

Queen of Angels School of Religion
Sunday Morning Classes
Grade 2 – Preparation for First Communion

Student Text: Christ Our Life *God Cares For Us* Level 2 (Loyola Press)

Unit II: Jesus Calls Us to Give Ourselves in Love
Chapter 7: “We Give the Gift of Love to Others”

- In this chapter the students learn that everything is a gift from God and deserves to be respected and treasured as God’s gift.
- Since Jesus showed respect to others, we should follow His example and be respectful, honest and truthful with others.
- Through prayer we can learn the way of truth and love that leads to God.

Scripture: Romans 12: 9 – 21 (Love everyone, even your enemies)
 1 John 4: 16 (God is love)

Class Discussion:

- we all make mistakes (spill drinks, break dishes, knock into others when we are running)
- we all feel weak sometimes (lose our temper, say mean things to others)
- prejudices that people have (against people who are different, racial hatred)
- Jesus reached out to people who were cast out by society (tax collectors – Matthew)
Matthew 9: 9 – 13

Group Prayer:

Each child tells about someone they know who is different from them in some way. All pray: “I thank You, Lord, with all my heart.”

Ways Family can Extend the Lesson:

- discuss ways your family can help people in your neighborhood who are different or needy
- praise your child when he/she is kind, helpful, honest, truthful. Children need encouragement to continue in their efforts to reach out to others in love. Our society does not always hold up the values of kindness and truth as desirable.
- visit an elderly person in your neighborhood or send a card or letter to family members who are far away.
- freely and daily tell your child that he/she is loved and valued. It is only if we are loved and valued that we can truly show love and kindness to others.

Teacher’s Notes:

This lesson is a little abstract for children. Hearing that God loves them will only truly impact their lives if they hear the meaningful people in their lives tell them often that they are loved and valued. A good night kiss, the cooking of a favorite food, a little note in the child’s lunch box all are simple, but important ways to remind our children that we as parents do love them. It is only in this climate of being loved unconditionally, that children grow in the moral strength that will help them to act in counter-cultural ways like Jesus. Jesus reached out to the poor and the downtrodden while our society holds up the rich and the powerful. The glamour of evil is everywhere, and children need to have the moral strength to resist it. Parents are key to giving good example in morality.