

Grade 2 - Chapter 11

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Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objectives

- Relate an examination of conscience to a prayerful way of looking at our lives
- Identify the importance of expressing sorrow
- Name the two parts of contrition—being sorry and wanting to live better

Making Things Right

Ask a volunteer to read aloud the question.

- List the children's answers on the board or on chart paper.

Read aloud the introductory paragraph.

God's Word

Proclaim the Scripture story, and ask the children to listen for the words Jesus spoke to the woman.

Your sins are forgiven. Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.

Have the children silently read the question at the bottom of the page.

- Ask: How did the woman show she was sorry for her sins? How do you show you are sorry?
- Encourage the children to give specific examples.

Examination of Conscience

Ask a volunteer to read aloud the first two paragraphs.

- Review with the children the questions they should reflect on when examining their conscience.

Read aloud the last paragraph.

- Discuss with the group ways to show contrition.

- Invite the children to turn to page 315 in the Our Catholic Tradition section of the Student Book to read more about making an Examination of Conscience.
- Allow time for discussion.

Activity

Read aloud the directions.

- Ask the children to work independently to answer the question, but then share it with a partner.

Quick Review

An examination of conscience is a prayerful way of looking at one's life in order to reflect on the choices we have made. Contrition is being sorry for one's sins and wanting to do better.

Discover (2)

Objectives

- Understand that in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, God's forgiveness is given through the Church
- List the steps in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Read aloud the question at the top of the student page.

- Tell the children that they will learn the answer to that question by studying the steps shown on page 169.

Read aloud both paragraphs.

Work with Words

Have the children place a finger on the words *Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation*.

- Read the Catholic Faith Words definition.
- Explain that *penance*, *confession*, and *absolution* are parts of the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Have volunteers read aloud the definitions.

Steps in the Sacrament

Review each of the steps with the children by reading them yourself or asking volunteers to read them.

- Ask the children if they have questions on any of the steps. Discuss as needed.
- Discuss the types of penance the priest might give to the children.
- Tell them how important the words of absolution are and that they will make the Sign of the Cross as the priest prays these words. Point out that some priests may shake hands with them as they leave as a sign of the peace of Christ.
- ▶ Music Option: Have the children sing, "God of Mercy," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

Read aloud the directions on page 168.

- Give the children time to solve the puzzle.
- Ask a volunteer to share the answer.

Quick Review

The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation can be celebrated individually or as part of a parish or communal celebration with individual confession. It is the Church's Sacrament of forgiveness.

Catechist Tips: Sacraments and Justice

Children can see that things such as water and air pollution are harmful.

- Preparing for Reconciliation helps the children understand the social dimension of sin.
- Preparing for the Eucharist helps them understand that the Church is one body, called to be of service to one another. (See *Justice in the World*, #58.)

Catechist Tips: Reaching All Learners - Kinesthetic Learners

Children this age will benefit from activities with movement. Use plays, dance, and gestures to accompany the lesson whenever possible. Consider moving the group outdoors.

Catechist Tips: Examining Conscience

The questions on page 167 are a kind of rudimentary examination of conscience.

- Explain to the children that they can review their own choices as they did the choices in the activity, evaluating whether they were good or bad choices.

Catechist Tips: Go In Peace

Have the words, "Go in Peace!" written on the board or on chart paper in large colorful letters for all to see. After reading together "The Woman Who Was Forgiven" on page 166 of their books, have the children tell the story back to you in their own words. Emphasize that the woman did two things: she was sorry for her sins and she did something to show she was sorry. Then have them read together the last three words that Jesus said: "Go in peace." Let them tell examples of someone doing something wrong and then showing they were sorry. After each one, say together what Jesus said: **Go in peace!**

Glossary Activity: Reconciliation

Have the children work in groups to create a poster outlining the steps in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

- Display the posters, and refer to them as the children practice for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Additional Activity: Wall Hanging

Draw construction paper capital letters for each letter in the prayer "Lord, you are kind and forgiving." Make as many sets as necessary so that each child has a letter to color and decorate. Have children work in groups to place the letters in the correct order. Display the colorful prayer on a wall.

Additional Activity: Good Action Plate

Give each child a six-inch paper plate. Have them draw and color a smiling face in the center. Have them write around the edge some good actions they can do as they are preparing for First Reconciliation. Display the plates in a prominent place in the room, easily seen by everyone.

Additional Activity: Compose Prayers

Have children compose their own prayers of contrition, following this pattern:

- Tell God you are sorry for having sinned.
- Promise to do better.
- Ask God's forgiveness and help.
- Thank God for his love.