

# Grade 4 - Chapter 18

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## Discover

### Catechist Edition Instruction

## Discover (1)

### Objectives

- Explore conversion, turning away from sin and responding to God's love and forgiveness, relating their own lives to the example of Zacchaeus
- Understand that in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, we receive God's forgiveness of sins through the Church and are strengthened by grace to make peace and avoid temptation

### God's Forgiveness

Ask: Who is forgiven?

- Write the children's responses on the board or on chart paper.

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the first paragraph.

### Scripture

Proclaim "The Story of Zacchaeus."

- Ask: Why was Zacchaeus unpopular? **He cheated people.**
- Ask: How did Zacchaeus change after he met Jesus? **He repaid those he had cheated and gave money to those who were poor.**
- Point out that Jesus offered friendship, and that this led to the change in Zacchaeus.
- Ask: Who has taught you the most about forgiveness? What did the person or persons say or do?
- ▶ Music Option: Have the children sing, "Zacchaeus," downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

## Conversion

Read aloud the first paragraph.

- Point out the word *conversion*. Tell the children that it means “a change of heart.”
- Ask: Who experienced conversion in the Scripture story? **Zacchaeus**
- Have the children read silently the second paragraph to learn how the Church continues Jesus' actions.

## Work with Words

Invite four volunteers to each read aloud one of the Catholic Faith Words definitions.

- Have the children make vocabulary cards.

Refer to page 315 in the Our Catholic Tradition reference section in the back of the Student Book to find out more about the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

► Music Option: Have the children sing, “God of Mercy,” downloaded from **aliveinchrist.osv.com**.

## Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Share Your Faith activity.

- Allow the children to reflect on their experience.
- Provide time for the children to discuss with a partner.

## Quick Review

Jesus shares his life and love with us. Sacraments are special signs and celebrations that come from Jesus and allow us to share in God's life and love.

## Discover (2)

### Objective

- Discover that the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick brings Jesus' healing touch to strengthen, comfort and forgive the sins of those who are seriously ill or close to death

### The Sacraments of Healing

Ask: How does the Church celebrate forgiveness and healing?

- Write the children's responses on the board or on chart paper.
- Tell the children that there is more to learn about how the Church celebrates God's forgiveness.

Invite volunteers to take turns reading aloud the paragraphs.

- Pause after each paragraph and review any terms that may be unfamiliar to the children.
- ★ Invite the children to underline what God will do for us when we confess our sins and are truly sorry during the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

• Ask: Why is it important to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation? **to help you turn away from sin and toward God**

### Work with Words

Distribute index cards and have the children make vocabulary cards for each of the Catholic Faith Words.

## God's Healing Love

Have the children read the first paragraph to learn about the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

- Read aloud the second paragraph to introduce the Scripture story.
- Have the children make vocabulary cards for the term *Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick*.

## Scripture

Assign parts and have the children proclaim "The Man Born Blind."

- Emphasize that God gave Jesus the power to heal people so that people could come to know God's healing love.

► Music Option: Have the children sing, "Heal Us Lord," downloaded from [aliveinchrist.osv.com](http://aliveinchrist.osv.com).

## Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Connect Your Faith activity.

- Brainstorm answers with the whole group.

## Quick Review

The Sacraments of Anointing of the Sick and Penance and Reconciliation celebrate God's forgiveness and healing.

## Catechist Tips: Catholic Teaching

The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops calls the pursuit of justice and peace "an essential part" of being Catholic.

- Apply the concepts to the wider world.
- Point out the need for forgiveness when you see injustice in neighborhood or world events.

## Catechist Tips: Learn by Doing

As scientists learn more about the brain, they can provide more information about the different types of intelligence.

- Bodily/kinesthetic intelligence, or "learning by doing," is a way to promote learning through the senses and bodily motion.
- Include activities that are physically active. Some examples are pantomimes, skits, and prayers with gestures.

## Catechist Tips: Healing

The New Testament contains many stories of healing by Jesus and his disciples.

- The Gospels include *Matthew 8:14-15* (the cure of Peter's mother-in-law); *Mark 1:40-45* (the cleansing of a leper); *Luke 8:40-56* (the revival of Jairus's daughter); and *John 11:1-44* (the raising of Lazarus).
- In the Acts of the Apostles, Jesus' followers continue his healing ministry. (See *Acts 3:1-10*, *5:12-16*, *9:32-43*, and *20:7-12*.)

## **Catechist Tips: Visual Learners**

Visual learners do best when they see a process laid out in steps from start to finish.

- To help the children understand Reconciliation, create a series of steps for the process.
- Draw a flow chart with the same number of boxes as there are steps in the series. Write a step in each box. Connect the boxes with arrows.

## **Glossary Activity: Forgiveness**

Help the children make small booklets by stapling folded sheets of paper together.

- Instruct the children to write in the booklets about times when they have experienced forgiveness or granted forgiveness to someone else.
- The children can write their stories and then illustrate them.

## **Additional Activity: Dramatization**

The Gospel story lends itself to drama, mime, or choral reading.

- You may wish to have the children dramatize a longer version of this passage (*John 9:1-39*).
- Or, have a proficient reader proclaim the version given here while the other children mime the action.

## **Additional Activity: Reconciliation Cards**

Have the children make a set of cards to help them prepare for Reconciliation.

- Have the children write on index cards reflection questions about the Ten Commandments, about the Beatitudes, and about Church law.
- Other cards may contain prayers.

## **Additional Activity: Forgiveness**

Extending forgiveness to others is one of the fruits of a life of prayer.

- Forgiveness is demonstrated in a spirit of nonviolence and concern for justice.
- Christians embody forgiveness by showing a spirit of compassion.
- Meeting this challenge is possible when people ask the Holy Spirit's help.

## **Additional Activity: Forgiveness Crosses**

Supplies:

- pencils
- scrap paper
- corrugated cardboard or thick tag board
- tacky glue
- regular and heavy-duty scissors (gardening or kitchen scissors; adult supervision required)
- aquarium pebbles (multicolored) or, if aquarium pebbles aren't easy to find, shake up some colored rice by placing rice, food coloring, and a small amount of rubbing alcohol in a zipper plastic bag
- pictures of various crosses as examples
- hammer and nail

- yarn for hanging
- beads (optional)

Explain that the children will sketch and then create a forgiveness cross as a symbol that they are both forgiven and someone who forgives. Discuss different types of crosses the children have observed. Some have straight lines on all sides, others bend at edges, others curve at the corners of the cross arms or bases. Show examples.

Allow time for sketching. Encourage unique drawings, being sure to emphasize that the drawing will need to transfer to pendant size. Make sure the top will be able to have yarn threaded through it.

Without supervision, transfer sketch idea to cardboard, and cut out. Pound hole with hammer and nail (with adult supervision).

Thread yarn and tie to hang, being sure it can slide over the child's head. Cover entire front of cross with tacky glue. Spread aquarium pebbles or rice over glue. Allow time to dry. If you have less time, design and cut out cross pattern. Decorate with brightly colored markers.

### **Additional Activity: What If?**

Supplies:

- paper
- pencils

Fourth-graders are at a "what if..." stage ("What if Tom calls me a bad word, do I haf'ta forgive him?"). In matters of forgiveness, they want a definitive answer but are hesitant to admit that they believe there are times they don't need to show forgiveness. The anonymous tone of this activity allows them to ask and to hear that forgiveness is an *always* act. With this in mind, introduce the activity by acknowledging that there are occasions in each child's life when offering forgiveness is difficult.

Invite the children to think of situations when they have puzzled over the question of "forgive or don't forgive?" Ask the children to write the situations on sheets of paper. Encourage them not to use names but rather say "a friend," "someone at school," "a person in my family" and so on. Fold the papers in half.

Randomly select a question to be read and respond to it. Repeat with each situation. If you have more time, pose "what if..." situations and have the children share how they would demonstrate forgiveness.

### **Parish Video Connection: Reconciliation**

After you complete the Catechist Edition instruction on page 246, show the children this video.

Say: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is not about making us feel guilty. It is about asking for forgiveness, so that we can be closer to Jesus Christ.

YouTube Link: <http://youtu.be/QtbpOERgMvk>

### **DISCLAIMER**