

Grade 1 - Chapter 21

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Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objectives

- Appreciate that we can both pray for the coming of God's Kingdom, and work together with God for the Kingdom
- Connect that through Jesus' actions of being forgiving, treating others with respect, and helping those who are hungry and in need, he showed us how to work for the Kingdom

Love and Peace

Ask: How can you work together with God as he builds his Kingdom?

- Write the children's responses on the board or on chart paper.

Read aloud both paragraphs.

★ Have the children underline what Jesus taught us to pray for.

- Emphasize that when we treat others with love, we are working with God as he builds his Kingdom.
- Point out the bulleted list and read it aloud.
- Help the children understand that Jesus taught us with his actions. He wants us to do what he did. He wants us to act with peace, love and justice.

The Kingdom Grows

Read aloud the paragraphs.

- Explain that the good things we do each day help God's Kingdom to grow.
- Ask: How can you spread the Good News?

God's Word

Proclaim "Starting Small."

- Explain that God's Kingdom started small. God's Kingdom has grown over time and continues to

grow.

- Every time we do good things we help God's Kingdom to grow.

Explain that we pray for the Kingdom of God when we pray the Lord's Prayer. To reference the Lord's Prayer, go to the Our Catholic Tradition reference section in the back of the Student Book, page 317.

► Music Option: Have the children sing, "Building God's Kingdom" or "The Tiny Seed," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

Read aloud the directions for the Share Your Faith activity.

- Have the children work independently to write their ideas.
- After a short time, have them discuss with a partner.

Quick Review

Jesus began God's Kingdom on Earth. All Christians work for God's Kingdom when they bring more love, justice, and peace to the world.

Discover (2)

Objective

- Recognize that when we are kind, share, play fair, and include others, we are spreading peace

The Beauty of Creation

Read aloud the two paragraphs.

- Show the children a deflated balloon. Blow up the balloon part way. Tell the children that the world would be so happy if everyone worked to be more peaceful.
- Blow up the balloon a little more. Explain that the world would be even better if everyone worked for justice.
- Finish inflating the balloon and tell the children that God's Kingdom grows even more when people show love to others.
- Tell the children to pretend that they are going to be in charge of the happiness in a school.
- Ask the children what they can do to make the classroom a happy place.
- ★ For each scenario, have the children place a check mark next to the things that help build the Kingdom of God. Have them put an X next to things that do not build God's Kingdom.

Living for the Kingdom, *continued*

Have the children work independently or in pairs.

- Have volunteers share their work.
- Have the whole group clap to show their happiness after each presentation is made.

Work with Words

Hold up an index card with the word *peace*.

- Read aloud the definition.
- Music Option: Have the children sing "Raise your Voice for Justice" or "Seek Ye First," downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Activity

Point out the Connect Your Faith activity and read aloud the directions.

- Have the children write their name on the membership card.
- Discuss how the children can work with God to help his Kingdom grow.

Quick Review

God's Kingdom is a Kingdom of justice, love, and peace. You work for God's Kingdom by your just, loving, and peace-making actions.

Catechist Tips: Advance the Kingdom

By the time your class reaches this chapter, summertime is close by.

- During the summer, children might forget the moral lessons you have tried to teach them.
- You may want to have the children draw up a list of specific things they can do in the summer to help the Kingdom of God.

Catechist Tips: The Sign of Peace

In the sixteenth century, the Council of Trent reformed the liturgy to restrict the Sign of Peace to the celebrant and the ministers at the altar.

- The Second Vatican Council reinstated the Sign of Peace as a part of the Mass shared by the entire congregation.

Catechist Tips: Joy-Giver

In this Scripture, we are reminded to live in justice, peace, and joy.

- Proclaim “Starting Small” on page 273. Ask the children to talk about what brings them joy and what brings joy to people they know at school and at home.
- Let them name things they can do to be a joy-giver to others.
- Pass out paper and colored markers for them to draw a picture of someone to whom they will be a joy-giver.

Glossary Activity: Peace

Invite three small groups to act out their solutions to the problems of the imaginary classroom.

- One group should take peace, a second justice, and a third love.
- Allow time for each group to practice.
- Have groups present solutions to the class.

Additional Activity: Act It Out

Invite the children to dramatize ways to work for God's Kingdom.

- Divide the class into three groups, and assign each group one of the three qualities of the Kingdom—justice, love, and peace.
- Have each group act out one way to work for its assigned quality.

Additional Activity: Counting Blessings

Have the children make a large poster showing God's blessings.

- Help them find photos of things for which they are thankful (pets, parents, food, house) in old magazines.
- Have them paste the pictures on a large piece of poster board under the heading, "God's Blessings."