

## Second Grade Lesson Plans

### Lesson 17: Remembering Jesus' Sacrifice

**Focus:** We remember that Jesus chose to give up his life for us. The Mass is a memorial celebration of Jesus' death and his resurrection. We are also called to make sacrifices in our everyday lives.

#### Materials needed:

- Index cards for the game; print the following, one on each card: *Stop, Be Quiet, I'm Lost, Hurry Up, I'm Hungry, I Don't Know, Slow Down, Fire! Emergency! I'm Sick, I'm Confused, I Can't Find My Keys* (Blank cards are in your large tub)
- 3 index cards
  - One that says "*Liturgy of the Eucharist*"
  - One that says "*Eucharistic Prayer*"
  - One that says "*Great Amen*"
- An empty bag from McDonald's or other fast food restaurant (catechist provides)
- "Jesus is the Bread of Life" craft
- Coloring Page/Bible Story: "A Rich Man Asks Jesus a Question" – 1 per child with extras for catechist (in tub)
- Crayons (in Mouse House)

#### Prayer:

**Our Father/Hail Mary/Glory Be**

Say:

- **Today we're going to learn about the word "sacrifice". Can any of you tell me what that word means?**
- **Do you ever make any sacrifices? Is it easy?**
- **Listen to a story that happened in the Bible. It's about a young man who had a really hard time making a sacrifice.**

Read the story of the Rich Young Man aloud to your students.

Say:

- **What would you do if you were that young man? (Remember, you just saw Jesus and he asked you to give up all your money and possessions to follow him.)**
- **Would you do it? I don't know...it would be pretty hard wouldn't it?**
- **Jesus is making a point here. What he is really saying is "don't have things in your life that are more important than me."**
- **What could some of those things be? (money, possessions, time, people etc.)**
- **Let's say you would rather stay home and play video games than go to Mass on Sunday. What would you be making more important than Jesus?**
- **In this story, Jesus is telling us that we may have to make sacrifices in order to have him be #1. Can Jesus tell that he is your #1? How does he know?**

**Let's play a little game that can show how our actions may speak louder than our words.**

(Use the index cards that you have printed out for the game.)

Invite a volunteer to secretly choose a card. The volunteer attempts to get other students to guess his or her word or phrase by pantomiming or acting out the word or phrase. Repeat until each student has had a chance to volunteer.

Say:

- **How did you know what the volunteer was trying to tell you?**
- **What are some other things you can learn about a person by watching the way she or he acts?**
- **How can you tell if someone is really your friend?**
- **What are some other actions that people often use to communicate with each other?**
- **What can you tell about the young man in the story by his actions?**
  
- **Jesus told us about his very great love for us when he made a sacrifice. Do you know what that sacrifice was?** (He died on the cross so we can live forever in heaven.)
- **At Mass, we remember Jesus' great sacrifice for us during the second main part of the Mass called "The Liturgy of the Eucharist". Have you heard the word "Eucharist" before? When? Do you know what it means?** (Eucharist is a Greek word meaning "thanksgiving".)
- **The Eucharist is what we call the Body and Blood of Jesus.**
- **What I'm going to tell you next is very important, so I want you to listen carefully.**
- **The Liturgy of the Eucharist begins when members of the assembly (all the people who are gathered for Mass) bring up the bread and wine to the priest. Have you seen them do this?**
- **The priest gives thanks and praise to God and asks God to send the Holy Spirit. The priest repeats what Jesus said at the Last Supper.**
- **"This is my body which will be given up for you. This is the Cup of my Blood. It will be shed for you."**

**The bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus when the priest calls down the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit that changes the bread and wine to Jesus' Body and Blood. When you go forward to receive the bread and wine at your First Eucharist, remember that it is the Body and the Blood of Jesus.**

- After the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus, we sing the great “Amen”.
- Amen is a Hebrew word that means “I believe” or “Truly, it is true”. We sing this Amen because we are saying that we believe everything the priest has said. **We believe that the bread and wine are truly the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.**

**We always remember that Jesus gave his life for us. One of the most important ways we do that is to participate in Eucharist each Sunday.**

Show students the new index cards “Liturgy of the Eucharist” and “Great Amen”. See if they can put all the cards in order from the beginning!

Say:

- **We have talked about the sacrifice Jesus made for us. What do you think Jesus asks us to sacrifice for him?** (Hint: think about the story we read at the beginning of the lesson.)

Show the fast food bag. Say:

- **I bet you are familiar with this place! What do you know about it?**
- **I want to tell you about a man who started a fast food restaurant. He also knew a lot about sacrifice.**

When Truett Cathy was a young man, he had a dream of owning a restaurant. He worked hard and saved his money. In 1946, Truett and his brother opened their first restaurant. Eventually, Truett started a chain of fast food restaurants called Chick-fil-A. Chick-fil-A restaurants became very popular and soon Truett was rich!

Some rich people spend their money on big houses or new cars. But Truett loved God and believed the Bible verse that says that it is better to give than to receive. Truett chose to spend his money helping children in foster care-children who have to live away from their parents because their parents can't take good care of them.

Many times children in foster care don't even get to keep living with their brothers and sisters.

Truett felt sorry for these children, so he used his money to build foster homes where brothers and sisters could stay together. Foster parents also live in the homes, so the children have a safe place to live and grow. Foster children in these homes are loved and cared for. Truett made a sacrifice.

- Why do you think Jesus asks us to make sacrifices for others?
- What example did Jesus give us?

In addition to sharing money to help foster children, Truett Cathy also gave money to Chick-fil-A workers to go to college. Since 1973, Truett has given more than \$15 million to help their workers get an education.

**What are some sacrifices you could make for others?**

If you have extra time, the kids can color their "Rich Man Asks a Question" sheet or have kids make the "Jesus is the Bread of Life" craft.