

YEAR 5 - LESSON 9 - CATECHIST GUIDE WK. 1



FAMILIES FORMING DISCIPLES

A FAMILY-FOCUSED APPROACH TO FAITH FORMATION

CALLED TO LOVE: THE ADVENTURE OF LIFE IN CHRIST

TOPIC: Mary & the Mission of Discipleship

Mary as the Model Disciple, The Necessity of Prayer, The Christian Moral Life: Following Jesus

SACRED SCRIPTURE

LK 1:46-55, 6:12-13;

PS 95

REFERENCES:

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

no. 2013 & 2044

CREED

nos.

148-49,
456-64,
487-521,
721-47,
823-29,
963-75

LITURGY

nos.

1265-
70,
1303,
1391-
1401,
1427-
28

LIFE

nos.

1699-
1761,
1822-32,
1995-
2005,
2012-16

PRAYER

nos.

2558-
67,
2598-
2649,
2659-
60,
2673-
79

GOAL(S):

- Families will read and discuss a variety of bible passages that show Jesus praying to emphasize that prayer is necessary for every human being.
- Families will learn about various ways to pray and will share which are their favorite forms of prayer.
- Families will discuss why prayer is necessary for living the Christian moral life.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,
We entrust our family to You and
ask for Your blessing and protection.
We love You Lord Jesus with all our
hearts and we ask that You help our
family become more like the Holy
Family. Help us to be kind, loving, and
patient with one another. Give us all
the grace we need to become saints
and Your faithful disciples.
Amen.

ICE BREAKER

Share Your Favorite Prayer

- Each person receives a slip of paper to write down the title of his/her favorite prayer.
- All the slips are put into a paper bag.
- One person draws out a slip and reads the title of the prayer.
- Families guess whose favorite prayer title has been read.
- The family member who wrote the prayer then explains why that is his/her favorite prayer and names a time when he/she said that prayer and how it gave him/her comfort.

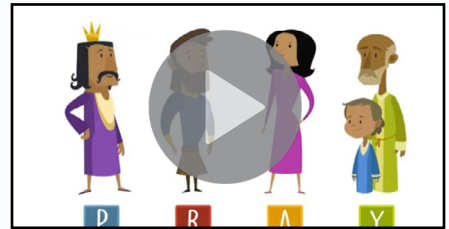


MATERIALS

- Bibles
- Paper & pens or pencils
- Paper bag

CONTENT

Hook: Watch: Jesus and Prayer | God's Story (4 min)



FAMILY BIBLE ACTIVITY

Explain: From the very beginning of *Families Forming Disciples* we have been learning about how God created and redeemed us to be His family, which means that, by His grace, we are in a deep, covenant relationship with Him. This also means that an important part of being human is our need to spend time with God in prayer. We know that Jesus did this all the time when He was on earth because, even though Jesus is God, He is also fully human (fully divine and fully human) and still needed His Father and loved to spend time with Him.

Luke 2:41-52 tells the story of *The Boy Jesus in the Temple*. In this story, when Jesus was twelve years old, He, Mary and Joseph went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover. On the way home, because the men and women travelled in separate caravans and with other family members, Mary thought Jesus was with Joseph, and Joseph thought that Jesus was with Mary. It wasn't until evening when they met up that Mary and Joseph realized that neither one of them had Jesus. This sent the distraught parents racing back to Jerusalem to find their son. Three days later when they found Jesus, he was discussing theology with the Temple teachers. Jesus had been drawn to the Temple, because He knew He was in His Father's house. He had prayed and meditated as He conversed with God His Father during those three days. This is why Jesus explains to His parents, **"Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?"** Luke 3:49

This is the first time in the Gospels that we read about Jesus' being drawn into prayer. It's not the first time He had prayed of course; rather it is the first example that has been written down and recorded.

The next time is at His baptism in the Jordan. This time God the Father's voice was heard and the Holy Spirit was seen in the form of a dove in response to Jesus' prayer!

"After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened and the holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." Luke 3:21-22

Then Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the desert for forty days. There He spent time alone in prayer and fasting to be strengthened and prepared to begin His public ministry. It was at the end of the forty days of prayer and fasting that the devil tempted Jesus.

1. Invite families to open their bibles.
2. Assign each family a topic and all or some of the Bible verses below it.
3. Families read the verses and answer the discussion questions.
4. After families have had time to discuss privately, ask each family to share one or two of the verses they had discussed.
5. At the end of the lesson, a variety of examples of Jesus praying in different situations will have been shared.

JESUS PRAYED TOPICS & VERSES

- ◇ Jesus went to pray alone.
Mt 14:22-23, Mk 1:35, Mk 6:46, Lk 6:12, Lk 5:16, Lk 9:18, Lk 22:39-41
- ◇ Jesus prayed before making important decisions.
Lk 6:12-13
- ◇ He prayed before, during and after healing people.
Mk 7:34-35, Lk 5:16, Mk 7:31-37
- ◇ Jesus prayed before, during and after many miracles.
Jn 6:11, Jn 11:41-42
- ◇ Jesus prayed for His disciples.
Lk 10:21, Lk 22:31, Lk 23:34, Jn 17:1-26, Lk 24:50-53, Mt 19:13-15
- ◇ Jesus prayed for Himself.
Mt 26:36-44, Mt 27:46, Lk 23:46
- ◇ Jesus said prayer is not an option but is necessary for our lives.
Mt 21:22, Mk 11:24-26, Mt 7:7-11, Lk 11:9-13, Jn 14:13-14, Jn 15:7,16,
Jn 16:23-24, Mt 5:44, Lk 6:27-28, Mt 6:5-15
- ◇ Jesus taught us how to pray.
Lk 11:2-4, Mt 18:19-20, Mt 26:26-30

JESUS PRAYED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

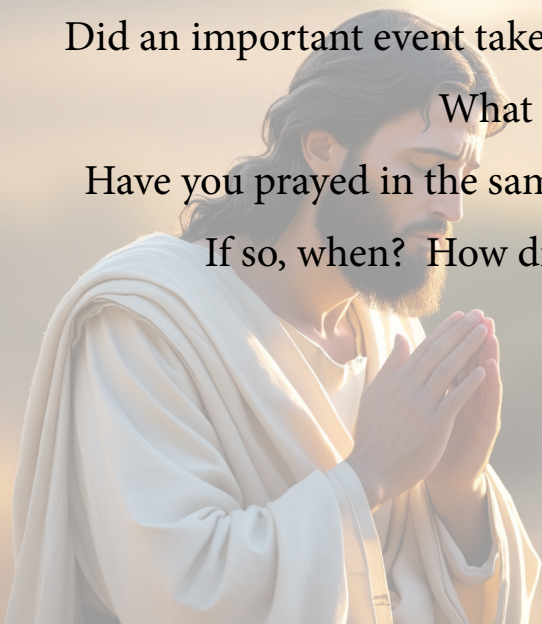
What was Jesus asking for in His prayer?

Did an important event take place before or after the passage?

What did He say?

Have you prayed in the same way or for something similar?

If so, when? How did your prayer affect you?



Explain: Jesus prayed all the time. He was always seeking to communicate with His Father in Heaven, because God is love and the Holy Trinity loves one another! Jesus told us that He is the Way. Jesus is our example to follow, so just in the same way that Jesus always sought His Father, we need to seek Jesus.

Prayer is an important way that we spend time with God, who is our “family”—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Because God loves us, He wants us to grow more in love with Him. The only way to do that is by spending time with Him. In fact, St. Augustine said, “True prayer is nothing but love.”

FAMILY CONVERSATION

Watch: Prayer | Catholic Central



Jesus prayed in many ways. What is your favorite type of prayer and why?

Jesus, who is true God and true man, prayed for strength to do His Father's will. How does prayer help you to follow Jesus, live the Christian moral life and to do God's will?

Can you live the Christian moral life without praying? Why or why not?

Do you think praying together as a family brings you closer to God?

MISSION ACTIVITY

First, Introduce Mission Activity

Mission Activities are to be done at home during Week 2 and to be shared at the gathering of families on Week 3.

Second, Explain Activity

- i. Your Family At-Home Mission is to watch together as a family the videos about the Christian moral life, prayer and Mary as a model disciple. Then review the ideas for honoring Mary during the month of May and choose which ones your family will do. Gather around your home altar and pray a decade of the Rosary. Be prepared to share your plan to honor Mary in May at the Week 3 gathering.
- ii. Lastly, please complete the [Families Forming Disciples Family Survey](#).

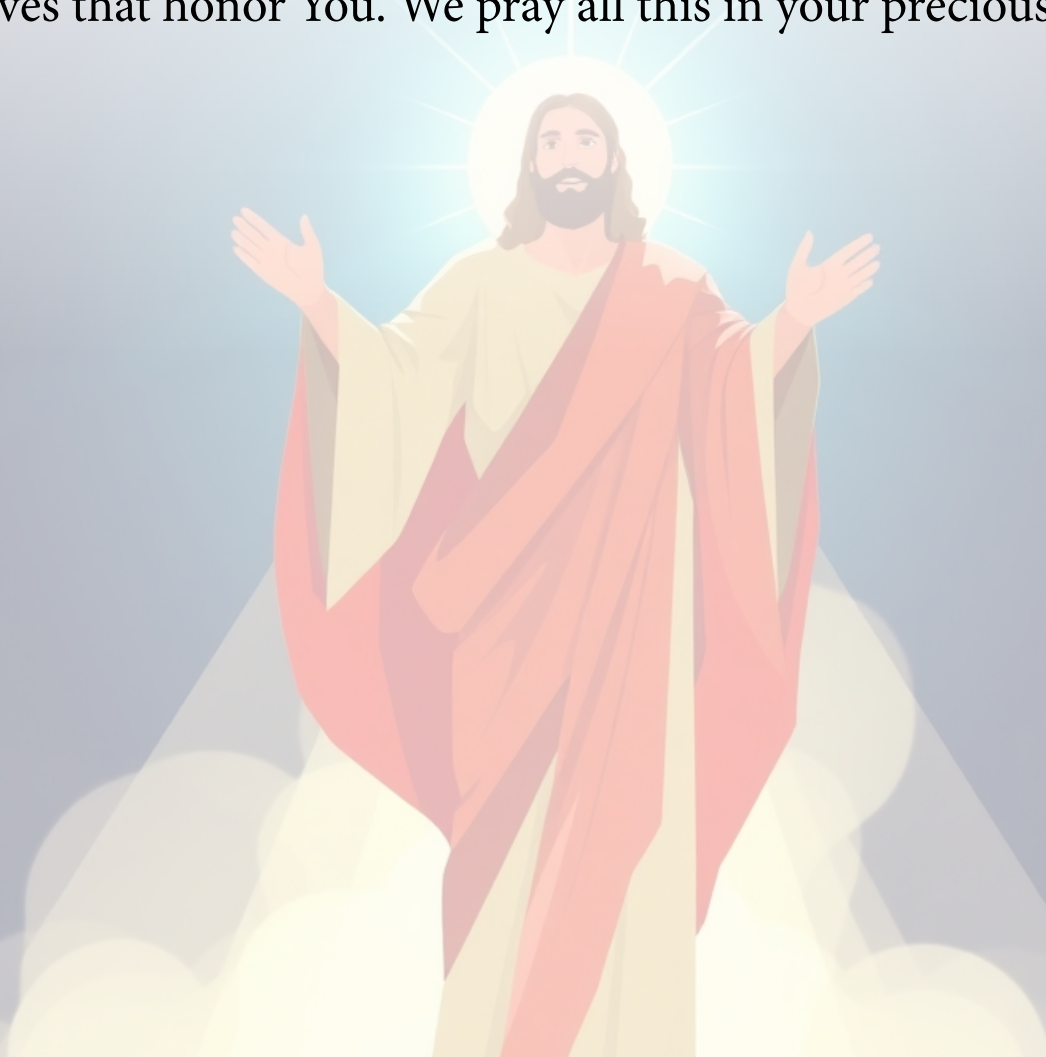
Last, Model for Families:

Model for the families by sharing your own family's plan to honor Mary during the month of May.

REVIEW & PRAYER

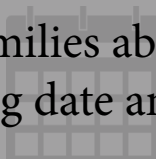
Dear Lord Jesus,

We come before You with a heart full of gratitude. We thank You for Your sacrifice on the Cross, for Your love that knows no bounds, and for the gift of salvation. We are grateful for the blessings You have bestowed upon us. We also thank you for your guidance and support in our lives. Please continue to bless us and our loved ones, and help us to live lives that honor You. We pray all this in your precious Name, Amen.



REMIND

Remind families about the next meeting date and time.



SUPPORTING QUOTES FROM CHURCH DOCUMENTS

Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 2013, 2044, & 2745:

No. 2013: “All Christians in any state or walk of life are called to the fullness of Christian life and to the perfection of charity.” All are called to holiness: “Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

In order to reach this perfection the faithful should use the strength dealt out to them by Christ’s gift, so that . . . doing the will of the Father in everything, they may wholeheartedly devote themselves to the glory of God and to the service of their neighbor. Thus the holiness of the People of God will grow in fruitful abundance, as is clearly shown in the history of the Church through the lives of so many saints.

No. 2044: The fidelity of the baptized is a primordial condition for the proclamation of the Gospel and for the Church’s mission in the world. In order that the message of salvation can show the power of its truth and radiance before men, it must be authenticated by the witness of the life of Christians. “The witness of a Christian life and good works done in a supernatural spirit have great power to draw men to the faith and to God.”

No. 2745: Prayer and Christian life are inseparable, for they concern the same love and the same renunciation, proceeding from love; the same filial and loving conformity with the Father’s plan of love; the same transforming union in the Holy Spirit who conforms us more and more to Christ Jesus; the same love for all men, the love with which Jesus has loved us. “Whatever you ask the Father in my name, he [will] give it to you. This I command you, to love one another.”

He “prays without ceasing” who unites prayer to works and good works to prayer. Only in this way can we consider as realizable the principle of praying without ceasing.

