in our *Circle of Grace* by giving us “a funny or uncomfortable feeling” that something is not safe. This can be an “ick” feeling in the pit of our stomachs that tells us something is not right. This feeling is there because God wants us to always be safe. When we are confronted with something or someone that makes us feel unsafe in our *Circle of Grace*, God wants us to speak up and talk to trusted grownups in our lives about our worries, concerns or “funny/ uncomfortable feelings” so they can help us be safe from harm. Things that do not belong in our *Circle of Grace* can include actual people and things that we come into contact with, as well as situations that we encounter, or uncomfortable things that we hear or see or are exposed to. In all of these circumstances, Jesus, with the help of the Holy Spirit, guides us towards responses or actions that will keep us safe from harm and allow us to respect ourselves and/or others.

- **Picture Books:** (* Copies of these titles are available from staff. Just ask to reserve one!)
- *In the Image of God: A Story of Identity and Value*, * (Joe Caruso)
- *God's Masterpiece: An Adventure in Discovering Your Worth* * (Elisabeth Hasselbeck)
- *Paris Finds Her Purpose* *(Demi-Leigh Tebow)
- *Everyone Belongs* * (USCCB); also narrated at [EVERYONE BELONGS](#) (5 copies)
- *When God Made You* * (Matthew Paul Turner) (x1)
- *I'm Not Just a Scribble* * (Diane Alber) (x1); also narrated at [NOT JUST A SCRIBBLE](#)
- *Horton Hears a Who* * (Dr. Seuss) (x1); also narrated at [HORTON HEARS A WHO](#) ("a person's a person...no matter how small!")
- *You Are Special* * (Max Lucado) (x1)
- *Before I Was Me* * (Frank Fraser) (x1)
- *God Gave Us You* * (Lisa Tawn Bergren) (x1)
- *Green Street Park* * (USCCB) and *Drop by Drop* * (USCCB) (x1)
- *Angel in the Waters* * (Regina Doman) (x1)
- *God Made Us Different* (Lindsey Coker Luckey)
- *The World Needs Who You Were Made to Be* (Joanna Gaines)



LEARNING TARGETS FOR THIS LESSON

Learners will understand that:

Key Targets

- People can act in ways that are good or bad. (CCC#1749)
- Good choices show love for God. (CCC#1723; 1728)
- God wants people to choose to do good things. (CCC#1723; 1798)
- God helps people to do good things. (CCC#2082)
- People need the support and care of others to grow up healthy (CCC#1936-37; 1948; 2441; 2458; 2461)

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