

Lesson 8 – The Redemption

Grades 6-8

Lesson Preparation:

Read Lesson 8 in the Baltimore Catechism. You will need to print off the activity sheets. Also, you may want to have some rosaries available.

Opening Prayer:

Scripture: “But he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins, upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his stripes we were healed. We had all gone astray like sheep, each following his own way; but the Lord laid upon him the guilt of us all.” Isaiah 53:5-6

Leader: Lord, help us to see in your death and resurrection the depth of your love for us. You could have abandoned us in our sin, but You never stopped loving us, even to the point of dying for us. May we never forget that kind of love. Amen.

Together: Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit, we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in His consolations, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening:

Let students know that today they will be learning about the Redemption. You will begin with a story, and as they listen, they should think about how this story might remind them of what God has done for us:

There was a boy who built a toy boat out of wood. He took incredible care to construct it just right, to sand it, and to paint it. He even carved his initials on the underside so it would bear his imprint. The boy was so excited to take it down to the lake to sail it. When he got his little boat on the water, though, a wind came up and blew it to the far side of the lake. The little boy tried to chase it, but eventually he lost sight of it. He walked home with tears in his eyes.

It happened that the boat was found by the son of a toy store owner. He gave the boat to his father, who was impressed with the craftsmanship and decided to sell it in his shop.

The next week, the boy who had constructed the boat was in town. As he was walking by a toy shop he looked in the window and couldn't believe his eyes. There, in the window, was his toy boat! Excitedly, he ran into the store, grabbed the boat and took it up to the counter.

"This is my boat!" he told the girl working the register.

"Well, you can buy it for five dollars," she answered, a little confused.

"No, I mean it's mine! I made it! See, my initials are on the bottom!"

"I don't know anything about that," the girl said. "But the boat is for sale. If you want it, you can have it for five dollars."

The boy ran home, grabbed some money out of his drawer, and rushed back into town. As he walked out of the toy store, he smiled and pressed the boat close to his heart.

"Now you're mine twice," he said. "First I made you, and then I bought you back."

Watch the Lesson 8 Video on Catholic Brain

Comprehension Questions: *Note: These questions are asked after the video, just to check student comprehension. They are not discussion questions, but be sure students understand the answers to these questions before moving on*

1) What does "The Redemption" mean?

Jesus Christ redeemed (saved) us.

2) How did Christ save us?

By offering His suffering and death as a sacrifice for our sins

3) On what day did Jesus die?

Good Friday

4) On what day did Jesus rise?

Easter Sunday

5) What is the Ascension?

Forty days after the Resurrection, Jesus ascended to Heaven.

Discussion Questions: *Note: These questions are for student discussion. The students should consider these questions and comment on them. There are some key points included in this lesson, after each question, that you can use to help guide their discussion toward truth. It's important that the students think about and discuss these things, but that they don't leave the discussion with false impressions about what is true.*

1) Why is Easter so important?

Through His resurrection, Jesus has conquered death. He has prepared the way for us – we will also rise from the dead, and have the opportunity to be with God forever in Heaven. The Resurrection is also the definitive miracle, showing that Jesus truly is who He says He is.

2) Why is the Cross a sign of both God's justice and mercy?

Sin leads to death; it breaks our covenant with God and cuts us off from the source of life. In justice, sin must be accounted for. Since God never stops loving us, He became Man, and in mercy, He paid the price of our sin.

Go Deeper:

Introduction to the Rosary – Many students may not be familiar with the rosary. This will be an opportunity to teach them this beautiful prayer. The rosary is both a vocal and meditative prayer. The rhythm and repetition of the prayers of the rosary are meant to help our minds focus on the Mysteries of the Rosary. Choose either the fifth sorrowful mystery – the Crucifixion, or the first glorious mystery – the Resurrection, to pray together as a class. Teach them how to pray a decade of the rosary, beginning with an Our Father, followed by 10 Hail Mary's, and finally a Glory Be. You may add the Fatima prayer at the very end. The key is that as you pray the decade, students should be meditating on (thinking about) the mystery that you chose.

Activity:

Using the attached activity sheets, the students will draw and explain the 14 Stations of the Cross. They will probably need plenty of direction. You can save

the drawings and use them to create a fitting classroom environment by posting them during Lent.

Closing Prayer:

Leader: Jesus, thank You for your life, thank You for your death, and thank You for your glorious resurrection. Be with us always and help us to share the good news of the Redemption with the world. Amen.

Together: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.