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2020-2021 Object Lessons



✠ In
Christ,
I can!

Philippians 4:13

CATHOLIC VERSION

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Object Lessons for Chapel Talks
2020-2021 CATHOLIC VERSION

About the Object Lessons for Chapel Talks

In these 47 object lessons for chapel talks, based on the appointed Gospel readings for the Sundays of the 2020-2021 school year, students learn from God's Word as they prepare to hear the good news proclaimed on the coming Sunday. Each lesson includes suggested Bible readings, hymns, a children's message and a brief prayer. These object lessons may be used for school chapels, for homeroom devotions or for Sunday children's sermons.

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Object Lessons for Chapel Talks **2020-2021** CATHOLIC VERSION

Week of August 2, 2020

Theme Verse

And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea.
Matthew 14:25

Bible Readings

1 Kings 19:9a-11; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:22-33; Psalm 85:9-14

Songs

Rock of Ages, Cleft For Me; Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me; Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Needed

A picture of a boat

Message

□ Can any of you tell me what this is? (*Hold up the picture of a boat.*) That's right! It's a boat. How many of you have been on a boat? (*Allow the children to respond.*) One night the disciples were on a boat to get from one side of a sea to the other. But Jesus was not with them. Then there was a fierce storm. But in the midst of this storm, Jesus came toward the boat, walking on the water. The disciples were scared and thought Jesus was a ghost. But Jesus said to them, "It is I. Do not be afraid."

The disciple Peter asked Jesus if he could walk out on the water to meet Jesus, and Jesus said, "Come." So Peter walked out on the water toward Jesus, but then he got

scared of the wind and the waves and started to sink until Jesus pulled him out of the water. "O you of little faith," Jesus said.

This story reminds us of our own lives. Our life is like that boat that the disciples were in. We are fine and enjoying ourselves until the storms of life come. We get sick or someone dies or there is something hard we have to do. Then we get scared.

Jesus comes toward us to help us, but sometimes we are even afraid of him. But Jesus tells us, like he told the disciples, "Do not be afraid." When we put our faith in Jesus, we do not have to be afraid. He is always there to lift us up when we lose our confidence in him. He is always there to bring us back to our life boats, where we are safely loved and protected and cared for.

Whenever you see a boat or a picture of a boat, think about this story and remember that Jesus comes to us wherever we may be in our life boat and takes away all our fears. We can always trust in him to help us.

Prayer

- ① Jesus, come to us wherever we may be and reach out to us with your helping hand.
Amen.

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Object Lessons for Chapel Talks **2020-2021** CATHOLIC VERSION

Week of August 9, 2020

Theme Verse

She came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." Matthew 15:25

Bible Readings

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Romans 11:13-15, 29-32; Matthew 15:21-28; Psalm 67:2-3, 5-6, 8

Songs

What a Friend We Have in Jesus; Our Father, By Whose Name

Needed

A picture of praying hands

Message

L Can any of you tell me what this is a picture of? (*Hold up the picture of praying hands.*) That's right! It's a picture of praying hands. Can you all fold your hands right now with me? (*Allow the children to fold hands.*) When do we fold our hands like this? (*Allow the children to respond.*) That's right! We fold our hands like this when we pray to Jesus.

In our Bible story for today, we read about a woman who said a prayer right to Jesus. She simply prayed, "Help me!" You see, her daughter needed healing right away.

But Jesus didn't answer the woman's prayer right away. He was quiet. Jesus doesn't always answer our prayers right away, does he? Sometimes we have to wait.

But not hearing anything from Jesus at first did not stop the woman from praying to him. She kept on praying, and so should we. Don't let the silence stop you! A yes may be on the way.

Sometimes it seems like the answer to our prayers is no. But that did not stop the woman in the story either. She let Jesus know that she knew she did not deserve his goodness to her, but Jesus could still grant her request by just a little bit of his grace.

By grace, Jesus said yes to the woman's prayer, blessing her daughter with healing.

By grace, Jesus continues to say yes to our prayers, maybe not in the way we want or at the time we desire, but according to his will. So keep the prayers coming, because Jesus is always there to listen.

Prayer

- ① Jesus, thank you for listening to our prayers and answering them in the way that you see is best for us. Help us to pray faithfully and boldly, trusting that you will always be there for us. Amen.

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Object Lessons for Chapel Talks **2020-2021** CATHOLIC VERSION

Week of August 16, 2020

Theme Verse

Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Matthew 16:16

Bible Readings

Isaiah 22:19-23; Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:13-20; Psalm 138:1-3, 6, 8

Songs

How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds; O, How I Love Jesus

Needed

A sheet of paper with the name "CHRIST" on it and
a sheet of paper with the name "SON OF GOD" on it

Message

☐ Jesus once asked his disciples, "Who do people say I am?" And there were lots of answers, it turned out! Some said John the Baptist. Some said Elijah. Some said Jeremiah. But the only right answer came from the disciple Peter, who said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (*Hold up the "CHRIST" paper.*) Does anyone know what the name "Christ" means? It means "Anointed One" or "Chosen One." It means that Jesus was the chosen one that God sent to save us.

Peter knew, too, that Jesus was the Son of God. (*Hold up the "SON OF GOD" paper.*) That means that Jesus is both human and divine. Peter let all who were gathered

there know that Jesus came from heaven to earth to be with us and follow his Father's will. The good news for us all is that Jesus desires us to be part of God's family, too. We become brothers and sisters of Christ through baptism, and thus become sons and daughters of God. Jesus wants to bring us back to heaven with him on the Last Day to be with our Father and his. There we will all sing the praises of the Son of God forever.

The Bible is full of names of Jesus that tell us a story about who he is and what he does for us. For instance, Jesus calls himself the Good Shepherd. That name helps us to remember that he leads and guides us and keeps us from getting lost. The name the Light of the World reminds us that Jesus brightens our life and our world with his love and care. The Prince of Peace is a name for Jesus that highlights for us that he rules over us with comfort, stillness and quietness when everything around us is filled with chaos and confusion.

Whenever anyone asks you who Jesus is to you, think of one of these names and tell them what that name means to you and your relationship with him.

Prayer

- 📖 Dear Jesus, Simon Peter called you Christ and Son of God. May these and all our names for you bring you glory and proclaim to others who are you to us. Amen.

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Object Lessons for Chapel Talks **2020-2021** CATHOLIC VERSION

Week of August 23, 2020

Theme Verse

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” Matthew 16:24

Bible Readings

Jeremiah 20:7-9; Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 16:21-27; Psalm 63:2-6, 8-9

Songs

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory,” “In Christ Alone”

Needed

A picture of a cross

Message

☐ Can any of you tell me what this is? (*Hold up the picture of a cross and allow the children to respond.*) That’s right! It’s a cross. What happened on a cross like this one? (*Allow the children to respond.*) That’s right! Jesus died on a cross like this. He suffered and died on the cross so that our sins might be forgiven and that we might be saved.

Jesus told his disciples one day that this was going to happen to him. But one of the disciples, Simon Peter, did not believe him. He did not want this to happen to Jesus. But Jesus made it clear that this was something that had to happen because it was the will of God.

Then Jesus said that all those who follow him must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow him. What did Jesus mean by that? He meant that when we follow Jesus, we must no longer listen to ourselves and what we want. We must listen to him. Our crosses are those things that we do not want to do or experience, things that hurt us or bring us suffering. But they are things that are the will of God. Jesus himself did not want to go to the cross on the night before his death. He prayed, "Let this cup pass from me." But in the end, he trusted in God and said, "Not my will, but thine, O Lord" and went to the cross. And that's what we must do when we take up our crosses and follow. We must trust in what God says. We must trust that the things his Son Jesus wants for us are far greater than the things we want. And the things of Jesus bring eternal blessings. Those blessings are forgiveness, salvation, peace, hope and life. So listen closely to what Jesus says, believe what he says, and do what he says, always looking to his cross for strength. Because of that cross, a place awaits us in heaven, where we will forever be surrounded by the things of God.

Prayer

- ☐ Jesus, thank you for showing us to way to heaven through you and the cross. Help us always to listen to you. Amen.

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Object Lessons for Chapel Talks **2020-2021** CATHOLIC VERSION

Week of August 30, 2020

Theme Verse

For where two or three are gathered in my name,
there am I among them. Matthew 18:20

Bible Readings

Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20; Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9

Songs

O God of Love, O King of Peace; O Bless the Lord, My Soul

Needed

A sign that says, "JESUS"

Message

☒ What does this sign say, boys and girls? (*Hold up the "JESUS" sign and allow the children to respond.*) That's right! It says, "Jesus." In today's Bible reading Jesus says that wherever two or three are gathered together in his name, there he is among them. So let's count how many are here for this children's message. (*Count the children gathered, including yourself and announce the number.*) That's more than 2 or 3, right? So Jesus is here right in the midst of us. (*Hold up "JESUS" sign.*) How many are out in the seats in our parish? More than two or three, right? So Jesus is in the midst of this whole parish. (*Hold up "JESUS" sign and walk out into the middle of the parish.*) How many people are in your family? (*Allow the children to respond.*) Even if it is just you and one

more person in your family, Jesus is there with you in your house. He is with you when you say your prayers together and when you read the Bible together and when you read storybooks about Jesus together. He is with you no matter what you are doing in his name as a group.

Jesus wants us to gather together in his name as often as we can. That might mean in our parish. That might be in our homes. That could be on our computers when we gather on our screens for video chats as disciples of Jesus. Invite Jesus into these places and welcome him to stay with you wherever you are. You are never alone when Jesus is here.

Prayer

- ☒ Jesus, remind us of your presence with us in every place we gather in your name and bless our time together with you. Amen.

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Object Lessons for Chapel Talks **2020-2021** CATHOLIC VERSION

Week of September 6, 2020

Theme Verse

“Should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?”
Matthew 18:33

Bible Readings

Sirach 27:30–28:7; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35; Psalm 103:1-4, 9-12 (8)

Songs

Jesus, Remember Me; Jesus, Refuge of the Weary

Needed

A picture of the word “MERCY”

Message

- What does this say? (*Hold up the “MERCY” paper and allow the children to respond.*)
That’s right! It says, “Mercy.” Mercy is a word that means forgiving. In our Bible reading for today, Jesus tells a parable about what it means to be merciful or forgiving. In the story one man owes another man a large amount of money. But the man who owes the money cannot pay the other man back. So the first man does something amazing. He shows mercy and forgives the man his debt. But then the man who was forgiven his big debt went to another man and refused to show mercy to that man and forgive the little debt he owed.

What is Jesus telling us in this story? He is telling us that God is very merciful to us and forgives us our many sins, just as the one man was very merciful to the other. Jesus is also telling us that we should be merciful to others and forgive them as God has forgiven us. We should not be like the man who was forgiven his debt but did not forgive the other man.

Showing mercy to one another means loving others no matter what they have done. Showing mercy means not holding a grudge. Showing mercy means not being angry with one another. Showing mercy means being kind and helpful in every way we can. When we show mercy, we show everyone just how great God's love for us is. There is no end to God's mercy toward us, and his love for us is everlasting. Let us show that same mercy and love toward everyone we meet.

Prayer

☞ Dear God, you are merciful beyond measure toward us. Help us to be just as merciful toward others. Amen.

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Object Lessons for Chapel Talks **2020-2021** CATHOLIC VERSION

Week of September 13, 2020

Theme Verse

So the last will be first, and the first last. Matthew 20:16

Bible Readings

Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a; Matthew 20:1-16; Psalm 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

Songs

Amazing Grace; Hark, the Voice of Jesus Calling

Needed

A picture of a vineyard

Message

- 📖 What is this a picture of? (*Hold up the picture of a vineyard and allow the children to respond.*) That's right! It is a picture of a vineyard. Jesus told a story about a man who owned a vineyard and hired people to work in his vineyard. He called some people to work starting early in the morning. He went out and hired people in the middle of the day and then toward the end of the day. When it came time to pay them all, he starting by paying the last ones first and then the first ones last, and he paid them all the same. The ones who had been hired first were angry, but the vineyard owner explained that they all had agreed to the same price and that he was being generous.

What do we learn from this story? We learn that it is an honor and a privilege to work in fields of those who have yet received the seed of his Word. And we who work for Christ are all blessed with the same reward—life in heaven with him. It does not matter when we started serving our Lord, his kingdom is still ours.

The story also teaches us that the last and the least have an important place in God's kingdom. Those who are late to the party, so to speak, are just as special as those who have been to the celebration of Christ from the start.

So just because you are small and a child, never think you mean any less to God. He has important work to do in his kingdom and he loves you dearly.

Prayer

- ☞ Heavenly Father, continue to bless us in the work we do for you in the name of your Son, Jesus, and help us to remember to show care for the least and the last. Amen.