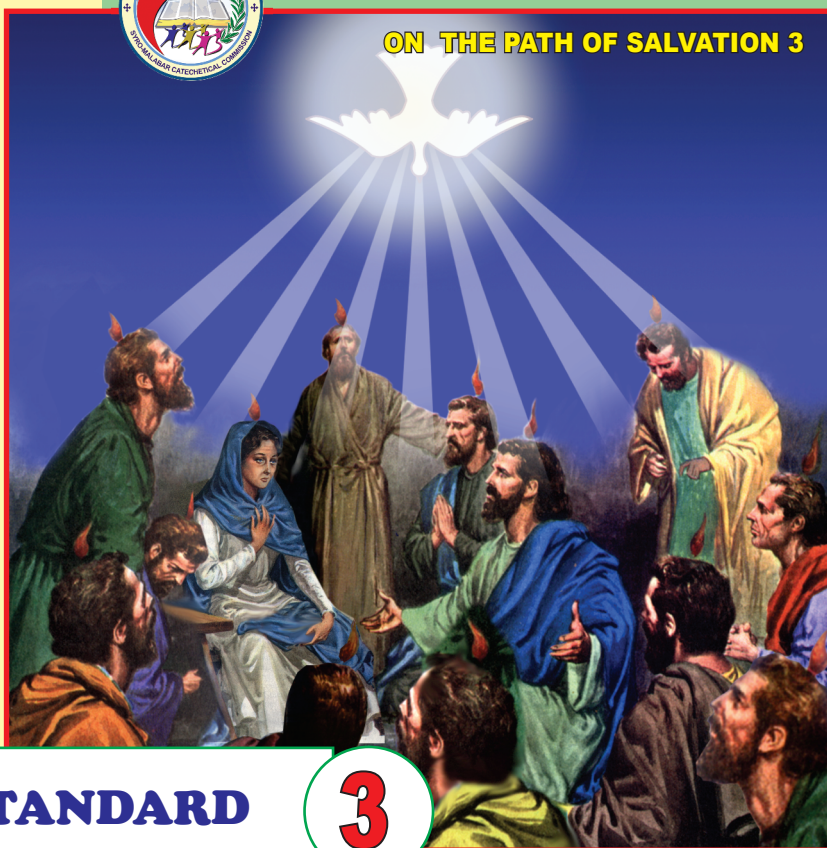


CATECHETICAL TEXT BOOK SERIES OF THE SYRO-MALABAR CHURCH

GOD THE LIFE-GIVER



ON THE PATH OF SALVATION 3



STANDARD

3

TEACHER'S HANDBOOK

*www.syromalabarcatechesis.org, E-mail. smcatechesis@gmail.com
Smart Catechism App.smsmartcatechism.org*

ON THE PATH OF SALVATION-3

CATECHETICAL TEXT BOOK SERIES
OF
THE SYRO-MALABAR CHURCH

TEACHER'S HANDBOOK

Standard - 3

GOD THE LIFE-GIVER



Published by
THE SYNODAL COMMISSION FOR CATECHESIS
SYRO-MALABAR CATECHETICAL CENTRE
Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad, Kochi-682 030

Title:

GOD THE LIFE-GIVER

Text prepared by:

Fr. Jose Puthiyedath

Published by:

SYRO-MALABAR CATECHETICAL CENTRE

Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad, Kochi - 30

Translated by:

DEPARTMENT OF CATECHESIS, DIOCESE OF KALYAN

Bishop's House, Plot No. B/38,

P.B. No. 8434, IIT P.O.,

Powai, Mumbai - 400 076.

Year of Publication 2017

Price : Rs. 15/-

Design & Layout:

John Paul Antony

Printing:

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 third 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. In all the lessons of the Third Standard, a prayer (Let Us Pray) is added. They should be said by the children repeating after the teacher. Teachers have to train the children to say the prayers with piety joining hands.
4. Each lesson contains one or two songs (Let Us Sing). Children should be given opportunity and time to sing them melodiously. They may sing them again alone or as a whole class or forming groups. Other songs and prayers which go with the lesson can also be given.
5. That which is meant for by hearting as far as possible, need to be done in class itself. It can be read out to them once or twice. Instructions can be given to study it individually or in a group. A small gift or a gesture of appreciation or applause may be offered to those who complete the task with focus and on time. It may be good to motivate them to study it with slight competition spirit and say it in class.
6. 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.

7. The activities such as Bible Reading and 'My Bible verse' are meant for encouraging them in the Bible study and Bible reading. On the first day instructions have to be given to the children to read the Bible, write Bible verses and bring them to the class. It has to be checked in class by the teacher on the second day. While teaching the first lesson, the teacher has to carry the Bible (the complete one) to the class and read out to the students Genesis 1:26-31. Each student then will be asked to write one verse which they liked from this portion in their note book. They will do similar exercise in other lessons at home with the help of the parents after reading the Bible.

8. 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.

9. 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 1, 2, 3, 4 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

God Giver of Life

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Living things have specialties.
- God has given us life.
- Human happiness is in living with God

2. Attitude

- Should express honour and love towards living things.
- We should be thankful to God.
- Real happiness is in living with God

3. Habit

- To do good to others.
- Always behave happily.
- Don't hurt living things

II. Teaching aids:

Complete Bible, pictures of men and other living things doing different things, one real flower and a paper flower.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

Capabilities of children/men? To run, to jump, to laugh, to cry, to write, to act, to sing, to clap, to do sign of cross, to fold hands.... similarly many more things. Let the children say and do some of these.

Capabilities of animals/creatures/birds. To run, to swim, to fly, to bark, to chitchat.... For plants. To grow, to flower, to shed leaves.....

All these are possible as they have life. Then, what are the specialties of living things?

Following the discussion, introduce the lesson. Show pictures of different actions and let the children say about these. Compare between living things and non-living things.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. Living things move, eat, grow and multiply. They have birth and death.
2. God has given us life to grow in love and do good in this world and thus to attain heaven.
3. To live with God is the greatest happiness of man

b. Let us pray

Let the children pray with folded hands and reverence.

c. Let us sing

This is a song of questions and answers. Give chance to sing in two groups. Add alternate words for life, love to make lyrics.

d. Let us write

Examples:

1. While traveling with your mother, she will buy different things you ask for.
2. Father shows new things and explain about the things around.
3. Uncle takes you for an outing.

Like this, let the children say and write freely. Ask why. Children's understanding can be evaluated this way and corrected if necessary.

e. Riddle

Answer : life

f. The good deeds I did last week

Example: Gave a pencil to a friend, to write. Showed way to an old man. Helped mother to wash dishes.

Like this let the children write. Ensure that the things they write are actually done by them. Find out those who have come without writing and ensure that they do so by the next class. Encourage all students to do good things.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. Your name

Ask children who named them. Ask their baptismal name and their pet names too. Ask meaning of their names. Those who don't know about it may ask their parents before they come for next class. Convince the children that it is wrong to call others their nick names.

b. With pleasure

'Always be happy' (1 Thes. 5:16). Read out this verse from the Bible. Sing songs and play games of happy nature with the children.

c. Conversation in Eden Garden

In the evenings God takes a round in the Eden Garden. Adam and Eve accompany Him. What will they be talking then? Let the children imagine and tell.

d. More questions

1. What all did God create first?
2. When did man come to life?
3. Where did God let Adam and Eve live?
4. Who named all living things?
5. What all will we have if we live with God?

LESSON 2
Man Who Loses Divine Life

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- To reject God's Commandment is sin
- Person who sins, moves away from God
- Satan takes us away from God

2. Attitude

- We must keep away from sins
- Obey God
- Take care not to fall into Satan's temptations.

3. Habit

- I will obey my parents.
- I will pray daily.
- I will not tell lies

II. Teaching aids:

Complete Bible, a picture chart of the first sin, role play, pictures of people praying.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

The lesson can be enacted as a role play.

God sends Adam and Eve to Garden of Eden. God asks them not to eat the fruit of the Tree of knowledge of good and evil. God leaves. Adam moves away. Satan comes and tempts Eve to eat the fruit and plucks the fruit and gives it to Eve. Eve eats the fruit and gives to Adam also. After some time God returns and calls Adam and Eve. They hide.

The play can be enacted by children by providing a script. Don't mind their ability in acting. Just making them understand the idea is enough. Then start teaching the lesson.

If there is a picture chart of the first sin, same can be used to teach. Ideas can be exchanged through the picture.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. God commands not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil in Eden Garden
2. Satan tempts the first parents to reject the word of God.
3. Adam and Eve hide behind the bushes as they were scared and ashamed to come in front of God.

b. Respond

Fear, sorrow

c. Select the words and fill the columns

To accept

God
Parents
Teachers
Good friends
Good books

To reject

Satan
Bad films
Bad words
Bad pictures
Telling lies

d. My decision

Make sure that the decisions taken are put into practice. If not encourage them to do so.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. Listen to story

Stories which have a moral that disobedience is dangerous can be told. Narrate one such story to the children. Let the children find out the moral of the story.

b. Happy or sad?

Activity: Describe some situations. Children can be asked to raise their hands if it shows happiness or clap their hands if it shows sadness. Those who make a mistake are out of the game.

For example:

I prayed	Happiness
He helped his friend	Happiness
I quarreled	Sad
She did the sign of the cross	Happiness
He lied	Sad

The game can be played by asking the children to tell these.

c. Let us see pictures and collect pictures

Show pictures of people praying and ask children to say about it

For Example: Pope, Mother Teresa, A grand mother, a family, two children, a baby...

Collect pictures from news paper and magazines and stick in their note books.

d. More questions

1. Why did God entrust the Garden of Eden to man?
2. What we do when we reject God's commandments?
3. What all things did God give us?
4. What all things must we fear?

LESSON 3
Sin Breaks Relationship

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Sin breaks relationship
- It is a big mistake to inflict pain on God
- He who moves away from God, moves away from men.

2. Attitude

- Consider everybody as our brethren
- Live without hurting our brethren
- I will be the guardian of my brother.

3. Habit

- I will be happy in others growth.
- I will help my brethren.
- I will not hate my brethren for any reason

II. Teaching aids:

Complete Bible, the story of a teacher and two students, the pictures of Cain killing Abel and the sacrifice of Abel etc.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

A teacher has two students, the first one is jealous of the second. Knowing this the teacher carried out a test. He gave one coin to both and told them to buy whatever things you get and fill your room. In the evening teacher came to see their rooms. The first one had filled his room with waste. The second

one had filled his room with light and good smell by lighted candles and incenses. Whatever was in mind came out clearly in action.

This story must be told in detail creating interest. The first one and second one – If they were Cain and Abel? What would they have done? Then lead children to the lesson.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. Abel offered the best of his flock, so God accepted it.
2. Cain rejected God. Hated Abel.
3. I don't know, Am I the keeper of my brother? This is the reply Cain gave.

b. Word – box

Give chance to take words from the word-box to talk about, then allow to write.

Cain

Offering

Abel

God

c. Let us play

Explain the rules of the game. Those who make mistake will go out of the game.

God says to stand. I tell you to sit, teacher says to stand, leader says to clap. Children move only as per the instruction added with "God says". This is the rule. The game can be made attractive by changing the speed and telling the instructions in different ways.

d. My decision

Discuss in class how we can love and help. The decision derived from that can be given to children. Encourage children to put the same into practice.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. let us say

Whom do we guard? Say. Father, mother, brethren, friends, neighbors.... Who are our guardians? Also tell that.

b. While offering

What all we offer to God? We offer money. We offer certain things in Church. What are they?

Let the children share their understanding and experience. Explain the mentality required while offering.

c. More questions

1. What did our first parents lose as a result of their sin?
2. Who are the children of Adam and Eve?
3. Where did Cain who killed Abel live?
4. When do we inflict pain on God?
4. What is man's greatest sin?

LESSON 4

Destruction – The Effect of Sin

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- God punished the man who sinned.
- God protected Noah, the good one
- God scattered people with pride

2. Attitude

- Don't sin and fall into destruction
- Lead a life pleasing to God
- Reject pride and grow in humbleness.

3. Habit

- Behave humbly to everyone.
- Through good deeds, be a good example to others.
- Pray frequently to be humble.

II. Teaching aids:

Complete Bible, different pictures of flood, picture of Babel Tower, picture of rainbow and song.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

The famous story of flood is the theme. Explain that story and introduce the lesson. The state of people's sin at that time. The fury of God, the situation why God punished etc. can be explained. Depict Noah as one who lived a life pleasing to God. Give emphasis to the decision of God to save Noah, the making of the Ark, etc. The children must get the idea that there is punishment for sin.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Answer key

1. God was pleased with Noah because he lived a life pleasing to God.
2. Sins were growing in this world. The wickedness of men were growing, their thought and imagination became wicked. That is why God punished earth with flood.
3. God scattered the people who were trying to construct the tower by making them use strange languages so that they were not able to understand one another.

b. Select the words from Word –bag and fill in

Noah

Forty

Rainbow

Babel

Genesis

c. Write in proper order

God created heaven and earth

God created man

Adam and Eve acted against God.

Cain murdered Abel.

There was flood on earth.

They started building the tower of Babel

V. Corelated Activities:

a. The stories of the Ark

Each category of creatures in earth in pairs (male and female) entered Noah's Ark. It rained for forty days and nights continuously. And the flood lasted for 150 days. Then the water started to recede. Children will like the story of Noah sending a dove and a crow to check whether water receded. The verses Genesis 8: 1-19 may be read out or explained in the class.

There are interesting stories about the animals in the ark. The stories suitable to small children can be told/enacted in class.

b. Babel Tower

The story of Babel tower is only mentioned in the lesson. Verses from Genesis 11:1-9 can be used to explain the same.

c. Do you know the language?

This is a game. Give small instructions to children. For example: stand up, fold your hands, close your eyes, close your ears.... Children obey the instructions. In continuation give instruction in unknown language (artificially made up). Children cannot obey this. Explain the idea of the game. This is what happened in Babel.

d. Let us find pairs.

Children will love this game. Write names of different animals/bird like crow, cat, dog, goat etc in paper slips (two slips of each) and distribute among children. The child who got crow should cry "ka ka" and find the pair. The pair will be complete when the other child who got crow joins. Then they should enter the ark - a big circle drawn in one place. Let all children find their pairs this way and enter the ark.

LESSON 5

God Who Prepares The Way For Salvation

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- God loved even sinners.
- God prepared ways to save sinners.
- Israel means God's own people.

2. Attitude

- We are the children of God, though we make mistakes in life.
- God will never forsake us.
- We must cooperate with God's plan.

3. Habit

- Let us ask forgiveness to God if we sin.
- If we hurt anybody we will ask their forgiveness.
- I will forgive those who sin against me.

II. Teaching aids:

Complete Bible, devotional songs starting with "Israel", pictures of people from Abraham to Moses.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

What do our parents do if we sin at home? If we sin at school what will the teacher do? Will they punish. After that whether they will hate us? Forsake us?

Let the children answer. Arrange the answers to lead to love that forgives. Then teach the lesson. During the teaching of lesson, show the pictures from Abraham onwards.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. As per God's instruction, Abraham dwelt in Canaan.
2. Name of Abraham's son is Isaac.
3. The meaning of Israel is God's own people.

b. Riddle

Encourage children to find the answer. Read Bible verses to children.

Answer : Abraham

c. Let us find out

1. Abraham
2. Jesus
3. Haran
4. Twelve

d. Repeat the slogan

Let the children repeat the slogan in the lesson loudly. Then they may be asked to prepare slogans like that. Slogans can be made by arranging rhyming words with proper ideas. If necessary, small corrections may be done in the children's slogan.

Example:

1. God is our father
Heaven is our home
2. We are God's children
Friends of Jesus
3. Heaven is our aim
Jesus is our leader

V. Co-related Activities:

a. Stories

Abraham – Isaac- Jacob – Joseph in the descendents like this, there are many interesting stories and story occasions. Jacob who receives blessing, dreams of Joseph ...It will be useful to explain these to children. Suitable pictures can also be shown.

b. Song floor

Children might have heard devotional songs with Israel word. Enquire with children. Let them sing in groups.

For example:

Israyelin naayaka...

Israyelin nathanaayi...

c. More questions

1. Name the place where Abraham lived first.
2. What is the name of Abraham's wife.
3. Who are called people of Israel?
4. How many sons did Jacob have?

LESSON 6
God Who Leads To Salvation

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- God protected the people of Israel from all dangers.
- God led them to land of Canaan
- God leads us to heaven

2. Attitude

- Trust God when in danger.
- We need not get scared as God is with us.
- We must aim to reach the kingdom of God.

3. Habit

- When in pain, let us pray to God.
- Will pray for our brethren who are in pain; will help.
- Let us say thank God who protects us from dangers.

II. Teaching aids:

Complete Bible, pictures related to lesson, Bible stories

III. Presentation of the lesson:

This is a lesson where beautiful stories can be told. Enact the scene where the Egyptians torture Israelites. Tell the story of a group of people who became slaves. At last God chose Moses to liberate them. Explain beautifully the miracles God performed and show the pictures of them. The children will listen happily how they crossed the Red Sea. Introduce good God as the one who protect us from all dangers through this lesson.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. God chose Moses to liberate the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt.
2. God performed great miracles through Moses. God punished Egyptians sending ten plagues. Under the leadership of Moses God saved Israelites from slavery.
3. God gave Moses a helper: God gave Aaron as a helper to Moses.
4. God led Israelites to the land of Canaan.

b. Word question

Encourage children to find the answer.

Answer: Land of Canaan

c. Refer Bible and fill in

Words to fill in:

Hand, sea, dry land, water

d. My decision

Give children a prayer to recite when in difficulties. Point out such occasions in their life.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. Honey and milk

Explain idea in the sentence - The land of Canaan where milk and honey flow. Do point out the happiness that follow problems.

b. God the Saviour

Share an incident when God protected. Ask children also to say.

c. Let us say thanks

It is proper to teach a prayer of thanks giving to God for all the blessings God has given. Let children make a habit of giving thanks for any small thing.

d. More Questions

1. What is the name of the king who tortured Israelites?
2. Name the place where God appeared to Moses in a thorny bush.
3. What is the name of the brother of Moses?
4. What is the name of the sea that Israelites walked through miraculously?

LESSON 7

Commandments – The Ways Of Life

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- God has given us commandments.
- If we obey the commandments, we will be God's own people.
- God's commandments are the pointers in our journey to heaven.

2. Attitude

- We must obey God's commandments.
- We must love God by keeping God's commandments.
- We must try to follow the rules and not disobey.

3. Habit

- I will learn and keep God's commandments.
- I will try to learn the meaning of God's commandments.
- I will obey God's commandments.

II. Teaching Aids

Holy Bible, Card board or chart with 10 commandments written on that, A small bottle with paper slips where numbers 1 to 10 are written.

III. Introduction of the lesson

Arrange a familiar game. Explain rules of the game clearly. Have a discussion after the game. What will happen if

there is no rule in the game? What will happen if the rule is not understood properly? Then we cannot play the game fairly. The game will not be successful. Another Example – What will we do to know the way when we go to any place? Will ask someone. We will observe the boards kept on the way. Thus we will reach the destination through the correct path.

Like this, God gave his people certain instructions to keep and live accordingly. These are the commandments.

Then enter into the lesson.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses at Mount Sinai.
2. If we listen to God's word and keep His covenant, we will be His most beloved people.
3. Ten Commandments can be contained in two commandments. You shall love the Lord your God above all. You shall love your neighbour as yourself.
4. God's commandments are ways of life.

b. Riddle

Answer: Ten Commandments

c. My decision

Before children take the decision to live obeying God's commandments, explain about them. Explain and make the children understand the situation about the commandments which are more appropriate to them.

For example: Honour your father and your mother – should give respect to parents, old people, elders.

You shall not steal – don't take the things of others without permission. Don't makes others things your own. Don't spend extravagantly. Don't be adamant for that.

V. Co-related Activities:

a. Know the rules

Are there rules in school? What are they? Why do we obey them? Where else are there rules? Discuss. They all are made by men. It is necessary to obey them.

God's commandments are made by God.

It is very much necessary to obey them.

b. Let us learn and play

This is a test game. Ask children to sit in a circle as we do for ball passing game. A small bottle, with paper slips on which numbers 1 to 10 are written, is passed among children. The child who has the bottle while clapping, has to take one slip from the bottle and say loudly the God's commandment of that number. The game continues. Conduct this play only after the children learn the commandments.

c. More questions

1. On what did God give the ten commandments to Moses?
2. What should we do to grow in divine life?
3. What does the God's commandments teach us?

LESSON 8

Sin: Violation Of Commandments

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Violation of a commandment is sin.
- Temptations are instigations to violate commandments.
- We can conquer temptation through prayer.

2. Attitude

- We, God's children, must honour the commandments.
- We must be ready to love God and men always.
- We must conquer Satan's instigations.

3. Habit

- I will always hate sin.
- I will love my brethren.
- I will pray to Jesus to give strength when I am instigated to make mistakes.

II. Teaching aids:

Complete Bible, different pictures.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

Satan who tempted Adam and Eve is not sitting idle. God told not to eat the fruit of the tree. Satan told to eat. God told us to obey the commandments. Even today Satan is instigating people to violate commandments.

As an introduction this idea will be suitable. Show pictures depicting violation of commandments and explain

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. Sin is the violation of commandments.
2. The instigation to violate commandments is temptation.
3. Obey God's commandments to live in His love.
4. Pray to Jesus to empower to overcome temptations.

b. God's commandments

Before taking suitable words from the word bag, ask children to say that.

If we obey we will have

Life

Bliss

Satisfaction

Prosperity

Blessing

If we violate we will have

hatred

sorrow

disappointment

destruction

c. My decision

A prayer, asking for blessing to grow as a good child, may be taught. It will help them to implement their decision.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. The story of calf

Exodus 32: 1-6 describes worshipping of calf. Read these verses to children. Make clear the mistake they committed.

b. The power of prayer

Convince about the power of prayer after reading out the verses Luke 22:39-46. Can tell suitable real stories also.

c. Let us say

What are the temptations children have? Let the children tell freely. Discuss about how we can conquer those also.

d. More questions

1. What do commandments show us?
2. Which are the ways to move along in our journey of life towards heaven?
3. Who gives temptations to us?
4. What can be done to conquer temptation?

LESSON 9

Jesus who obeyed the commandments

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Jesus was obedient to his parents.
- Jesus grew up in favour of God and men.
- The members of the Catholic Church should obey the precepts of the church.

2. Attitude

- We must follow the model of Jesus life.
- We must grow up by pleasing everybody.
- We must obey the laws of the church.

3. Habit

- Will always obey.
- Will try to fulfill duties.
- Will act in a pleasing manner to all

II. Teaching aids:

Bible – New testament, Chart written with the verse Luke 2: 52, different childhood pictures of Jesus, great poetry of Christugatha, the book of action song.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

This is the lesson where Jesus is introduced for the first time. Jesus is our centre point. All the lessons so far, were a preface to that in one way.

Jesus as a child, Jesus who obeyed the commandments, Jesus who grew up in everybody's love.... The idea that children should grow making Jesus as their model must be given to the children. Show different pictures of Jesus as a kid. Children love Jesus more than the characters in old testament.

What things did Jesus do at your age? Ask children and have a small discussion.

(Song from Christugatha)

Introduce the lesson after making a thought in the children that they also must grow like Jesus in their childhood.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. Jesus was obedient to His parents.
2. Jesus grew up in a small house in Nazareth.
3. God's commandments and laws of the church are to be obeyed.
4. The feast days of obligation are Dukhrana of St. Thomas, The assumption of our blessed Mother, Christmas.

b. Learn by heart

Ask children to learn the percepts of church by saying repeatedly. Let them learn by heart and say.

c. Write in proper order

At the age of twelve he went to celebrate the feast.

Jesus was found in the temple

In the temple Jesus asked questions

His parents saw Jesus and were surprised

Jesus came to Nazareth and lived in obedience to His parents

d. Let us write

Things that we do

Will help parents

Will go to church and pray

Will go for feast

Will learn catechism

c. My decision

Check that the decision taken is put into practice

V. Co-related Activities:

a. To see always.

Make charts of the precepts of church, Obligatory feast days, Fasting days and display in class. This will help to view and memorize.

b. To enjoy

Explain about Jesus's different stage of life from 'Christugatha' by reciting.

c. More questions

1. Who all lived in the small house in Nazareth?
2. What did Jesus do as per Jewish rule?
3. How did Jesus grow up?
4. How many are the precepts of church?

LESSON 10

Jesus Anointed By The Holy Spirit

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- We are born in a state of sin.
- Through the sacrament of baptism we become the children of God.
- Baptism liberates us from sin and gives us divine life.

2. Attitude

- Let us thank God for liberating us from sin through baptism.
- We received baptism and must live like God's children.
- Let us live as God's children without losing the divine life.

3. Habit

- Let us thank Jesus who made us the children of God
- Will always live without losing the divine life.
- Will learn more about Jesus.

II. Teaching aids:

New testament, Photo of receiving baptism, baptism font, the sacrament of baptism

III. Presentation of the lesson:

Show the photo of a child receiving baptism. Let the children talk about that. They can share their experience of attending baptism.

What is the main point in baptism? Ask children. Jesus also received baptism. When? Where? From whom?

Then introduce the lesson.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. At the Synagogue of Nazareth Jesus read from the book of prophet Isaiah
2. The sacrament of baptism lifts us from the state of sin and make us God's children.
3. Baptism liberates us from sin and gives us divine life.
4. We receive baptism in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

b. Let us write

Tell the children to write with the help of parents and bring the next day. Check it.

c. Riddle

Answer : Baptism

d. My decision

Discuss and convince the children about things that we must do for not losing the divine life.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. Baptism font.

In all churches, there is baptism font at the back side. They will be in different size and shape. During baptism water is poured on the head of the child who is held above the baptism font. Show the baptism font to the children.

b. Let us see and learn

If possible take all children together to attend the baptism

of a child in church. Children will understand better the things they see.

c. More questions

1. Which is the place where Jesus grew up?
2. When did Jesus start His public life?
3. What do we receive through the Sacrament of Confirmation?
4. What is grace?

LESSON 11

The Disciples Who Receive The Holy Spirit

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Disciples received the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.
- We receive special power and blessing of the Holy Spirit through the sacrament of confirmation.
- Holy Spirit constantly persuades and empowers us to do good.

2. Attitude

- We must remember that the Holy Spirit dwells in us.
- We must be witness to Jesus like disciples.

3. Habit

- By obeying the Holy Spirit, let us do good.
- We will be witness to Jesus in house and school.

II. Teaching aids:

New Testament, Photo of Sacrament of Confirmation, a chart with the song of Holy Spirit

III. Presentation of the lesson:

Sing a song of Holy Spirit with children. Share the meaning of the song with children.

'The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit' – mention about Holy Trinity. This lesson is about Holy Spirit. Lead the children to Pentecost, sacrament of confirmation which are the main points of this lesson.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. The Pentecost reminds us about the Disciples being filled with Holy Spirit while they were praying in Section dining hall after the ascension of Jesus.
2. Holy Spirit came down on the disciples in the form of tongues of fire.
3. The sacrament of confirmation is the sacrament that gives us, who are born again in baptism by the power of the Holy Spirit as children of God, a special power and charism of the Holy Spirit necessary to witness to Jesus and proclaim His Gospel.
4. The Holy Spirit who comes to us through confirmation, dwells in us as an unerasable seal from that moment. Constantly persuading and empowering us to do good.

b. Let us fill in

Answer: tongues, Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages

c. Let us recall and narrate in the name of Holy Spirit

Let the children say about the incident of Pentecost studied in class, from memory. They will say with great zeal if encouraged.

d. My decision

Discuss in detail before taking decision. Ensure that the decision is put into practice.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. Let us say and learn.

Show children the pictures of confirmation. Explain the order of the sacrament. Convince them that they will be receiving the sacrament in future. Explain the importance.

b. Let us sing

Collect songs of Holy Spirit as far as possible. Ask children to collect. Sing some songs in class.

c. More questions

1. What did the disciples do when they were filled with Holy Spirit?
2. What did Jesus say to the disciples about sending of the Holy Spirit?
3. What is Myron?
4. Who administers the Sacrament of Confirmation?

LESSON 12

Sacraments: Streams Of Life-Giving Water

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Jesus gives us the water of life – the divine life.
- Jesus instituted the sacraments to give divine life.
- Through each sacrament God's divine grace flows into us.

2. Attitude

- We must receive the sacraments in a worthy manner.
- We must grow in divine life after receiving the sacraments.

3. Habit

- Let us thank God who instituted the sacraments.
- We will try to understand the meaning of sacraments.
- We will receive sacraments worthily.

II. Teaching aids:

New testament, the song - 'nattucha nerathu kinattinte theerathu', Photos of different sacraments, the song – 'orma vecha naal muthal'.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

Start the class by singing the song – 'nattucha nerathu kinattinte theerathu'. This is a very famous old song. The song is about the conversation between Jesus and a Samaritan woman. Start the lesson after the song.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. Sacraments are the visible signs, instituted by Jesus Christ, signifying and giving the invisible divine life.
2. There are seven sacraments. They are, Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Qurbana, reconciliation, anointing of the sick, holy orders and marriage.
3. The sacraments, which can be received only once are baptism, confirmation and holy orders.
4. We receive God's grace/divine life through sacraments.

b. Say whether right or wrong

1. Right
2. Wrong
3. Right
4. Right
5. Right

c. Write in the proper order

1. Baptism
2. Confirmation
3. Holy Qurbana
4. Reconciliation
5. Anointing of the sick
6. Holy order
7. Matrimony

d. My decision

Give children the necessary instruction and training to

participate devotedly in all sacraments and ceremonies in the church.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. Let us sing and learn.

Write the song –‘Orma vecha naal muthal’ in a chart and sing with children. Based on the song, let the children share their dreams and expectations about receiving holy communion. Tell children about good experiences of Holy Communion.

b. Let us say and listen

Children must have seen the administration of sacraments, anointing of sick, holy order, marriage etc. Let them explain about that which will be a good experience. Necessary correction and addition can be given.

c. More questions

1. In which place is the well where Jesus sat?
2. What does Jesus do through sacraments?
3. How can we divide sacraments in sets? Which are they?
4. Which are the sacraments that can be received frequently?
5. What does divine life make us into?

LESSON 13
Disciples Sent By Jesus

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Disciples are sent by Jesus to proclaim the Good News.
- Pope is the leader of the Catholic Church.
- It is our duty to proclaim Good news of Jesus.

2. Attitude

- We must be obedient to Pope who is the leader of church.
- We must proclaim good news like disciples.

3. Habit

- Must remember always that we are the disciples of Jesus.
- Will pray for blessing of Holy Spirit.
- Will witness to Jesus through our thought, word and deed.

II. Teaching aids:

New testament, Photo of Jesus and disciples, a chart with the names of twelve disciples.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

Show the photo of Jesus and disciples. Let the children say the names of disciples whom they know. Call a child near assuming him to be the disciple. Like this call twelve children and Jesus. Jesus blesses the disciples by keeping the hand on their heads and sends them. All the twelve go to different places of the class.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. The meaning of word Apostle is one who is sent.
2. (Write directly from the lesson).
3. Pope is the successor of Peter.
4. St. Thomas became martyr at Chinnamalai of Mailapur near Chennai.

b. Match the following

3. Jesus raised
4. Jesus purified
2. Jesus healed
5. Jesus drove out
1. Jesus preached

c. Complete the columns

	Working Miracle	
Speech		faith
	Charisms of Holy Spirit	
Prophecy		Wisdom
	Healing	

d. My decision

God has given different talents and gifts to children. Help children to find out this first. Give encouragement to good gifts. Instigate them to use it.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. The command of Jesus.

'Go to the whole world and proclaim the Good News to all

creatures' – write this on a chart and display in class. Explain about this in a way suitable to children.

b. Let us discuss

Discuss about how we can be witness to Jesus through thought, word and deed. Give children a clear picture.

c. More questions

1. What did Jesus entrust his disciples to do?
2. What is the command of God?
3. Who is the leader of the disciples?
4. Name some of the special gifts and talents given by Holy Spirit
5. Why has the Holy Spirit given us different gifts?

LESSON 14
People Led By The Spirit

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- The early Christian Community believed in the Gospel.
- Different gifts are filled in those who receive Holy Spirit.
- These gifts inspire us to do good deeds and not to do wrong things.

2. Attitude

- Let us grow in holiness after receiving gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- Let us lead a life pleasing to God.

3. Habit

- Let us pray daily to receive the gifts of Holy Spirit..
- Let us thank for the gifts of Holy Spirit.
- Will grow in holiness using these gifts.

II. Teaching aids:

New testament, a chart/card written with gifts of Holy Spirit.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

Read and share content of the verses from Acts of Apostles 2: 37-47. Give a picture of early Christian community through this sharing. What all will Jesus give specially to those who believe in Him? Divert children's attention to gifts of Holy Spirit.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. The Acts of the Apostles in the Bible describes the life of early Christians.
2. The early Christian Community lived in unity praying and praising God. They were praised by all. All of them lived and proclaimed Gospel courageously.
3. The gifts of the Holy Spirit help us to grow in holiness, to walk the path of the Gospel and to proclaim the Gospel.
4. The gifts of Holy Spirit are Wisdom, Understanding, counsel, knowledge, fortitude, piety and fear of God.

b. Riddle:

Answer: Church

c. Picture Word – sun

Fill the picture of the sun with gifts of Holy Spirit from the lesson.

d. My decision

Holy Spirit gives us the gifts and charisms for our holiness and to do good to others. Let the children decide to attain holiness by doing good to others. Encourage them for that.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. Let us write and learn

Write the gifts of Holy spirit in cards and display in different places in class. Let the children learn them by heart.

b. Let us play

This is a test game. Let the children stand. The gifts of Holy Spirit and other words are to be called out by mixing.

For example: Wisdom, understanding, courage, knowledge, Mercy, Piety, Truth, Fear of God, Love..... Let the

children raise their hands when name of gifts are called out. If other words, let them lower the hands. Let those who make mistakes us. Let the game continue like this. This game can be played only after the children learn the gifts by heart.

c. More questions

1. Who were the early Christians?
2. Which is the gift that gives us courage?
3. Which is the gift that enables us to discern good and evil?
4. Name two gifts that enable us to lead a life pleasing to God?

LESSON 15

People Who Gave Witness By The Power Of The Holy Spirit

I. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- The saints and martyrs are people who bore witness to faith.
- Saints were filled with the fruits of Holy Spirit.
- We will be heirs to heaven if we follow the model of saints.

2. Attitude

- I will be proud to lead a life of holiness.
- Will try to grow in the fruits of Holy Spirit.

3. Habit

- Will pray daily to guardian angel.
- Will learn about my patron saint whose name I have taken.
- Will live by following the same path as my patron saint.

II. Teaching aids:

New testament, a book named ' anudinavishudhar', pictures of few saints, chart paper.

III. Presentation of the lesson:

Let the children say the names of saints they know. Enquire whether any children are named after them. Let the teacher introduce his/her patron saint. Show the picture also. Show the picture of St. Thomas, the apostle. Then introduce generally about saints.

The main point of this lesson is the fruits of Holy Spirit. Introduce these properly.

IV. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Let us find out the answers

1. Persons who have given up their lives for the faith are called martyrs.
2. The first martyr is St. Stephen.
3. The five saints are St. Augustine, St. Antony, St. Francis of Assisi, St. Francis Xavier and St. Alphonsamma(write names of any five saints)
4. Guardian angels are our friends whom God has given us to help us to grow in goodness.

b. Who am I?

Answer: Saint

c. Let us write

Ask the children to come, after finding out from their parents the name of their patron saint and feast day of that saint.

Let the children try to write with the help of their parents the names of 'Blessed' from India. Some names are given below.

Saint Elias Kuriakose Chavra

Saint Mother Teresa of Culcutta

Saint Alphonsamma

Saint Euphrasia

Blessed Thevarparumbil Kunjachan

Blessed Devasahayam Pillai

Blessed Rani Maria

Blessed Mariam Thresia

d. My decision

The children, who complete the faith formation of standard – 3, should reach a decision to lead a holy life and putting this decision to practice. The teachers must encourage children in this.

V. Corelated Activities:

a. The tree and fruit

Learnt about the fruits of Holy Spirit. Display them in pictures in the class. Draw the picture of a tree in a chart paper and draw twelve fruits. Write in each the name of the fruits of Holy Spirit.

b. Let us make friend

Let the children know that guardian angel is there as a friend. Train the children to call guardian angel when needed. Teach them a small prayer to guardian angel. It is good to sing songs of guardian angel in the class.

c. To know closely

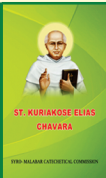
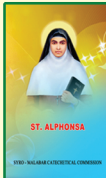
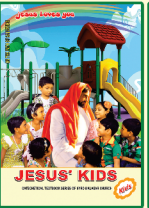
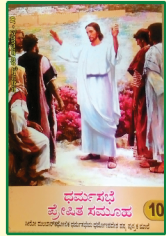
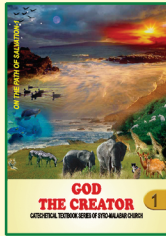
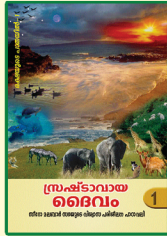
Give different works to children to know the saints closely. Introduce children's friends St. Dominic Savio and St. Maria Goreti in a way suitable to children's standard. Introduce popular saints from Kerala.

In many occasions, give children small pictures of saints as prize. It will influence them.

d. More questions

1. Which are the places where St. Thomas established churches?
2. Write the names of five martyrs.
3. What is the wish of Jesus?
4. How does the guardian angel help us?

Syro-Malabar Catechetical Centre Provides



ON THE PATH OF SALVATION 3

Published by
THE SYNODAL COMMISSION FOR CATECHESIS
SYRO-MALABAR CATECHETICAL CENTRE
 Mount St. Thomas, Kakkanad, Kochi-682 030