

# Jesus Tells Stories

## Allelu!

*Growing and Celebrating with Jesus*

### Lesson 7, Kindergarten

#### Lesson 7 Goal

- Your child will learn about what Jesus taught us about prayer.

#### Key Points

- Jesus taught us that God always hears our prayers.
- Jesus often used parables to teach.



#### Parent Reflection

One of Jesus' primary methods for teaching people about God was through parables. These parables were told in the common language of the people. Jesus talked about God using simple language and stories about things that would have been commonplace in his day—shepherds and sheep, a sower planting seeds, workers in a vineyard, for example.

Jesus knew that some of the things he was teaching about God would need to be understood over time, because they would only be fully appreciated in light of his own death, Resurrection, and Ascension. For that reason, he taught some lessons in symbolic ways, knowing that they would be more clear at a later time, and handing on additional knowledge to his Apostles so that his teachings would be interpreted correctly.

For us, also, Jesus' parables contain truths that can only be discovered over time, as we grow closer to him, and as the events of our lives cause us to have a different perspective. It is important that we reflect on Jesus' teachings again and again and allow ourselves to consider how they may apply to us in our present experiences. In this way, we can allow the coming of God's Kingdom in our own lives.

#### Reflection Question

What new insights can I discover in the parables of Jesus?

## Lesson Preparation

Before inviting your child to sit with you for lesson time, prepare all materials.

### Materials

- Family Activity Sheet
- crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- drawing paper
- Activity Master #2 – Saint Page (Keep the saint page from each lesson to gather together a Communion of Saints Book created by your child.)

### Preparation Steps

- Make sure your child has a copy of Activity Master #2 (included with this lesson).

## Gathering

Create a prayerful space. You might place a candle on the table, or set a cross in front of you. Invite your child to join you in quietly preparing for prayer.

Say the following or similar words: “Now that we are in this prayerful space, let us find the quiet in our hearts so we can talk with God.”

Sit together for several seconds of shared silence.

Say, “We can say that Jesus is a teacher. He teaches us many things. He teaches us to share what we have. He teaches us to be kind to others. He teaches us to forgive people that have been mean to us. He teaches us that all people are loved by God. Let’s take a minute to sit quietly and think about, or meditate on, what Jesus has taught us.”

### Begin in prayer:

Make the Sign of the Cross together or bless your child by tracing a cross on his or her forehead: “In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

**Parent:** *Thank you, Jesus, for teaching us that all people are loved by God.*

**Child:** *Thank you, Jesus our teacher!*

Continue the prayer by taking turns with

your child thanking Jesus for different things he teaches us. Follow each with “*Thank you, Jesus, our teacher!*”

## Discovering

**Jesus Tells a Story about Prayer.** Tell your child that Jesus often taught using stories called parables. Parables are stories about everyday things that help us learn something about God. Turn to the first page of the Activity Sheet and read about Jesus and what he tells us about prayer. Tell your child that the story about the man knocking on the friend’s door is a parable.

Ask your child:

“How are you like the man knocking when you talk to God in prayer?”

“The man asked for bread. What would you ask God for?”

Turn to the second page of the Activity Sheet. Ask your child the first two “Ask Me!” questions and review the answers.

## Exploring

Use the following activities to enrich your child’s understanding of the lesson and of our Catholic faith.

**1. Listening to Jesus.** Turn to the main activity of the Activity Sheet (center pages) and

invite your child to describe what he or she sees. Give your child crayons or colored pencils. Explain the drawing activity to your child and have him or her complete it.

**2. Jesus Tells Me a Story.** Give your child drawing paper and coloring pencils or markers and have him or her create a drawing that illustrates Jesus telling a story. Invite your child to explain to you what is happening in the drawing, and what story Jesus is telling.

**3. The Communion of Saints: Saint Luke.** Show your child the picture of Saint Luke on the Family Activity page and read about him. Then read the story about Saint Luke to your child (see below).

Ask your child:

- ▶ “If you wrote about Jesus to people who didn’t know about him, what would you say?”
- ▶ “What was your favorite part of this story?”

Have your child write and draw about Saint Luke using Activity Master #2.

## Sending

**Pray with your child.** Begin by making the Sign of the Cross together, or bless your child by tracing a cross on his or her forehead. Pray aloud with your child.

*Thank you, Jesus, for being our teacher. Thank you, Jesus, for teaching us how to love. Amen.*

## Saint Luke

### Saint Luke Writes about Jesus

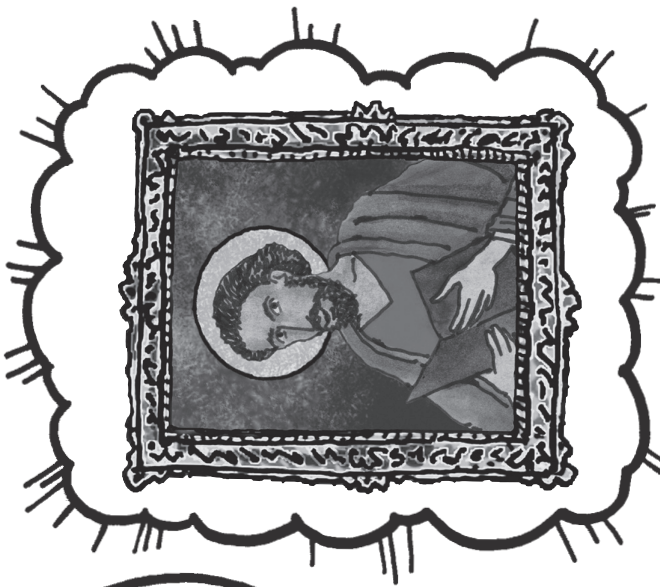
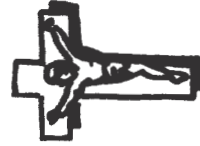
Saint Luke lived a very long time ago, but never met Jesus in his lifetime. He was a writer and traveler. He was probably a doctor, and maybe an artist. We know he spoke Greek, and he was such a good writer. We can guess that he went to school for many years. He was Saint Paul’s good friend and helper.

He wrote two very important parts of the Bible: the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles. Through those books, we learn about the night Jesus was born. We learn about Baby Jesus being brought to the temple by Mary and Joseph, and meeting Simeon and Anna. We learn about Jesus

being baptized, and about the time Jesus read the scroll in the synagogue. And Saint Luke wrote down many of the parables that Jesus told, like the story we read (today). We also learn about the disciples of Jesus and how they taught others about Jesus after his Resurrection.

Through his writing, Saint Luke teaches us that Jesus often took time to pray. He shows us that Jesus wants us to take care of one another, especially people who are poor or sick or have other needs. And, through Saint Luke’s writing, we know that Jesus taught that God loves everyone—not just one group of people, but all people!

**DRAW**



**Saint  
Luke,  
pray for us!**