

Listening to Jesus

Allelu!

Growing and Celebrating with Jesus

Lesson 8, Kindergarten

Lesson 8 Goal

- Your child will better understand the importance of listening to Jesus and doing what he says.

Key Points

- When the wedding feast ran out of wine, Jesus' Mother Mary told the people to listen to Jesus and do what he said.
- We should also listen to Jesus and do what he says.



Parent Reflection

This Spirit is embodied fully in the person of Jesus Christ. He is the fulfillment of the law, not having come to abolish it, but to show its true meaning (Matthew 5:13). It is through our unity with Christ in Baptism that we are joined to the New Covenant and become children of God. In the Gospel of John, Jesus tells his followers, “Abide in me as I abide in you. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit” (John 15:4, 5b). Jesus goes on to describe how one remains in him: “If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love” (John 15:10).

The Spirit speaks to us in a variety of ways—through the Word of God as revealed in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, through the Church, and through our own hearts. We must remain open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives, asking God how he would want us to follow Jesus by choosing love this particular day, in this particular situation. In doing so, we allow God an opportunity to fashion us into the people he made us to be.

Reflection Question

What is Jesus calling me to do at this moment?

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
- mini sponge cake
- white icing
- sprinkles

- Activity Master #2 – Saint Page (Keep the saint pages 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, “Jesus listens to our prayers. Today, let us pray for whatever is in our hearts.”

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.”

“Let us pray. Jesus, we know you listen to our prayers. Today, help us to be good listeners to what you ask of us. Amen.”

Discovering

Do What He Tells You. Turn to the first page of the Activity Sheet and read about the wedding feast at Cana.

Ask your child, “How does Jesus tell us what to do?”

Turn to the second page of the Activity Sheet. Ask

your child the “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. The Wedding at Cana. 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 activity to your child and have him or her complete it.

2. Decorate the Wedding Cake. Invite your child to decorate a mini wedding cake with icing and sprinkles. Talk about the wedding at Cana and Jesus’ great miracle: turning the water to wine. Pray grace and enjoy!

3. The Communion of Saints: Zacchaeus. Show your child the picture of Zacchaeus on the Family Activity page and read about him. Then read more about Zacchaeus to your child (see page 3).

Ask your child:

- ▶ “Jesus knew Zacchaeus’ name. Do you think he knows your name?”

► “The others thought Jesus shouldn’t go to Zacchaeus’ house. Why did they feel that way? (*Because Zacchaeus was a sinner*)

► “What did Jesus show the others when he forgave Zacchaeus?” (*God’s love and forgiveness*)

Have your child write and draw about Zacchaeus 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.

Let us pray. Jesus, we know you listen to our prayers. Today, help us to be good listeners to what you ask of us. Teach us to do as you tell us. Amen.

Zacchaeus

Doing What Jesus Asks

In the city of Jericho, there lived a man named Zacchaeus. There are three things you need to know about Zacchaeus: he was rich, he was short, and he wanted to meet Jesus.

Zacchaeus was rich because in his job, it was easy for him to trick people into giving him extra money. This was not right, and Zacchaeus knew it.

Now Jesus was coming to Jericho, and Zacchaeus hoped to see him. Crowds of people were lining the road. Zacchaeus, being short, could not see anything but the people around him. So he ran down the road where Jesus would be coming. He climbed a tree and waited.

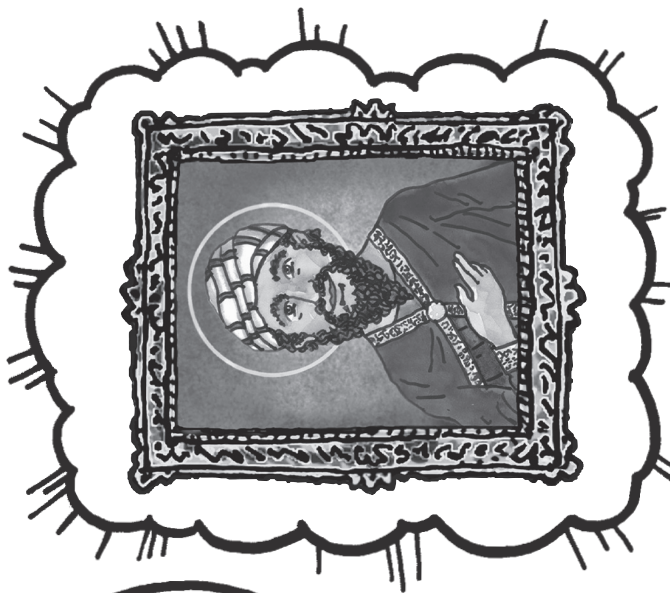
When Jesus came to the tree, he looked up and said, “Zacchaeus, come down quickly for

today I must stay at your house.” Zacchaeus scrambled down. Jesus knew his name! Jesus wanted to come to his house! He greeted Jesus joyfully.

Other people grumbled, “Why is Jesus going to stay at Zacchaeus’ house? He’s a sinner!” Zacchaeus said to Jesus, “Lord, half of everything I have, I will give to people who really need it. And any money I got unfairly, I will repay—I will repay them more than I took. They will get extra from me.” Zacchaeus was asking Jesus for forgiveness.

The others watched as Jesus forgave Zacchaeus. Jesus knew that Zacchaeus would now do what Jesus teaches all of us—to love and treat others with fairness and kindness.

DRAW



**Zacchaeus,
pray for us!**