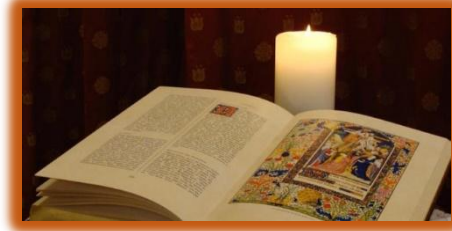


St. Laurence Catholic Parish
Kindergarten Faith Formation
Week 2 Lesson Plan



Bible Literacy Lesson

Essential Question ("EQ"): *What is and why do we read the Bible?*

CATECHIST PREPARATION

To prepare for this week's lesson:

- Prepare your adult heart and mind ahead of the lesson by watching [WAYS TO READ THE BIBLE](#) by Fr. Mike Schmitz. Also, be sure **you understand why the Catholic Canon of the Bible is *different* from that of our Protestant brothers and sisters.** Contrary to some Protestant teaching, Catholics *did not add* books to the Bible, but rather *Martin Luther removed* them from the Protestant Canon at the time of the Reformation. For more on this subject, check out [WHY DO CATHOLICS HAVE 7 MORE BOOKS IN THEIR BIBLE?](#) Or [WHY CATHOLICS USE SCRIPTURE AND TRADITION.](#)

- The goal of this lesson is for your learners to understand *what* the Bible is and practice how to navigate through and read it. Review the [CATHOLIC LEADER'S BIBLE GUIDE](#) for tips on understanding why this is important to us as Catholic Christians.

Also review the handout, [Bookshelf Outline of Biblical Books](#) which is color-coded to the St. Mary's Press Catholic Children's Bibles which are in the classroom. This handout also explains the difference between the Catholic and Protestant canon of the Bible and specifically references the books in question between the two canons (i.e., 73 vs. 66).

- 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.
- Reflect upon the Scriptural passage that today's lesson is based upon or extends. Today's lesson speaks of St. Paul and how he recorded the teachings of Jesus in his writings (the Epistles) which were shared with the early Christians of his time and are

part of the Bible canon, found in the New Testament. Incorporate your understanding of this passage into your teaching today with your learners.

Colossians 1: 24-25
Colossians 3: 2, 8-11, 13-17

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](#).

Each classroom is equipped with a set of Bibles which are located in the “CCE” storage cabinet or closet. Bring the Bibles out before your learners arrive and have them ready for use with each weekly lesson. Make a habit of always reading Scripture (even those passages in the student textbook) from the Bible, having students practice navigating their way around the Bible ‘library’ when appropriate developmentally.

- 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)
- Art or any unlined paper
- Crayons, markers and pencils as needed (located in the “CCE” storage closet in your room and your class bin)
- Lesson GPS manipulatives (Resources not found in the classroom *will be placed in your class bin weekly by staff*)



BEGINNING THE LESSON with CIRCLE OF GRACE

Introduce the “Circle of Grace”:

- Use the poster of the *Circle of Grace* visual.
- Ask: *What is grace? (Grace is a special gift from God. You can't see it. Grace lives in our hearts and makes us feel good. Grace makes us a child of God; He is Our Father.)*
- Say *Today we are going to learn about God's love for us.* (Show children the Circle of Grace Symbol).
- Say *This is a symbol for our Circle of Grace. It reminds us that God loves us and His love is always around us. Everyone has a Circle of Grace.*
- Ask: *Where is our Circle of Grace, and where is another person's Circle of Grace?*
- Ask the children to stand with enough room around them to fully extend their arms without touching each other.
- Give the following directions while modeling the desired actions:
 - a. *Raise your hands above your head*
 - b. *Bring your outstretched arms slowly down*
 - c. *Extend your arms in front of and then behind you*
 - d. *Embrace all the space around you*
 - e. *Then slowly reach down to your feet*

f. *Know that God is in this space with you*

- *This is the Circle of Grace that you live in.*
- Repeat steps to reinforce physical dimensions of Circle of Grace.
- *Say Now we will talk about why it is important that we know about our Circle of Grace.*
- *Jesus told us that he would always love us and always be with us. We are always in a special holy place because God loves us and wants to be our friend. That place is our Circle of Grace. This is a place where the Holy Spirit is with us and within us. Grace is a gift from God because God loves us and everyone.*
- **Repeat Circle of Grace at every session throughout the year as part of your routine.**

GUIDED PLAY to the SACRED (GPS)

Children learn through play. *Guided Play to the Sacred (GPS)* is a mode of play guided by the catechist to lead children to the Sacred, to God. Many of our kindergarteners and some older children are not reading ready. *Call to Faith* textbook and *Guided Play to the Sacred (GPS)* together are the core of the weekly lesson. This is the compass that guides the lesson in a way in which the children can interact. Further activities such as videos, coloring sheet, crafts and more can also be included in the lesson.

Today's lesson will convey **Call to Faith, Chapter 8: Jesus Teaches (p. 75-78) & Scripture Story, Paul's Message (Pgs. 109-112)**. As Catechist, your role is to help children understand the weekly lesson. You can convey the content of the Call to Faith textbook in a variety of creative ways that are appropriate and effective for your learners.

- Share today's Essential Question: *Why do we read the Bible?*
- Read *Many Teachers (Call to Faith p.75)*. Ask questions:
 - *When have you been like a teacher?*
 - *What wonderful things have you learned from special people?*
 - *What special book teaches us about God and how to live well?*
- Read *How to Live (Call to Faith, p.76)*
- Read *What to Do* and complete the activity (*Call to Faith p.77*).
- Read *About Jesus (Call to Faith, p.78)*.
- Begin *Guided Play to the Sacred (GPS)*. Use the *St. Mary's Press Catholic Children's Bible*
- Let each child touch and open the Children's Bible.
- Although the children are most likely not reading ready, look through the Bible and talk about how it contains stories of how much God loves us. Let the children look at some of the illustrations interspersed through the pages.
- Discuss with the children how we hear stories from the Bible at Mass.
- Read *Paul's Message (Call to Faith, p.109 - 112)* and complete the activity (*Call to Faith, p.111*).



LEARNING TARGETS FOR THIS LESSON

Learners will understand that:

Key Targets

- The Bible is a special and holy book about God. (CCC#97; 105-07)¹
- The Bible contains many stories about God and God's love for people. (CCC#54-56; 59; 62; 64; 70-72; 122-26; 315; 561)
- It is good to share the story of Jesus, which is a story of love. (CCC#777; 849; 852)
- The Bible is God's Word that helps people know how to live and it helps them know and love God better and how much He loves all people. (CCC#104-07; 136)

Supporting Targets

- The Gospels tell people about the life of Jesus. (CCC#96; 139; 444; 448)
- There are four important books in the Bible, called Gospels, which are about Jesus. (CCC#125-126; 139)
- In the Bible, Jesus welcomes and blesses children. (CCC#544; 561)
- Jesus changed water to wine at a wedding. This was the first time he showed people that he could do things that others could not do. (CCC#561)
- People tell God good morning and good night each day. (CCC#2697-98; 2720; 2757)

Revised 7/1/25

¹ Catechism of the Catholic Church; paragraph number identification.