

Grade 3 - Chapter 13

Discover

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Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objective

- Examine how the story of Joseph in the Old Testament shows us the importance of forgiving and loving

Learning to Forgive

Read aloud the question. Tell the children that we will learn the answer from the Scripture story. Ask a volunteer to read aloud both paragraphs to introduce the lesson.

- Explain to the children that today's story is from the Old Testament, the part of the Bible that tells about the lives of God's People before Jesus was born.

God's Word

Proclaim the Scripture story.

★ Have the children underline what Joseph's brothers did to him.

- Review the answer as a group.
- *Ask:* Have you ever done something you knew was wrong because you were jealous of your brother, sister, or friend?
- Remind the children that they do not need to share this information. Just have them take a moment to think about it.

🎵 Music Option: Have the children sing "Shalom," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

The Story of Joseph

Continue with the Scripture.

- Pause at the end of the second paragraph and ask the children what they think Joseph should do now that he knows that his brothers do not recognize him.
- Read the end of the Scripture story.
- Say: Joseph was angry because of what his brothers had done to him. Let's find out how he responded.
- Read aloud the concluding paragraph.
- Invite volunteers to read the questions. Have them pause after each to allow the group to respond.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Share Your Faith activity.

- Let the children work with a partner to answer the question and share their thoughts.

Quick Review

The story of Joseph shows us how to forgive and to love.

Discover (2)

Objectives

- Discuss Jesus' command to love our enemies
- Describe the Beatitudes as teachings of Jesus that show the way to true happiness and tell how to live in God's Kingdom
- Identify that Jesus' New Commandment is to love one another as he loves us

The Way of Love

Ask: What does Jesus teach about love?

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

Ask a volunteer to read aloud the opening paragraph.

God's Word

Proclaim the Scripture.

- ★ Have the children underline what Jesus wants us to do.
- Ask a volunteer to read aloud the closing paragraph.

Work with Words

Invite three volunteers to read aloud the Catholic Faith Words and their definitions on page 193.

- Distribute three index cards.
- Have the children create vocabulary cards.
- Encourage the children to use the cards to prepare for reviews.

🎵 Music Option: Have the children sing "This Is My Commandment," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

The New Commandment

Read aloud the opening paragraph, including the verse from Scripture.

- Ask: How can Jesus' New Commandment help us make good decisions?
- Write all responses on the board or on chart paper.

Living the New Commandment

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the paragraph.

- Ask the children to share examples of people they know who live the New Commandment.
- Explain how receiving love with an open and grateful heart is part of Jesus' command to love one another.
- To further discuss God's Laws, have the children turn to pages 316–317 in the Our Catholic Tradition section in the back of the Student Book.

Activity

Read aloud the directions.

- Have the children work together in pairs to solve the puzzle.
- Invite a volunteer to share the solution.

Quick Review

Jesus wants us to love everyone, even our enemies. He gave us the Beatitudes to show us how to live in God's Kingdom.

Catechist Tips: List Injustices and Responses

Joseph responded to his brothers' injustices with mercy.

- Brainstorm injustices that the children may have noticed in their school or community, such as excluding someone because of race or gender.
- Talk about these injustices, and list some responses that might result in reconciliation.

Catechist Tips: Love of Enemies

Matthew 5:43–47 calls Christians to a high standard of behavior.

- In telling his followers to love their enemies, Jesus gives them a new way of living.
- Jesus points out that God treats all people with mercy and says that people must treat one another with mercy.
- To be perfect means to love everyone.

Catechist Tips: New Commandment

While loving others as Jesus loves you is unique to Christianity, a similar law—treating others as you would like to be treated—is a universal religious law.

- Buddhism states this law as “Hurt not others in ways that you yourself would find hurtful.”
- This law is expressed in Islam as “No one of you is a believer until he desires for his brother that which he desires for himself.”

Catechist Tips: Sequence

Some children with learning difficulties have problems with cross word puzzles.

- You might assign the children to work in pairs.
- Many children will find it easier to sequence pictures than written descriptions.

Glossary Activity: Mercy

Wars have been common throughout human history. So have examples of mercy.

- Supply the children with approved resources.
- Ask each child to find one great act of mercy and share that story.

Additional Activity: Choose a Package

Write "God's Help" on small slips of paper, and place them in boxes.

- Wrap the boxes with a variety of papers.
- Invite the children to open the boxes. Explain that God's help comes in many different ways.

Additional Activity: Vocabulary

As you progress through the units, look for ways to use the children's vocabulary cards to enhance their learning. Cards can be used for these purposes:

- simple flash cards
- matching games
- guessing games
- other games that the children suggest

Additional Activity: Social Studies

Study relationships among countries and regions.

- Bring in newspaper articles about countries that work well together. See whether the children can determine why these countries get along well.
- Similarly, bring information about countries that are in conflict. What is the source of the problems?

Additional Activity: Sign Language

Many children will be aware of sign language used by hearing- and speech-impaired people.

- Use electronic resources or a book to teach signs for peace, apology, and other words that convey the meaning of the sign of peace.
- Encourage the children to use the signs when resolving conflicts.

Additional Activity: Peace and Love Bracelets

Supplies:

- pre-cut thin yarn or string
- cereal with a loop that can be threaded (or similar material items such as large beads that can be

threaded)

- construction paper (variety of colors)
- safety scissors

Prepare the children for this activity. Say: **It isn't always easy to show love to those who are unkind to us, but Jesus tells us to love our enemies and do good to those who hate us. We are going to make *Peace and Love Bracelets*. Wear them so they will remind you to love everyone, even your enemies.**

Distribute colored construction paper, safety scissors and pre-cut yarn or string to each child.

- Have the children thread cereal (and/or similar items) onto the string or yarn.
- Have the children draw and cut out little peace signs, hearts, or other Christian symbols, and add them to the bracelet by poking a hole at the top and threading them through in a similar manner.
- When they are finished threading, direct the children to tie the yarn or string in a knot at the end, and tie the ends together to form a bracelet.

Parish Video Connection: The Beatitudes

Once you've completed the Catechist Edition instruction on page 193, show this video to the children. While they sing along, invite them to also look for key words about those who are "blessed." Then have them turn to page 317 in their books. Discuss the key words that they found (i.e. ones who are poor in spirit, weeping, meek and humble, hungry, thirsting for justice, waiting on their king, merciful, forgiving, pure in heart, making peace, loving others with their Savior's love, bullied for faith) and connect them to the Beatitudes.

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/5yxs5wFpnGg>

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