

CATECHETICAL TEXT BOOK SERIES OF THE SYRO-MALABAR CHURCH

TEACHINGS OF JESUS



ON THE PATH OF SALVATION 7



STANDARD

7

TEACHER'S HANDBOOK

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PREFACE

Do you recollect the days of your Catechism classes during your childhood? What were the striking features of those classes? Shouldn't these children you are teaching now also get all that you have received then? Don't you still remember the joyful experiences you had during Sunday school days? Shouldn't such experiences be given to today's generation as well?

Do you remember what you disliked about the Catechism classes of your childhood? Was there any experience that had diminished your interest in Sunday Classes? In that case isn't it necessary for us to take care not to have such unpleasant experiences for our children? In your attempt to impart faith formation to the seventh standard students sitting before you, the above-mentioned points have to be taken very seriously.

It is also important to bear in mind that the times are changing. Tremendous changes have taken place in the circumstances in which today's children live, not only in their aptitude but also in experiences. These have to be taken into account. At the same time, the very aim of faith formation is to concretize in children the unchanging God and the unchanging Christian truths in a world which is under the sway of perennial change. The text which you are going to teach will help you achieve this goal. What you have in your hand now is the Teachers' handbook specially prepared for your reference. This will undoubtedly help you become an able and efficient teacher by developing children's innate talents and at the same time solving their difficulties.

WHAT IS A TEACHER'S HANDBOOK? WHAT IS IT FOR?

A teacher's hand book is

- A supplement to text book.
- A pointer to teacher.
- An interpretation of the lessons.

A teacher's hand book is an aid to a teacher in many ways.

- To understand the lessons better.
- To teach the lessons correctly.
- To clear doubts regarding the text by one's own self.
- To give a satisfactory clarification to children's doubts.
- To organize classroom programmes efficiently.
- To identify answers to the questions.
- To make the optimum use of the text.
- To gather more information.
- To improve one's way of teaching.
- To introduce and implement the novel approach of the new text book.

Three questions arise with regard to teaching:

1. What is to be taught? What is the aim while teaching?
2. Whom to teach?
3. How to teach?

All teachers engaged in the process of imparting faith formation must seek answers to these questions.

1. Must know what faith formation is.

The basic purpose of faith formation is to help those who received the sacrament of baptism to grow in Christ by leading them to a perfect Christian faith and a mature Christian living. In order to achieve this, a true faith formation process will blaze the trail towards knowledge, experience and life of faith. The passionate words of St. Paul- 'the labour pain is experienced, till Christ is formed in you' should be the source of inspiration for our faith formation. The initial years of faith formation focus on the basic lessons to be imparted to children in the fundamental faith of the church, in the Holy Trinity and

in the knowledge about sacraments. In this way we must grasp the essence of the question what is to be taught.

2. Necessary to know children :

It is to children that we give faith formation. Therefore, we must have an idea of their age, nature, talents, drawbacks, interests and potential. Let us just think what abilities they have. What all can they do?

- Laugh
- Cry
- think
- see
- hear
- Run
- Jump
- play
- speak - and many more abilities like these. Now if we consider just one aspect , for example , their ability to speak- What are their possibilities that can be explored and expressed in class? Children will be able to do many things through spoken words. Let us jot them down.
- To tell stories
- To sing a song
- To ask a question
- To give answer
- To share a news with others
- To explain to others what they know
- To speak imaginatively

- To narrate an incident
- To complain
- To give instructions
- To narrate looking at a picture and so on.

Now the children who love to play can do many things through that activity. What are they?

- To understand instructions
- To obey the rules and regulations
- To react when the rules are broken
- To correct errors
- To express joy
- To express emotions
- To work in a team
- To participate in activities with enthusiasm.

There are many things like these to know about children .If teachers are aware of these teaching will be more meaningful.

There are many ways by which teachers can come to know of children –

- Interaction with children
- Keen observation
- Knowledge in child psychology
- Reading such books.

3. Necessary to Know New Methods of Learning :

Times have changed. As we face a new environment today, a new set of children and a new text, we need to introduce new methods of learning. Novel ways of teaching need to be adopted.

As discussed earlier, many different abilities are there in every child. New methods of learning must be used to explore these abilities in children appropriately. Opportunities have to be made available to children who are keen on playing as well as doing work. The new text books are prepared with these thoughts in mind.

This book gives scope for numerous activities such as speaking, viewing, drawing, writing and playing besides listening. None of these is insignificant. Though they appear simple, each activity in some degree contributes to the growth of our children's faith. It is necessary to use all the possible methods in our attempt to give our children Jesus and lead them to salvation He offers. Therefore faith formation teachers must constantly endeavour to grasp novel teaching methods. This teacher's handbook may help teachers to a certain extent to achieve this goal. A teacher must try to gain knowledge and experience with regard to teaching methods from all possible quarters.

The Special Features of the Activities:

If the activities that are introduced in faith formation class have to be successful, they must be different. Only then it will be fruitful. What are those special aspects? The activity that is introduced to facilitate learning should

- Arouse interest in children
- Suit the nature of the children
- Give freedom to children
- Be with a specific aim
- Be connected with the subject
- Be a time bound activity
- Be suitable for the standard of the children
- Be a challenging activity for the children
- Be an activity that can be evaluated by the teacher

Be it an activity given to children from the text or from teacher's handbook or an activity introduced by the teacher himself/herself,

the above mentioned aspects have to be borne in mind.

A teacher may pay attention to the following:

1. Make sure that every child has a text book with him/her. Instruct them in the beginning itself to buy it.
2. There are many opportunities for first and second standard children to draw and colour; therefore, all children must have sketch pens of different colours, colour pencils or crayons with them. Along with their text, children should bring these as well.
3. Drawing and writing in the text have to be done only in class. This instruction has to be given to children well in advance. Children should use the text only as per the instruction of the teacher.
4. More activities, if necessary, can be given to children as home work. Instructions towards this have to be given to them very clearly. It is good to have a special notebook for children to draw, write and stick pictures. Considering situations and the interest of a teacher, these can be done.

As the lessons are introduced

Now that we have already thought about faith formation, children and new methods of learning, our attempt now is to analyze each lesson specifically. Special format is adopted for this purpose. It is as follows:

1. What children should understand

Through a lesson what a child is expected to grasp is mentioned here. They are categorized into three and presented. A teacher thus becomes very clear as to what the child should have grasped through that lesson. Besides answering questions and participating in activities, the following have to be acquired by children for their faith formation.

- Concepts
- Attitudes
- Habits.

All other activities done in class aim at acquiring these aspects by children.

2. The tools and techniques to enhance awareness that a teacher must use in class :

In order to present each lesson effectively various teaching tools have to be used. For first/second/third/fourth standards a teacher can carry to class items like pictures, charts and things that can be collected easily. Apart from the items listed in teachers' handbook, if other items are used, that are appropriate, it will be more beneficial to the students. Therefore, the indications given here may be taken only as a guideline.

Songs, stories, games, skits and so on may be needed to teach a lesson properly. At least a mental preparation to this effect has to be there before going to class. These are also teaching tools.

3. Presentation of a lesson :

How to present a lesson, how to begin, what details are to be included etc are explained in this section.

In any case, the method of presenting a lesson by reading it from one end to another should be strictly avoided. A teacher should be able to start, continue and end a lesson in a way that appeals to children. Some indications to this effect are given in the section dealing with presentation of a lesson. Still if you come across a more attractive method, you may use it. Remember that maximum preparation is required for the presentation of a lesson.

Story telling, cartoons, dramatics, role play, songs, conversation, team work or any such method can be used for presenting a lesson. Still if the teacher can use some tools for which he /she has the talent or aptitude to use the class may be more interesting and more efficient. The lesson can also be presented by involving children in these activities.

4. Activities related to the lessons :

The instructions regarding all activities given in the lesson are incorporated in this section. Answers to the questions are also given. Let the children find out the answers to these questions on their own and also the answers to the personal response questions and write

them. Teachers may assist them. Do not insist that the answers written by children should contain the exact words / sentences as seen in the teachers' handbook. Treat the answers given in the teachers' handbook as mere references for teachers to help the students in finding the answers. Teachers can refer to the handbook and help them with the answers that are difficult for them to find out. It is mandatory to complete all activities given in each lesson.

5. Correlated Activities :

These are activities that are not given in the lesson but can be introduced as per the wish of the teacher. It is appropriate to give, according to the situation, maximum number of related activities. Some other activities which are not there in handbook too can be used in class if available. More questions from the lesson are prepared and added. It would be a good practice to keep these answers ready with the teacher. Remember that all the correlated activities are to be done in class as per the wish and the creative approach of the teacher.

The factors to be borne in mind for each lesson :

1. It is assumed that two days (Sundays) may be needed to cover one lesson. Therefore, it may be appropriate to divide the lesson into two parts and prepare properly for each day. If possible it would be better to include lesson as well as activities on both days.
2. Children are expected to do all the activities in class and two days might be sufficient to do all these. Instructions for each activity need to be given very clearly and correctly. In case there is something which they have to do at home with the help of parents, it should be assigned to them on the first day so that they can complete it and bring it on the second day.
3. What is given under the title 'My Decision' is the attitude and practice that have to be formed in a child. 'My Decision' in each lesson has to be explained to the child. It has to be impressed upon them. It is also necessary to find out how much of this decision they have implemented in that week.
4. In most of the lessons there are opportunities for story telling. Teachers must try their best to say stories in most of the

situations. Sometimes children should also be given a chance to say stories. Stories should be presented in such a lively manner that it arouses their interest and develops their curiosity and they get the main idea. In order to do this following points are to be taken care of :

- Narrate the story with all the minute details.
- Describe the characters and events in a picturesque manner.
- Use words and styles that are appropriate for children.
- Ask some questions during the narration.
- Complete the story with the help of children if possible.

Instead of saying some story, it is necessary to find out stories with certain concepts that will enhance faith formation.

5. There are many opportunities in the text for conducting games. Do not miss these opportunities. It is good to find out more games for children. While introducing games in faith formation class following points have to be borne in mind :

- Games that are appropriate for the class atmosphere are to be chosen.
- Instructions to be given correctly and clearly.
- Children should be told to follow the rules of the game strictly.
- Stress to be given more to 'playing a game together' than winning or losing.
- Involvement of every child to be ensured.
- It should be observed whether the goal is achieved through the game.
- The games to be used as opportunities to evaluate the attitudes and habits of children and to correct them if necessary.

Three more points to remember:

1. Teachers' handbook has to be read carefully and completely. Analysis of each lesson has to be comprehended clearly. Reading the text books of Std 5, 6, 7 and the analysis given for a lesson will definitely make the teaching exhaustive and efficient.
2. Thorough preparation of the lesson has to be done with the help of analysis given for each lesson. With proper lesson plan, teaching becomes much easier and focused. Lesson plan means deciding in advance what is to be given to children and in what way as well as what activities are to be done in class by children and so on.
3. It would be a good practice to write the lesson plan in a note book so that class can be conducted referring to it. It can be prepared as per each teacher's convenience and aptitude. Preparing teaching notes will help prepare better. Additional information and activities collected from various sources can be written in this book.

LESSON 1

To Attain Eternal Life

I. Introduction

The aim of human life is to attain eternal life. We attain eternal life when we grow in love. In order to grow in love we should obey God's Commandments sincerely. This lesson explains the Commandments of God and tells us how to observe them. It should be presented in such a way as to motivate the children to obey the commandments.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Love is the basis of God's Commandments.
- The Commandments make us aware of our duties.

2. Attitude

- I should understand the message of love in the Commandments.
- I should understand the deeper meaning of all the Commandments and obey them.

3. Habit

- I would live obeying the Commandments.

III. Teaching Aids

A heart shaped paper chamber, word cards, The Bible, Chart paper

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

We shall present the lesson with the activity of an 'Open-Heart Surgery'.

Drop into the paper-heart ships of paper or cards on which words – Fear, Sorrow, Frustrated, Anger, Joy, Courage, Self-respect and Love – are written. Show the students the heart filled with all these emotions and inform them that you

are going to conduct a surgery. Invite eight students and ask them to take one card each. Let them read out what they got. Divide the students into two groups based on what they got and explain what one gains by obeying the Commandments and what one losses by breaking them. With this explanation you may begin with the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us pray:

Ask the students to pray devoutly with joined hands in turn.

b. Let us do:

The students know the ten commandments by heart. Let them recite that. Ask them to write down the commandments on a chart paper and display in class.

c. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 9-10
2. Page 10
3. Page 11
4. Page 11-12
5. Page 12

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Let us find out:

In the biography of Saints there are many instances about the joy they experienced by obeying the commandments. Let the students find out those instances and tell them in the class.

Instead of "Shall Not":

Discuss what "Shall Be" done as against the 'Shall Not's' in the Commandments.

eg: You shall not kill – you shall nurse the sick, you shall help the wounded, you shall be kind towards all creatures.

LESSON 2

The Lord, Our God

I. Introduction

This lesson interprets and explains the First Commandment. It explains one's duty of worshipping God and the sins against faith in God. It enables the children to become aware of the need for spending life in the worship of God.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- We have to worship only God the Creator
- The Saints are our models

2. Attitude

- We are obliged to offer thanks, praise and worship to God.
- We must have a desire to proclaim God always.

3. Habit

- I will participate in the Holy Mass actively and worship God.

III. Teaching Aids:

Hymn Book, The Bible, Pictures of Saints.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

We may begin by singing a hymn of adoration. Let the children repeat the hymn and discuss the hymn briefly. Tell them what is special about such hymns and whom we adore. Emphasising the fact that only God deserves our worship, we may begin with the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

The three Cardinal Virtues – faith, hope and love – help us to lead a Christian life. Encourage the children to recite this every day.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 14
2. Page 15
3. Page 15,16
4. Page 16,17
5. Page 17,18

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Identify the Saints:

Show a chart of Saints. Let the students identify them and write their names. Correct them if they are wrong.

b. Songs, Songs:

Many are the hymns of adoration. Ask the children to collect a few of them and sing in the class.

LESSON 3

God's Name is Adorable

I. Introduction

This lesson explains how the name of God may be and may not be used. It helps one to understand how one should obey the second commandment. Also it contains the basic principle of faith Formation. We must take care to inculcate in the children the tendency to use the name of God with reverence.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- The name of God should be used only with reverence.
- I must be respectful towards holy persons, holy places and holy objects.

2. Attitude

- I must take care to use the name of God only with reverence.
- We must use our tongue only for the glory of God.

3. Habit

- I will call upon the holy name of Jesus in all my needs.

III. Teaching Aids:

The Bible, Saints of each day, chart paper.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

We may present the lesson with a discussion:

What are the things you do invoking the name of God? The children may give different answers. The teacher may

compile them and present the responses. Prayers begin with the name of God. Explain why people take the name of God when they take up great responsibilities, take pledges, and make affidavits and then the teacher may begin with the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

Ask the children to find out the Saint whose name they have received in Baptism and motivate them to read the biography of those Saints. Make the books available to them. Also ask them to write a short note on the life history of those saints.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. God's presence
2. Abba
3. Page 21
4. Blasphemy and Impure talks
5. Page 23

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Feast Day:

Ask the students to find out the Feast day of their Saints and celebrate it. The teacher may help the students with the book "Saints of Each Day". Also let the students make a chart showing the name of the saints against the name of each student.

b. Respecting the Holy Bible:

Create an opportunity in the class to train the children to respect the Holy Bible whenever they use it. Give each one a chance. Let them handle the Bible respectfully.

LESSON 4

The Lord's Day

I. Introduction

This is the lesson that explains how one should observe the day of the Lord. It clearly presents the observance of Sabbath in the Old Testament and Sunday in the New Testament. This lesson is useful in training the students as to how they should observe Sundays and other days of Obligation and what duties to be performed.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Sunday is the day of the Lord.
- Sabbath is an occasion to do virtues.

2. Attitude

- We should be thankful for getting Sunday for adoring the Lord.
- We are obliged to do more good things on Sundays.

3. Habit

- On all Sundays I would participate in the Holy Mass and receive Holy Communion.

III. Teaching Aids:

The Bible, Calendar, chart Paper 'Ten Commandments – A Study', 'The Day of the Lord' – (An Encyclical by Pope John Paul II)

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

"Which is the first day of the week? Sunday. The Sun gives light. The one who gives light to the world is Jesus. "I am the light

of the world". Sunday is the day of God. Also it was on a Sunday that Jesus resurrected.

In this way talking about sabbath through questions and answers you may begin with the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

Ask the children to make a list of charitable activities that one can do on sundays. It is good to collect the list from all the students. Compile it and display on a chart-paper. Encourage the students to do such work of charity as listed in the chart.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 26
2. Page 27
3. Page 28
4. Page 28
5. Page 28

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. My diary:

Suggest to the students that they should maintain a diary for noting down in detail the things they do on sundays show them a model of the diary.

b. The Day of the Lord:

The Encyclical of Pope John Paul II 'The Day of the Lord' may be introduced in the class. Read out some extracts from the same.

LESSON 5

Honour Your Parents

I. Introduction

This lesson explains what the fourth Commandment demands us to do. It explains in full detail the duties of the parents and children. This lesson is useful to train the children to grow with respect and love towards the elders.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- The children should love and respect their parents.
- They should respect the authorities and the elders.

2. Attitude

- We should be grateful to God who gave us our parents.
- We have the responsibility of doing our duty towards our parents.

3. Habit

- I will obey my parents and elders

III. Teaching Aids:

Various pictures, Saints of each day, The Bible, Chart Paper.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

We may present the lesson through the activity of picture-reading:

Show the children different pictures associated with family. The pictures should depict children showing respect to parents. Have a discussion after showing each picture. Let the children give their views also. Then show some other pictures

depicting the opposite scenes and let the children speak about them. After this you may begin with the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

Discuss about various occasions of helping the parents. Then ask the children to write down five such occasions and bring it in the class. Make them read out what they brought. Gave instructions regarding how to follow them.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 31
2. Page 32
3. Page 32,33
4. Page 34
5. Page 33

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Model Stories :

Quoting from the life-history of Saints, tell the students about the occasions when those Saints respected their parents. Also ask the students to collect such stories.

b. Collect Verses:

In the Bible there are many verses associated with the fourth Commandment. Let the children find out such verses, write them on a chart and display it in the class.

LESSON 6

Life: The Gift of God

I. Introduction

This lesson teaches that it is God who gives life and that we have no right to destroy life. It explains how the Fifth Commandment is presented in the Old Testament and in the New Testament. We should take up the responsibility of not only avoiding the vices against life but also of protecting life. This lesson helps the children to show respect to life.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Life is the gift of God
- We have a duty to respect and protect life

2. Attitude

- We should be thankful to God who gave us our life.
- We should endeavour to act against destroying life.

3. Habit

- I won't use any intoxicating thing that destroys life

III. Teaching Aids:

Different kind of pictures, The Bible, chart Paper.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Show the students pictures of a smiling baby, a granny who leans on a walking stick, a mother who breast feeds her baby, playing children, fighting children, a man who aims a gun, a man who smokes, two persons who are drinking liquor etc. Let the children express their reactions about what the pictures depict. Ask the children to segregate the pictures into two sets: 1) Those that support life and 2) Those that hamper life. With this activity we may begin the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

Visiting the sick is a virtuous act. The students should be made aware of its importance. It is good to take the students for visiting the sick under the guidance of the teacher.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 37
2. Page 37,38
3. Page 38
4. Protection of Health, Maintenance of Peace, Protection of Nature.
5. Page 38

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Know and avoid:

Ask the students to find out the harmful effects of using intoxicating things. Let them present their report in the class.

b. Make a poster:

A poster containing slogans against intoxication and relevant pictures shall be made by the students. Ask them to display the same in the class.

LESSON 7

Sexual Holiness

I. Introduction

This lesson explains about safeguarding the purity and holiness of our body which is the temple of God. This lesson also aims at teaching the basics of sexuality. It explains matters required for living in purity and its content motivates the children to live their life in purity.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- God gave the ability to humans to love and to be loved.
- Man is to observe purity in thoughts, words and deeds.

2. Attitude

- We should be thankful to God who gave us the faculty of loving.
- We should be respectful in viewing our own body and others' body.

3. Habit

- I will always keep my heart and body pure.

III. Teaching Aids:

The picture of St. Maria Goretti, the Bible, the picture of Don Bosco.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Show the picture of St. Maria Goretti to the students and narrate her life history. Discuss about such occasions as she had faced in her life. we shall begin with the lesson Stressing the importance of maintaining purity in our life.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

Ask the students to tell the story of St. Maria Goretti from their memory. Explain the various situations in the life of saint.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 41
2. Page 41
3. Page 42
4. Page 42
5. Page 43

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Tell a story:

Don Bosco's mother Margaret often used to listen to the conversation of the children. Once the children of her neighborhood were telling different stories. When a few children started discussing obscene matters Margaret admonished them and forbade them from talking in that manner. Later Don Bosco also used to caution children against such loose talks.

Stress on the fact that our soul's beauty is far more important than our physical beauty.

LESSON 8

Do Not Steal

I. Introduction

This is a lesson that discusses in detail about the sin of stealing which is a very grave social evil and warns us against its consequences. The seventh Commandment teaches us that wealth is a gift of God and we have a duty to share it to help others so that we would live with a sense of justice. This lesson should be presented in such a way as to make the students aware of these facts right from their young age.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Wealth is God's gift.
- Justice is the virtue of giving each person his dues.

2. Attitude

- We have a duty to share our wealth with others.
- We should live with a sense of justice.

3. Habit

- I won't destroy or misuse common property.

III. Teaching Aids:

The Bible, stories from Tolstoy, chart paper.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin with a story:

'There lived in a house a father, mother and their three young children. One day the mother bought some black grapes from a shop. She washed it and kept it in a white plate. It looked very beautiful. She covered it with a lid.

The youngest child wished to enjoy the sight of the grapes. He secretly went near the grapes and lifted the lid silently. When he saw the grapes he wished to touch it and feel it. He touched it secretly. They were very soft. He then felt like taking it in his hand and smell it. He did so.

Then he wished to taste it and so he secretly ate a few which his mother found out. But she didn't say anything at that time. In the evening when the father came home she told him what had happened. After supper the father called all the three children near him and asked: "Did anyone of you steal grapes today?" All replied, "No".

"Okay then, listen; when you eat stolen grapes, if its seed goes inside the stomach the thief will die in three days."

The youngest child's face became pale. He stammered, "But Dad, I had spat out all the seeds through the window". Everyone else burst out laughing.

Present this story of Tolstoy in full detail lead the students mind towards the sin of stealing and to the Commandment 'You shall not steal'.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

The teacher should help the students while discussing on 'evils and their remedies'. Put such good thoughts into their mind as would become their habits.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 45
2. Page 46
3. Page 47
4. Page 46
5. Page 47-48

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Who and to whom:

Discuss and find out who all have given financial help to the students. Also find out how many among the students have given at least small help to others.

b. If you have wealth:

Ask the students to find out what virtuous deeds could be done using wealth. Let them present their findings in the class.

LESSON 9

Say The Truth

I. Introduction

This lesson explains the Commandment 'You shall not tell lies; you shall speak the truth'. Jesus who came to witness truth dissuades us from telling lies. This lesson discusses in detail the evils against truth and how one can prevent them. It has to be taught in such a way as the children would be motivated to lead their life in truthfulness.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Jesus came to this world in order to bear witness to truth.
- All have a right to know the truth.

2. Attitude

- We are obliged to observe truthfulness in our thoughts, words and deeds.

3. Habit

- I will stick to honesty at any cost.

III. Teaching Aids:

- The Bible, chart paper, didactic stories.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin with a story: 'Once a 'Leader' went for a picnic to heaven. An angel showed him many things there and finally he was taken to a large hall the walls of which had innumerable clocks. The leader thought that it was the clock-shop in heaven. But the angel told him that the clocks were not for sale and they didn't show time. He added that for each person in the world there is a clock in that hall showing the numbers of lies that person tells. The clocks had only one hand each and every time the person tells a lie the hand would move one digit.

The leader observed a few clocks and he found one with its hand on 'O'. The angel said that it was Bl. Mother Theresa's. Showing another clock with its hand on '2' the angel said it was of Mahatma Gandhi. The leader remembered reading in some book that Gandhi had told lies on two occasions in his childhood. He then asked the angel. "Can I see my clock?"

The angel replied, "Oh, yes; your clock is in the next room. God is using that as His table fan".

The teacher should further explain that it is a sin to tell lies even jokingly and that we should ensure that the hands of our clock in heaven do not move at all. Having said so, you may begin with the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

By correcting a friend who has the habit of telling lies, one can avoid that vice in oneself as well. So motivate and encourage the children to do accordingly.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 49
2. Page 50
3. Page 51
4. Page 50-51
5. Page 51

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Maxims:

Ask the students to collect and write down proverbs and other meaningful statements glorifying 'Truth'. They may find out such maxims from the biography of Saints and present them in the class.

b. Discuss:

Arrange for a discussion or debate on the 'Evils of telling lies'. The teacher may guide the discussion so that the children would conclude it with appropriate attitudes.

LESSON 10

Keep up the Marital Purity

I. Introduction

This lesson contains some thoughts about the importance of marital relationship as presented by the Old Testament and the New Testament. Here we see Jesus blessing marital life. Jesus invites the couples to live in purity by upholding fidelity. Today's children should have the right attitude in order to have good families in future. This lesson should be used to facilitate this objective.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Marriage is a sacrament.
- Good families are the back bone of the Church.

2. Attitude

- We should be grateful to God for we are born in good families.
- We should realize that marital life is a vocation to live in purity.

3. Habit

- I will pray every day for the consecration of families.

III. Teaching Aids:

Greeting cards, The Bible, chart paper, Saints of each day.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

We may introduce the lesson with the activity of making a word-Sun:

Ask the students to make a sun using words related to 'Christian Marriage' as shown above. There should be space for writing about 20 words such as dinner, 'thali', saree, ornaments, ring, video, guests, music, decoration, etc. When

they finish, check if they have included 'sacrament' 'pledge', 'witness', mass, etc. Have a discussion stressing the importance of pledge, indivisibility of marriage, purity etc and then begin with the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

Give some topics for discussion. The topics should be appropriate to the age of the students.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 53
2. Page 54
3. Page 54
4. Page 55
5. Page 55

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Greetings:

Ask the students to greet their parents in the anniversary of their wedding. Let the students give a card or flowers or a small gift to their parents on every anniversary.

b. Saints among the married:

Ask the students to find out the names of saints who led a family life. Let them also find out the details of their life.

Eg: St. Monica

Saints Joachim and Ann Bl. Frederick Osanaam.

LESSON 11

Don't Desire the Undeserving

I. Introduction

This lesson clearly explains how one should earn money and how it should be spent. Jesus teaches us to live in Justice. The children should grow with the awareness that one should not desire the undeserving and that all should get what they deserve. This lesson should be presented in such a way as to meet this objective.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Greed is the breach of God's Commandment
- We should not covet others wealth.

2. Attitude

- It shall be only through rightful means that we earn wealth.
- We have a responsibility to share our wealth with those who do not have any.

3. Habit

- I will help the poor students of my class.

III. Teaching Aids:

The biography of Don Bosco, The Bible, chart paper, Plate, sweets, small pictures.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Keep in the plate as many sweets and pictures as there are student in the class. Tell the students to take from the plate. They should not know that the teacher has counted them. The teacher should not be watching when the students take the

sweets and pictures. Later, enquire if everyone has got sweets and pictures. If not find out who took more and tell that it is unfair to take what is meant for others. With this you may begin.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

It is not difficult for the students to learn by heart the 'Seven Capital sins and the virtues opposed to them'. The teacher may ask the students to recite the same, explain their deeper meanings with examples.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 58
2. Page 58
3. Page 59
4. Page 59-60
5. Page 59

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. The Story of Bread:

'Don Bosco used to go for grazing sheep in his childhood. His friend also would go with him. The bread that the friend used to bring for lunch was usually black and tasteless but Don Bosco's bread was white and tasty. Often Don Bosco would exchange his bread with his friend's bread saying that he liked that better.' The teacher shall tell the story in detail.

b. Write down:

Ask the students to recall and write down the gifts that God has given them. Encourage them to express their gratitude to God for those gifts.

LESSON 12

The Greatest Commandment

I. Introduction

This lesson teaches that love is the essence of all Commandments. There are two aspects to the Commandment of love given by Jesus: Love of God and love of our brethren. You shall present this lesson in such a way that it would enunciate the relevance of this new commandment of love in the present time.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Love is the essence of God's Commandments.
- Love of God and love of our brethren are the two aspects of love.

2. Attitude

- It is when we love humans that we would be able to love God.
- Let us glorify Jesus who gave us the new Commandment of love.

3. Habit

- I will express my love every day through my deeds.

III. Teaching Aids:

Word-cards, chart paper, The Bible.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Give the students a slip of paper each on which the following words are written: virtue, love, obedience, justice, patience, discipline, vice, anger, hatred, pride, enmity, laziness.

Tell them to read the slip they got and keep it in their hands. Ask them to form two groups: Group (1) of those who got the slips showing virtues; Group (2) of vices. Collect the slips from the members of Group (2). Ask the members of Group (1) to select the most important virtue. The teacher must ensure that they select 'love' and explain that love is the basis of all virtues. All other virtues become meaningless without love. Collect back their slips also and distribute blank slips to everyone. Ask all of them to write the word 'Love'. Let all students stand up and hold their slips high. Sing a song on love all together and begin with the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

Ask the students to find out the names of five Saints and write down a short note on each of them.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 62
2. Page 63
3. Page 65
4. Page 65
5. Page 65

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Couplets on 'Love':

Ask the students to collect lines on 'love' and write them down in a Chart paper for display.

a. Read and Write:

Ask the students to read 1 Cor. 13: 4-8 and write down the same on a chart paper.

LESSON 13

The Precepts of the Church

I. Introduction

The Church has given five precepts for its members to follow. All the members of the Church have the obligation to obey them. While the Commandments are meant for all human beings the precepts are for the faithful members of the Church. This lesson explains that the precepts would also help us in our spiritual growth.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- The Commandments are meant for all.
- The precepts of the Church are meant for all its members.

2. Attitude

- The precepts help in the unity and growth of the Church
- They help us in our spiritual growth.

3. Habit

- I will obey the precepts of the Church and live as a faithful member of the Church.

III. Teaching Aids:

Pictures, Poster, The Bible, Chart paper.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Introduce the lesson through a discussion. The children are familiar with the rules of the school, the rules of the road, the rules of scout, the rules of the hospital, etc. There are rules for all institutions and organization. Rules help them in their

functioning and growth. Their members should obey the rules. Similarly the Church also has rules. Through this kind of a general discussion about rules we shall arrive at the precepts of the Church and then begin with the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

It is not difficult to learn the Precepts of the Church by-heart. The teacher should take care to nurture in the children an attitude of scrupulous observance of these precepts.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 67
2. Page 68-69
3. Page 68
4. Page 68
5. Page 70

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Discuss:

What is meant by 'Fasting'? What are its advantages? Which are the days of fasting. How should the children observe fasting?

b. Poster:

Let the children make a poster with pictures portraying the Precepts of the Church and present it in the class.

LESSON 14

Formation of Conscience

I. Introduction

This is a lesson that deals with conscience which is God's voice. It gives a detailed account of (1) the characteristics of conscience, (2) Faith and Conscience, (3) Formation of conscience etc.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Conscience is the voice of God.
- Faith is the basis of conscience for the Christians.

2. Attitude:

- Formation of conscience takes place in proportion to our faith.
- We should try to reject all evil and hold on to virtues.

3. Habit

- I will act listening to the voice of my conscience.

III. Teaching Aids:

The New Testament, chart paper, pictures of various creatures of vehicles of musical instruments etc.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

You shall present this lesson through a discussion: 'We hear different kinds of sounds. – our own voice, others' voice, sound made by various creatures, musical instruments, vehicles, sound of TV, loud sounds from the mike, soft voice from the telephone etc. Not only us but others also hear most of these sounds. But there is one sound which only we ourselves can hear, and that is the voice of our Conscience.'

With this you may begin with the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

The teacher should help the students in discussing about conscience. If you can present a large number of examples the children will participate in the discussion actively. Guide the discussion in such a way as to form good conscience in them.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 72
2. Page 73
3. Page 74
4. Page 74,75
5. Page 75

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Tell from memory:

Ask the students to tell about an instance in their life when they acted according to their Conscience.

b. Write down a Verse:

Ask the students to find out and write down verses about conscience by referring to the 'Letters' in the New Testament.

LESSON 15

The Evangelical Counsels

I. Introduction

'Sermon on the Mount' is one of the important teachings of Jesus. The essence of this Sermon is the Evangelical Counsels or the Eight Beatitudes. This lesson deals with the details of the Beatitudes and enables one to live as a true disciple of Christ. The teacher should take care to give these convictions in such a way as they would register in the mind of the students.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- The essence of the sermon on the Mount is the Evangelical Counsels.
- It is when we obey the Evangelical Counsels that we become the disciples of Christ.

2. Attitude

- We should be grateful to Jesus and learn the qualities of His true disciples by means of the Evangelical Counsels.

3. Habit

- I would live true to the words of Jesus.

III. Teaching Aids:

The New Testament, different Pictures, chart paper.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

The lesson could be introduced through the activity of picture-reading.

Show the picture of Pope addressing the public. Then

show the picture of some national leader like the President or Prime Minister addressing the public. Ask the children who they are in the picture, what they are doing, what that occasion is etc. Explain the importance of teaching something formally. Then show the picture of Jesus as He appears in the Sermon on the Mount and tell them that it was in that Sermon that Jesus taught the crowd about the characteristics of true disciples. With this introduction you may begin the lesson.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us do:

Encourage the children not only to learn the Eight Beatitudes by heart but also to acquire them and make them a part of their life.

b. Let us find out the answers

1. Page 77-78
2. The salt of the earth and the light of the world.
3. Page 79
4. Page 79
5. Page 79

VI. Correlated Activities:

a. Speak out:

Ask the children to say what they can do in order to become the 'Salt of the earth and the Light of the world'.

b. Make a chart:

Let the children write down the Beatitudes on a chart paper and display it in the class. Let them stick appropriate pictures also in the chart.

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ON THE PATH OF SALVATION 7

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