

January LIFT 2018-19

Level 1-5 Home Assignment

Directions: Work with your child through the take home assignment. It isn't a writing assignment but an opportunity to experience together what we discussed at LIFT. Jot down notes about the things you talk about and email me a summary to dremaley@holyeucharist.org.

Theme: Jesus: The Way, the Truth and the Life

- Objectives:**
1. Become familiar with the Apostle's Creed as we say it at every LIFT session
 2. Know where we are in the Liturgical Calendar and how we can know it
 3. Be able to retell what we have covered so far this year
 4. Know that Jesus is God, Second Person of the Trinity
 5. God sent his Son because He loves us
 6. Be able to retell the story of the healing Jairus' daughter and the woman
 7. Think of and draw a God moment
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Activities

Liturgical Calendar Connection

Questions to consider:

- We are concluding the liturgical season of Christmas. What color is associated with the season of Christmas in the church? (white)
- What season is coming next? (Ordinary Time) What does "ordinary" in Ordinary Time mean? (Ordinary usually means "regular" or "plain" but the way that we are using it here means "order" as in the order of counted weeks. During Ordinary Time, we follow Jesus as He teaches and heals the people.)
- What color is associated with Ordinary Time? (green-because we are in Ordinary Time after Christmas, here at Holy Eucharist it will be dark green)

Apostle's Creed Introduction

Last month we discussed that we are going to learn about a prayer that we say in church called the Apostle's Creed. It is what we believe as Catholic Christians.

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

Review of what we have covered so far

During the **September LIFT**, we concentrated on the first line “I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.” We read a story about how God created everything...the earth the sky, all of the birds and animals and people too.

In **October**, we discussed on who we are as human beings created in God’s image. To do this, we looked at a line from St. Augustine:

You have created us for Yourself O Lord – we are created in God’s likeness and image with the ability to reason, free will to make choices and the capacity to love. He created us to use these gifts and be in relationship with Him.

However...**Our hearts are restless** because we sin and we turn away from God.

Until they rest in you – God is love and when we love Him and one another, we are at peace inside. He is our eternal and ultimate rest.

In **November**, looked at the whole swath of Salvation History where God revealed Himself little by little to the Chosen People (the Israelites) through a series of covenants.

Remember a covenant is a solemn promise that creates a family bond. A covenant is unbreakable and there are consequences if you don’t live up to your end of the covenant.

We talked about the five major covenants and looked very closely at the covenant that God made with Abraham. Does anyone remember the promise that God made to Abraham? (“I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous and the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore.” Gen 22:17a).

How does God fulfill this covenant that He makes with Abraham as well as the rest of the covenants? Who does he send to make it happen? (Jesus) And this is where we ended last month at the **December LIFT**, with the birth of Jesus. We experienced a taste of what it might have been like if we were in Nazareth on the evening that Jesus was born with our play called the Nazareth Evening News.

Who is Jesus? (See the attached essay)

[Read through the essay and reinforce the following points with the kids:

- Jesus is the Son of God, fully human, fully divine
 - God made his love known to us through the life, Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus
 - The Apostle’s Creed doesn’t tell us about the life of Jesus in between his birth and death-we can look to the gospels for that-and we are going to do that in a few
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minutes

- **Jesus is God**-one with the Father and the Holy Spirit in the unity of the Trinity
- We know Jesus is God
 - At his Baptism, God reveals this truth “this is my beloved Son with whom I am well pleased” with the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove
 - Miracles
 - Forgives sins]

The Miracles of Jesus

Today we are going to talk about Jesus and who He is. On the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. His baptism marks the beginning of his ministry, his teaching.

Let’s read an example of one of the miracles of Jesus from his ministry:

“A Little Girl and a Poor Frail Lady” – [This is story from the Gospel of Luke is usually titled the Healing of Jairus’ Daughter and the Woman with the Hemorrhage]

- What does Jairus decide to do to help his sick daughter?
- Why does Jesus stop while walking through the crowd?
- What happened while Jesus was talking with the poor frail lady?
- What other miracles do you remember from the life of Jesus? [miracles of supply (loaves/fish, wine at Cana), miracles of healing (blind, lame, deaf), miracles of nature (calming of the wind, walks on water), casting out of demons]

Jesus performed miracles so that we might believe in Him, that He is the Messiah and the Son of God and that through this belief we might have eternal life through Him. He performed miracles because he loves us.

[Some other ways to talk about this...

CCC 547 Jesus accompanies his words with many mighty works and wonders and signs, which manifest that the kingdom is present in him and attest that he was the promised Messiah.

CCC 548 The signs worked by Jesus attest that the Father has sent Him. The invite belief in Him. To those who turn to Him in faith, He grants what they ask. So miracles strengthen faith in the One who does His Father’s works; they bear witness that He is the Son of God...]

“I am the Truth”

Jesus shows us the truth that He is God through the revelation of the Trinity (at his Baptism), through his miracles (like the little girl and the poor frail woman) and by forgiving sins. But God also continues to reveal to us the truth of who He is in our own lives.

Using the paper and crayons/markers, draw a picture that represents the way God has revealed the truth of who He is to you and your family personally. Asked another way, when have you seen or experienced God at work in your lif? Try to use examples that are real to your family. They do not need to be miracles in the literal sense of the word, but they should be actions that made God real in your lives. [Brainstorm with the kids some

examples of what this could look like:

- Someone receiving First Eucharist-show how Jesus is food for the journey
- Family in prayer
- Someone who was very sick but was healed and got better
- Healing feeling after receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Feeling the love/presence of God in nature]

Our Baptism

Because we are baptized, we become part of God's family...His adopted sons and daughters. By virtue of our baptism, we have been given a mission to follow Jesus and share in his mission to tell others about God, help those in need and care for those who are sick. What are some ways that we can live out our baptismal call to mission?

Gratitude

"Million Reasons"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ox1WEI84LSg> Have all of the kids stand up, act out the motions and sing along with the video. They will follow what you do so if you allow yourself to be silly and sing along...they will too. Perhaps play this a couple of times so that they can get to know the motions. This song is also from the Shipwrecked VBS so many kids will know it.

- Think about all of the blessings in your life. (the gift of your life, breath; your family; your friends; your pets; teachers; coaches; good health; our gifts/talents etc.)
- Let's say a prayer of gratitude for all that God has given us: Lord, we thank you for all of the blessings that you have brought into our lives...[give everyone the opportunity to say something here and end with] continue to watch over us as we strive to live and love like You. And we ask this in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. And all God's people say...Amen!

Closing Prayer

Pray together the "Our Father"
