

## Week 4 - GOD SENT JESUS TO SAVE US

Week of Nov. 1

**“Therefore, stay awake for you know neither the day nor the hour...”**

The Readings for Sunday (11/8) remind us of the gift of Jesus, the hope we have and to live our life preparing for heaven; God has made a place for us and given us all the tools we need to get there.

**Gather:** Spot the Difference

Using the pictures found here, see how many difference you and your child can find between them.

**Connect:** We had to pay close attention to the pictures to notice the differences. God gave us the gift of Jesus, to forgive our sins and to open up the doors to heaven for us. We should pay close attention to His example of how to live because this helps us prepare for heaven. God also gives us glimpses of what heaven will be like in the world around us.

**Explore:**

- **Year 1 (CH 5 & 6):** Today we are going to explore the ways to prepare and glimpses of heaven by giving thanks for God’s gifts and by our baptism. Think of the gifts that have been given to us by God by looking out the window and seeing nature, and looking around the room and seeing the lovely gifts God has given to each one of us. One of our “gifts” from God is our baptism. Look at pictures from your baptism – you can even reenact what happens at baptism with a doll or stuffed animal. Part of our baptism means we are a child of God and should care for all the gifts He has given us. We hear the story of St. Francis and learn from him how he cared for all of God’s creatures.
- **Year 2 (Lesson 3):** In today’s lesson, we explore Jesus’ story; his life, his ministry and his sacrifice. Open with the prayer on p. 69. God sent his only Son to show us how to live as a child of God. He is just like us except he never sinned. We are loved so much by Jesus that He gave His life so that we might be saved and someday live with Him in heaven. Only Jesus can save us from our sins. Share the important milestones in the life of Jesus
  - **Jesus birth and childhood & the quiet years:** Have you ever lost something and found it again? How do you think Mary and Joseph felt?
  - **Jesus Ministry: the disciples** How can you carry on Jesus’ mission? **The parables** What is your favorite parable? **The miracles** If you could see one of Jesus’ miracles today, which would you choose? Why? **The cross, resurrection and ascension** Do you want to go to heaven someday? Why? **Pentecost** We learn about God’s gift of his Son in the Bible.
  - Create a Picture Bible by drawing on the pages pictures depicting Jesus’ life. Access [Lesson 3 Videos](#).
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade (CH 5):** Today we are going to explore the ways to prepare and glimpses of heaven by forgiving others and asking for forgiveness. God wants us to make good choices. However, sometimes we do not make good choices and we sin. Some of our sins can hurt other’s feelings. When we sin, God wants us to ask forgiveness—from the person we hurt and from God. God also wants us to forgive those that hurt us. Read Jesus Cures a Sick Man (p 70). When did Jesus show compassion & mercy? **Activity:** Play the game Trash Your Sin. Hand out 3 slips of paper to each person. On each slip of paper write a sin. Tell the children to make sure it is something a person should be sorry for and want to ask for God’s mercy (*ex. was unkind, lied*). Pull the trash can against a wall. Have each child take turns standing a few feet away from the trash can and tossing in their sins while silently asking for forgiveness. Children can take a step back each time they trash a sin.
- **4<sup>th</sup> Grade (CH 5):** Today we are going to explore the ways to prepare for heaven by learning how to live as God’s image, just as Jesus did. God sent Jesus to teach us how to treat others with respect and to care for God’s world. Read then discuss The Crucifixion (pg. 70) and Jesus is God’s Divine Son (pg. 71). What are ways we can care for God’s world?
- **5<sup>th</sup> Grade (CH 5 & 6):** Today we are going to explore the ways to prepare for heaven by receiving God’s grace through baptism and confirmation. Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist are Sacraments of Christian Initiation. When we are baptized, our Original Sin is washed away and our soul filled with God’s grace. Read The Baptism of Jesus (p 70). At Confirmation, we are strengthened with the Holy Spirit. Read Our Church Teaches (p 81).

**Reflect:** Matthew 25:1-13. Read and/or explain in your own words this Sunday’s Gospel—*The Parable of the Ten Young Women*. God sent Jesus to save us. Jesus gave us the Sacraments of Baptism & Confirmation to fill us with God’s grace.

**Live It:** Jesus’s example and His story continues to be written through us. At you next family meal, let each family member share why they love being a part of Jesus’s story. This week, take a moment as you wake up and before you go to sleep to talk with Jesus and invite Him to be and thank Him for being a part of your day.