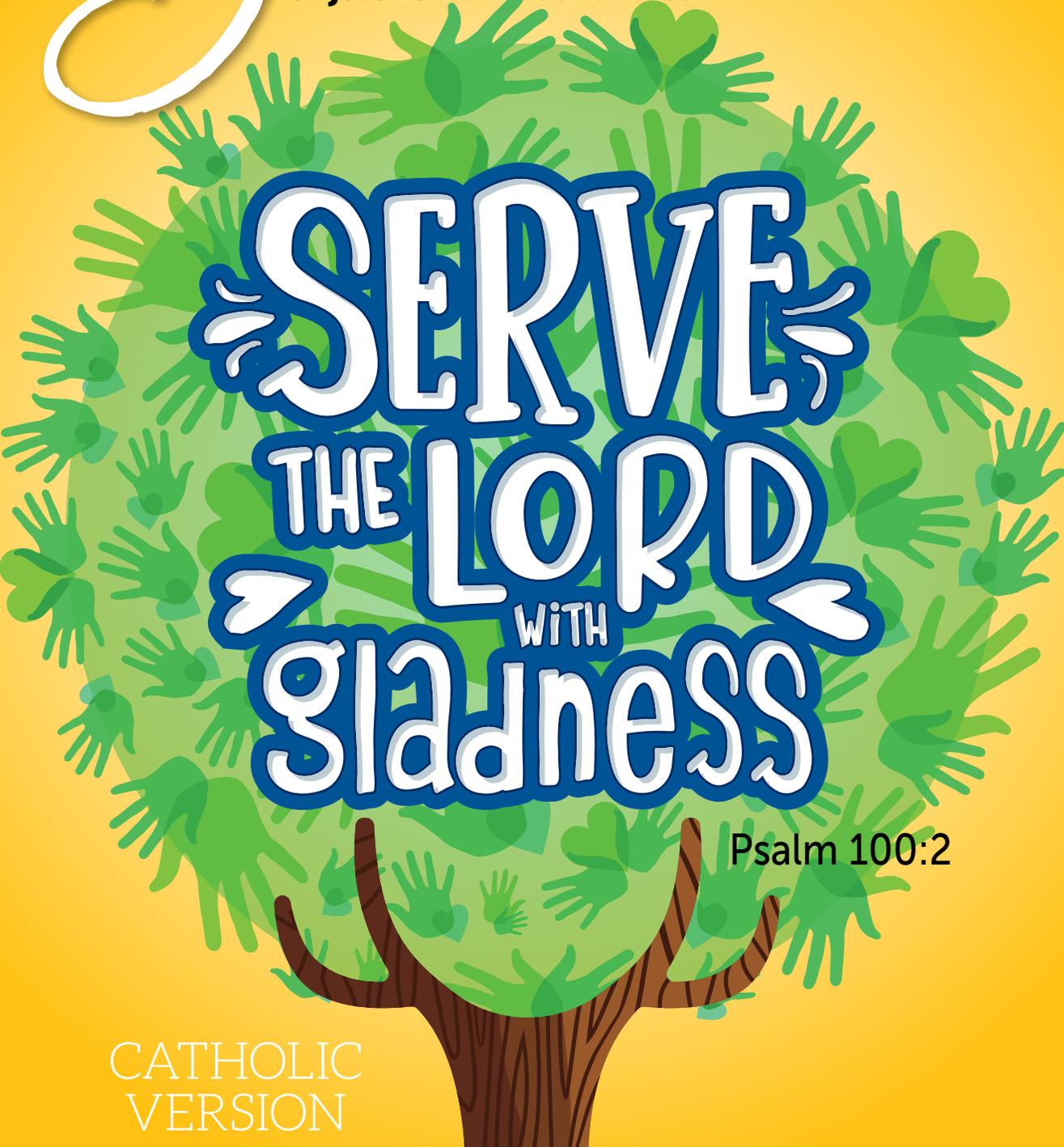


# good news™

Object Lessons: School Year 2022-23



## SERVE THE LORD WITH gladness

Psalm 100:2

CATHOLIC  
VERSION

# Good News

## **Catholic Gospel-Based Object Lessons for 2022-2023**

### About the Catholic Gospel-Based Object Lessons

In these 47 Catholic Gospel-Based Object Lessons, centered on the appointed Gospel readings for the Sundays of the 2022-2023 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, songs, a children's message and a brief prayer based on the coming Sunday's Bible readings. These object lessons may be used for school prayer services and liturgies, for homeroom prayer or for Sunday homilies for liturgies with children.

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## **Catholic Gospel-Based Object Lessons for 2022-2023**

Preparing for August 14, 2022

### **Theme Verse**

[Jesus said,] “Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division.” Luke 12:51

### **Bible Readings**

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10; Psalm 40:2-4, 18; Hebrews 12:1-4; Luke 12:49-53

### **Songs**

“Follow Me” (*Seeds* CD-1, Track #10)  
or “I Am the Way” (*Seeds* CD-2, Track #19)

### **Needed**

Two pictures of an arrow, one pointing left and one pointing right

### **Message**

📖 Hello, boys and girls. What are these pictures of? (*Hold up the pictures of the arrow pointing right and the arrow pointing left and allow the children to respond.*) That’s right! They are pictures of two arrows pointing in opposite directions. Jesus says that people will go in different directions in their opinions about him. Some will believe in him and go on his way, and some will not believe in him and go the opposite way. Which direction do you want to go? Do you want to go for Jesus or against Jesus? (*Allow the children to respond.*) For Jesus, of course! Jesus said in the Bible, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6). Jesus is always the way we should go.

But we want more people to go in the direction of Jesus, don't we? Maybe you know someone who does not believe in Jesus. You can tell that person how much Jesus means to you and how much Jesus loves them. Then maybe they will turn around and go in the direction of Jesus with you. You can also pray for those who do not believe in Jesus. You can pray that the Holy Spirit would work in the hearts of unbelievers that they would come to know the truth that Jesus is their Savior from sin, death and the devil. Those who have a change of heart through the Holy Spirit will join you in church and in Sunday school and wherever the disciples of Christ gather. You can be a friend to them and welcome them into your group. You can make them feel comfortable and special. It is hard being the new kid on the block when it comes to following Jesus, so you can be the one to help them see what a good thing it is to know Jesus.

In our journey through life, the devil can sometimes tempt us to go the other way, away from Jesus and toward things that are evil or mean or selfish or prideful. (*Hold up the "opposite" arrow.*) The devil can make us think only of ourselves and about putting others down. We should never go down that path. But we should keep on the path to Jesus, even when we are tempted to do something different. Staying on the path to Jesus puts him first in our lives and helps us to raise others up with encouraging words and compliments that celebrate the people that they are in Christ. So go the way of Jesus today and every day, and enjoy the journey. Let us pray:

### **Prayer**

- 📖 Dear Jesus, let us walk on the road that leads to you and never think of turning away from you. Help us to lead more people to your way. Amen.

# Good News

## **Catholic Gospel-Based Object Lessons for 2022-2023**

Preparing for August 21, 2022

### **Theme Verse**

People will come from the east and the west and from the north and the south and will recline at table in the kingdom of God. For behold, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last. Luke 13:29-30

### **Bible Readings**

Isaiah 66:18-21; Psalm 117:1-2; Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13; Luke 13:22-30

### **Songs**

“You’ve Got to Love Them” (*Promise/Good News CD-2, Track #20*)  
or “Like Jesus” (*Seeds CD-1, Track #6*)

### **Needed**

A picture of a table

### **Message**

📖 Hello, boys and girls. What is this a picture of, boys and girls? (*Hold up the picture of a table and allow the children to respond.*) That’s right! It is a picture of a table. Jesus says that people from all over will sit at a table with him in the kingdom of God. It is a beautiful image of what it will be like for us in heaven when we will be with Jesus and all his saints.

Those who sit at the table with him are not the ones who think highly of themselves or think that they have a right to be there because of what they have done in life. No, Jesus says the people at the table will be those who are humble, those who think of themselves last, and those who know that they do not deserve to be at the table with him.

We live in a world that praises those who win first place or are the most famous or popular. That is why it is hard for us to be humble and to look to Jesus for forgiveness. But that is what we are called to do. We are to be sorry for our sins. We are to remember that Jesus is the center of our lives, not ourselves. We are to consider the needs of others before our own. We are to recall that there is nothing we can do to have a place at God's table. Only through the cross of Jesus do we receive the right to be called children of God and have a place at his table.

Whenever you sit around the dinner table with your family this week, think about the time to come when we will sit around the table with Jesus in heaven and give praise to him for making us a part of the family of God forever. Let us pray:

### **Prayer**

- ① Keep us humble in our words and deeds, O Lord, and keep our eyes focused on your cross, where you humbled yourself to save us from sin and grant us new life. Amen.

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## **Catholic Gospel-Based Object Lessons for 2022-2023**

Preparing for August 28, 2022

### **Theme Verse**

[Jesus said,] “When you are invited, go and take the lowest place so that when the host comes to you he may say, ‘My friend, move up to a higher position.’ Then you will enjoy the esteem of your companions at the table.” Luke 14:10

### **Bible Readings**

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Psalm 68:4-7, 10-11; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a; Luke 14:1, 7-14

### **Songs**

“Gather Together” (*Seeds* CD-2, Track #1)  
or “Come Gather” (*Seeds* CD-2, Track #2)

### **Needed**

Two pictures of an arrow, one pointing up and one pointing down

### **Message**

📖 Hello, boys and girls. What are these pictures of? (*Hold up the pictures of the two arrows and allow the children to respond.*) That’s right! They are pictures of an arrow pointing up and an arrow pointing down. In our world today, people like to move up the ranks, get a better job, become more popular on social media with more and more likes. They like to promote themselves and make themselves look good to others. The “up” arrow would describe these types of people.

But Jesus says that we should not be like that. He said we should humble ourselves, put others before us and not draw attention to ourselves. The “down” arrow would describe what Jesus wants us to be.

But the amazing thing that Jesus does is that he takes those who are humble (*Show “down” arrow*) and lifts them up to be with him (*Show “up” arrow*). Jesus makes those who are humble the greatest in his kingdom. And those who think only of themselves are lower in the kingdom (*Show the “down” arrow*).

Jesus is in the highest place (heaven) (*Show “up” arrow*) because he humbled himself and lowered himself to death, death on a cross (*Show “down” arrow*). We are lifted up because Jesus was lifted up from death on Easter morning when he rose from the grave (*Show “up” arrow*). Now we who put Jesus first in our lives have a place in heaven with him. Therefore with humble yet happy hearts, we lift up our praises to Jesus, who is seated on the throne above, full of all power and might. Let us pray:

### **Prayer**

- 📖 Jesus, you are the greatest of all. Help us never to put ourselves above you, but may we always let you lift us up to where you are. Amen.