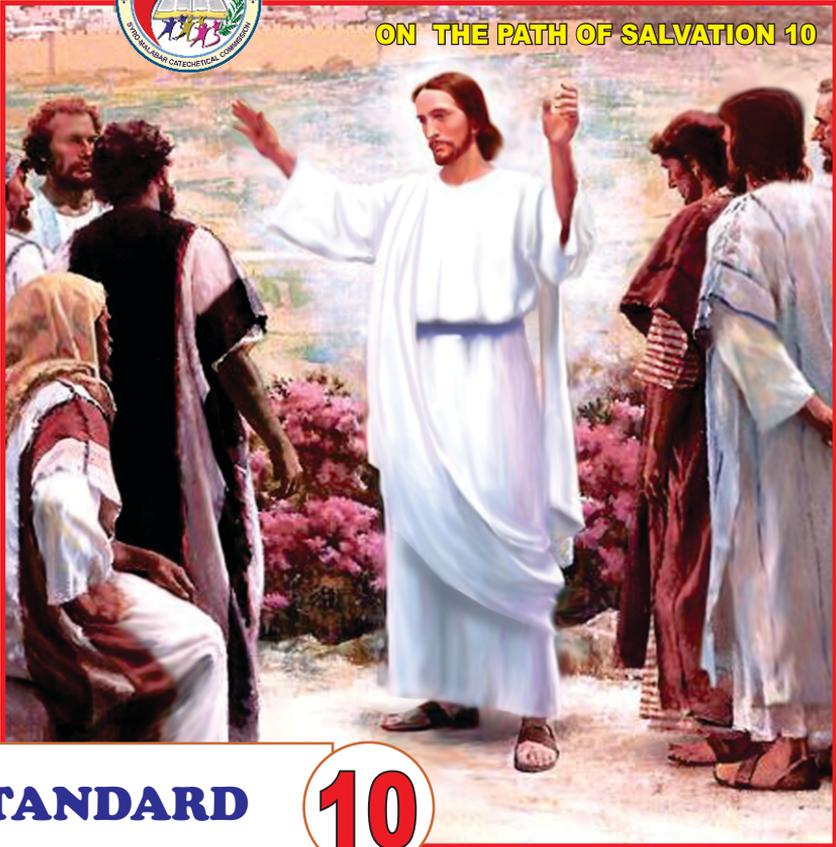


CATECHETICAL TEXT BOOK SERIES OF THE SYRO-MALABAR CHURCH

CHURCH: THE MISSIONARY COMMUNITY



ON THE PATH OF SALVATION 10



STANDARD

10

TEACHER'S HANDBOOK

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

ON THE PATH OF SALVATION-10

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Text prepared by:

Fr. Jose Puthiyedath

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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 tenth standard students sitting before you, the above-mentioned points have to be taken very seriously.

It is also important to bear in mind that 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 the 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 them jot down.
- To tell stories
- To sing a song
- To ask a question

- To give answers
- To share 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.

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 as 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 in these subjects 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 will 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 other possible quarters as well.

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 an activity given to the children from the text or from the 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. These can be done considering situations and the interest of a teacher.

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. A Special format is adopted for this purpose. It is as follows:

1. What children should understand

what a child is expected to grasp Through a lesson is mentioned here. These are categorized into three and presented. A teacher thus gains clarity as to what the children should grasp 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 the 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. This is also a teaching tool.

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 the class will become 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. 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.
4. 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 that week.
5. 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 like 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.

Three more points to remember:

1. Teachers' handbook has to be read carefully and completely. Analysis of each lesson has to be comprehended clearly.

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 which activities are to be done in class by the children and so on.
3. It would be a good practice to write the lesson plan in a note book so that the 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

Church: Missionary by Nature

I. Introduction

The church is missionary by nature. Proclamation of the Gospel is the most important responsibility that the risen Lord has entrusted to His disciples. Everyone who becomes a member of the church through Baptism takes up this missionary task. The class should be conducted in such a manner as to explain this fact.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- Jesus who has been sent by the Father is the first missionary
- The church has been sent by Jesus Christ.
- The most important mission of the church is preaching the word of God.
- It is the Holy Spirit who prepares us to receive the Good News.
- Since the church has received the missionary task from Jesus and co-operates with His plan of salvation, the church could be considered as the sacrament of universal salvation.
- Preach the Gospel to all the peoples; Baptise them; Teach them to follow what He has commanded and witness His love: These were the missions that Jesus gave to the church through His disciples.
- Since the church is missionary by nature, all its members are also missionaries.

2. Attitude

- Conviction about one's missionary responsibility.

- Will to share the Word of God with others.

3. Habit

- Will speak about Jesus to others.
- Will pray for the success of missionary activities.

III. Teaching Aids:

Video of Jesus entrusting the salvific mission to His disciples.

A chart showing that the missionary task of the church is the continuation of the mission that God the Father has set about.

The Bible

The documents of the Vatican Council

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

The class begins with the video show of Jesus entrusting the mission of proclaiming the Gospel to His disciples. With the help of the chart explain the mission of every person in the Holy Trinity. Also explain the basic mission of the church.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

a. Read and meditate on the word of God:

Read a Bible verse meditatively and imbibe its message

b. Memorise a verse:

Memorise a verse and note down the same in a diary.

c. Let us pray:

All pray together and resolve to make the same prayer every day of the week.

d. My Resolution:

After reading silently speak out the resolution aloud.

e. Think with the church:

The Second Vatican Council was an epoch making event that heralded a reformation in the history of the church. Enlightened by the Holy Spirit, the fathers of the churches who participated in the council spent their time in prayers, studies and discussions. The official teachings and exhortations thus formulated in the council are the 'Documents of the Second Vatican Council'. This has been included in the lesson with a view to familiarising the students with the authentic and authoritative information about the church and its teachings. Therefore, as far as possible, the relevant portions should be read directly from the Decree.

f. Answers

1. Page 9, 10
2. Page 10, 11
3. Page 13
4. Page 13
5. Page 13, 14

VI. Correlated Activities:

Make a chart showing the missionary activities that the church is presently engaged in.

LESSON 2

Evangelisation - The basic duty of the Church

I. Introduction

The church has been formed by preaching the Good News and the basic mission of the church is preaching the Gospel. The topic of preaching is the Kingdom of God. This lesson is intended to create an awareness among the students about their evangelical responsibility through the introduction of the Apostles and Saints of the church who proclaimed the Gospel by witnessing their own life and action.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- It is by proclaiming the Kingdom of God that Jesus begins His mission.
- As a result of the preaching of the Apostles that the church communities were formed at different places.
- Preaching the word of God is the main mission of the church.
- The church fulfils this mission by preaching the Word of God to its own members and to others.
- Proclaiming the Gospel by living a model Christian life is more effective than preaching.
- Every member of the Church has the responsibility to preach the Gospel.

2. Attitude

- Awareness about one's mission of preaching the Gospel
- Desire to live one's life as a witness to the Gospel.

3. Habit

- Will share the Word of God with the others whenever possible.

- Will pray for the effectiveness of proclaiming the gospel.

III. Teaching Aids:

A Chart with the names of different communities of the church and the apostles who preached there.

Pictures of St. Alphonsa, St. Chavara Elias, St. Euphrasia, St. Mother Theresa etc.

The Bible

The documents of the Second Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

The class begins by reading and discussing the Bible passage that narrates the event of Jesus beginning His proclamation of the Word of God. With the help of the chart, explain what the apostles did in different parts of the world after receiving instruction from Jesus. Show the picture of saints and discuss their style of preaching. Elucidate the solemn responsibility of proclaiming the Gospel that has been entrusted to every member of the church.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

Do as state in Lesson 1

a. My Resolution:

After reading silently speak out the resolution aloud.

Share how far last week's resolution was implemented.

b. Answers

1. Page 16, 17
2. Page 18
3. Page 18, 19
4. Page 19, 20
5. Page 21

VI. Correlated Activities:

Locate the Bible Verses that explain the apostolic mission of the church and write them down.

LESSON 3

The Missionary Spirit of the Early Church

I. Introduction

The aim of this lesson is to stimulate an awareness about the lifestyle and the evangelical fervour that was prevalent in the early church.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- The early church had keen interest in listening to the Word of God.
- Having developed a oneness through listening to the Word of God, they started sharing everything with one another.
- Their life based on the Gospel attracted many towards Christianity.
- Their's was a community with the power-centre of Breaking the Bread.
- In order to sanctify a day they prayed at different hours.
- Even when they got scattered in the name of faith, they travelled through many continents by proclaiming the Gospel.

2. Attitude

- Remains firmly united with the solidarity of the church.
- Live strictly according to the Gospel.

3. Habit

- Will maintain the spirit of togetherness everywhere.
- Will help others in their need.

III. Teaching Aids:

A chart of verses that explain the zeal of the early church.

The Bible

The documents of the Second Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class by reading the verse - (Acts 2:37-39) as stated in the lesson. Also locate and read other verses from the Acts of the Apostles which point to the lifestyle of the early church. Note down the peculiarities that become evident from such verses. Emphasise the responsibility of all the members of the church to grow like the early Christians who lived in togetherness and grew in strength by breaking of the Bread and by listening to, living and proclaiming the Word of God.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in Lesson 1 and 2.

Answers

1. Page 23
2. Page 24
3. Page 25
4. Page 26
5. Page 26

VI. Correlated Activities:

Locate and write down a few verses from the Epistles that illustrate the fervour of the early Christians.

LESSON 4

Heroic Witnesses of Faith

I. Introduction

This lesson aims at preparing the students to imbibe the zeal and motivation from the biographies of the martyrs who gave their life for faith

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- The persecution of Christians on account of their faith started right from the time of King Herod
- However, the Apostles and their followers who were filled with the Holy Spirit bravely affirmed their Faith in Jesus and gave up their life.
- The Jews were vexed as many people left Judaism and embraced Christianity. Even the rulers were embittered when the Christians refused to recognise the king as God. This led to the persecution of Christians.
- All the Roman Kings from Nero to Diocletian were known for their most cruel torture of the Christians. As such the Church got so many martyrs during this period (AD 37 to 313) In the Eastern Church also this era bore witness to several martyrs.
- It was with the Milan Declaration of AD 313 that the church got freedom in the Roman Empire.
- St. Thomas Moore (1478-1535), St. Maximilian colbe (1894-1941) etc. were martyrs of more recent times. St. John de Britto (1647-1693), Devasahayam Pillai (1712-1752) etc. are Christian martyrs from India.
- Religious persecutions strengthened the Church, rather than weaken it.

2. Attitude

- Pride in being a Christian
- Admiration and love for those who embraced martyrdom in the church.

3. Habit

- Will face all obstacles to protect faith.
- Will go through the biography of Martyrs.

III. Teaching Aids:

Pictures showing the torture that early Christians faced, Biography of martyrs, C.D. on them, The Bible, The Documents of the Second Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class either by showing a C.D. or by reading from their biography. Discuss about the persecution that the church faced right from the time of the Apostles. Present a skit or a story narration on the martyrs who welcomed death for enjoying eternal bliss rather than the earthly benefits of disowning their faith.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in lesson 1 and 2

Answers

1. Page 30
2. Page 31
3. Page 31-33
4. Page 33
5. Page 35

VI. Correlated Activities:

Read the biography of a martyr and prepare a note of congratulation.

LESSON 5

Defenders of True Faith

I. Introduction

This lesson aims at enabling the children to know about the guardians of faith who laboured for teaching the faith of the Church and for correcting the wrong teachings and thus to develop respect and love towards them.

II. What children should understand:

1. Conviction

- The sources of true faith are the scriptures and the traditions.
- The church has the authority and right for interpreting and teaching the same.
- But there was heretical teaching against the teachings of the church from the beginning itself.
- 'Apologists' are those who wrote and worked for defending faith against the accusations and threats that came up against Christianity in the 2nd century.
- The saints who lived in the first seven centuries and were officially recognized by the church and who gave authentic teachings to the church are the 'Fathers of the Church'.
- Their fidelity to the true faith as well as their care for sharing the same with the succeeding generations is worth imitating.

2. Attitude

- Desire and interest in remaining firmly in Christian faith.
- Respect and love towards the Fathers of the Church and the Apologists.

3. Habit

- Will learn about true faith.
- Will read verses from the Fathers of the Church.

III. Teaching Aids:

Picture of the Fathers of the Church and the Apologists, Biographies, The Bible, Documents of the Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class with a discussion on the fallacious teachings that the church is encountering today. Explain to the students that this phenomenon has been prevalent in the church from the early days explain how the faithful was able to withstand the same bravely.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in Lesson 1 and 2

Answers

1. Page 38
2. Page 39
3. Page 40
4. Page 41, 42
5. Page 41

VI. Correlated Activities:

Hold a discussion about the wrong teaching that the Pentacost groups are spreading against the teachings of the church and draft a counter view.

LESSON 6

Persons Who Lived According to the Word of God

I. Introduction

By introducing Mother Mary and other saints who achieved perfection by living as per the Word of God, this lesson aims at empowering and motivating the children to live like them

II. What children should understand

1. Conviction

- Mother Mary is the person who received the Word of God and lived in its fullness.
- The Apostles became Saints by forming ecclesial communities through the proclamation of the Word of God and by giving up their life for witnessing the Gospel.
- We have a great number of faithful Christians who received the Word of God and became Saints by being witness to the Gospel.
- The Bishops and Priests, like shepherds, are ordained to bring up the faithful in holiness by administering sacraments and by preaching the Word of God.
- The religious are those who have vowed to observe in a special way the evangelical counsels such as Obedience, Chastity and Poverty.
- The lay missionaries have been called to offer spiritual sacrifices and bear witness to Christ through their activities.

2. Attitude

- The awareness that one is obliged to bear witness to the Word of God.
- The desire to make full use of the opportunities for proclaiming the Word of God.

3. Habit

- Will carefully utilize the opportunities for sharing and bearing witness to the Word of God.
- Will participate in the charitable activities of the church which itself is a powerful way of being witness to the word of God.

III. Teaching Aids:

Pictures of preachings and charitable activities done by the Pope, the Bishops, the Priests, the religious and the lay people

- News paper cuttings
- Biography of Saints
- The Bible
- The documents of the Vatican Council

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class with a discussion on the paper news on the charitable activities done by the Priests or the Religious or the lay people. Let the children enact the scenes of obstacles faced by Mother Mary and other saints in order to live in accordance with the Word of God. Showing pictures or arranging visits would create awareness among the students about the charitable activities that the church engages in

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in lessons 1 and 2

Answers

1. Page 45
2. Page 45
3. Page 46, 47
4. Page 48
5. Page 49

VI. Correlated Activities:

Narrate or write down about any obstacle that you have encountered for the sake of living as per the Word of God.

LESSON 7

Means for Missionary Activities

I. Introduction

The basic and model of all the evangelization work of the church is the Apostolicity of Jesus. It is through prayer, preaching, service and suffering that the church carries out its apostolic mission. This lesson aims at helping the students to acquire the essential spirituality by introducing those who became saints through these four ways.

II. What children should understand

1. Conviction

- The objective of all apostolic missions of the church is to establish the Kingdom of God to the ends of the earth.
- It is mainly through prayer, proclamation service and suffering that the church carries out its apostolic mission.
- There are many who became saints in the church through each of these ways.
- St. Theresa and St. Euphrasia are known as the Apostles of prayer, St. Chavara Elias and Bl. Thevarparambil Kunjachan, as the Apostles of Proclamation, St. Mother Theresa as the Apostle of service and St. Alphonsa and Bl. Mariam Thresia as the Apostles of suffering.

2. Attitude

- Desire to participate in the works of evangelization.
- Awareness that there are many ways of evangelization.

3. Habit

- Will participate in evangelization mission by means of

any one of the four ways as found suitable.

III. Teaching Aids:

Pictures of saints, their biographies, the Holy Bible, the documents of the Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Show the pictures of saints and discuss the areas in which they are most known. According to the discussions, group the saints into categories. Explain that evangelization work can be of many different types and all these ways are suitable for leading a saintly life. Show pictures or arrange visits to mission centres in order to create awareness about the charitable activities that the church is engaged in.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in lessons 1 and 2

Answers

1. Means of prayer, proclamation, service and suffering
2. Page 52
3. page 56
4. Page 54, 55
5. Page 53, 54

VI. Correlated Activities:

Collect the names of those who became saints in each of the four ways.

LESSON 8

Church and Charitable Works

I. Introduction

This lesson aims at motivating the students to learn about the various charitable activities of the church and to cooperate with them in all possible ways.

II. What children should understand

1. Conviction

- Jesus is the model of all charitable activities of the church.
- It is faith that has been energised through love that is manifested in such charitable activities.
- The church helps the destitutes, the sick, the disabled, the mentally challenged, the exploited, the AIDS patients and all those who are neglected and suffer in the society.
- We can participate in the charitable activities of our church with prayers, with our small contributions from our sacrifices and by visiting orphanages and such other institutions.

2. Attitude

- Concern for those who are rejected from society.
- Willingness to help them in some way or the other.

3. Habit

- Will specially care for those who are downtrodden in the society.
- Will take the initiative in helping them

III. Teaching Aids:

A chart showing the charitable activities of the church, news paper cutting about the suffering people, the Holy Bible, the documents of the Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class with a discussion on news paper report about the people who suffer in one way or the other. Explain the different ways of charitable work done by the church. Show pictures institutions or mission centres so that the students would get a clear awareness about the work of charity that the church is engaged in.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in lessons 1 and 2

Answers

1. Page 60
2. Page 62
3. Page 61
4. Page 62
5. Page 62

VI. Correlated Activities:

Visit a charitable institution run by our church. Find out how the inmates could be helped and act accordingly.

New Orientation of the Apostolic Activities

I. Introduction

The church which is the continuation of Jesus and messenger of His Mission, toils with a view to realise the integral development of human beings. She is the conscience of the modern age. This lesson aims at helping the students to understand what the church is doing in this direction and to cooperate with the church in such activities.

II. What children should understand

1. Conviction

- The church is continuation of Jesus and messenger of His Mission.
- The church works for the integral development of human beings.
- There are many means that the church has adopted for this purpose.
- The church gives special emphasis on Education, Media, Evangelization, Politics, Cultural and Literary fields, Environment Protection, Crusades against Social Evils etc.

2. Attitude

- Pride in the Mission of the Church.
- Willingness to cooperate with such missions in many possible ways.

3. Habit

- Will observe how the church is reacting to the evils in the world.
- Will take decisions in similar lines and act accordingly.

III. Teaching Aids:

Pictures of modern media like computer and TV, CD of Christian Art and Literature, The Bible, The Documents of the Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class with a discussion on taking up mission work using different media. Present a message from the Bible through any art form. Also discuss about the effectiveness of the same.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in lessons 1 and 2

Answers

1. Page 66
2. Page 66
3. Page 66, 67
4. Page 67, 68
5. Page 68, 69

VI. Correlated Activities:

Prepare a chart showing the different areas of missionary activities of the church.

LESSON 10

Syro - Malabar Church and Apostolic Missionary Activities

I. Introduction

This lesson aims at explaining to the students the missionary character of St. Thomas Christians who received faith directly from the disciple so that they would be inspired to participate in missionary activities.

II. What children should understand

1. Conviction

- As a result of the Gospel preachings of St. Thomas, Christian Church was formed in Kerala and it grew in strength under the name 'Mar Thoma Nazranies'.
- Mar Thomas Nazranies were missionaries by way of their life rooted in faith.
- On 21st December 1923 Pope Pius XI established the Syro-Malabar Hierarchy.
- Subsequently a large number of Syro-Malabar Diocese and Arch Dioceses came into existence.

2. Attitude

- Pride in the Phenomenal growth of Syro-Malabar Church.
- Willingness to help the Mission Centres through prayer and by donations.

3. Habit

- Will pray for the Syro-Malabar Church everyday.
- Will help the missionary activities.

III. Teaching Aids:

A map in which the Syro-Malabar Diocese have been marked, the Holy Bible, the documents of the Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class by discussing the missionary zeal of St. Thomas. Also based on the text book, discuss about the various religions that India had in the 1st century A.D. and the position St. Thomas Christians had among them. Let a missionary priest or some members of Syro-Malabar church working abroad share their faith experience.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in lessons 1 and 2

Answers

1. Page 73, 74
2. Page 75
3. Page 75
4. Page 76
5. Page 76, 77

VI. Correlated Activities:

Make a chart of Syro-Malabar Diocese and the Bishops heading them.

LESSON 11

Mission Through Family Life

I. Introduction

This lesson aims at explaining to the students that family is an institution established by God. It also explains that the spirit of evangelization can be kept up in a family.

II. What children should understand

1. Conviction

- Family is established by God.
- Family should be transformed into a temple of God by means of the mutual love of all members and also by praying together.
- All members of the family should study the Word of God together.
- It is the duty of the parents to preach the Gospel to the children for the first time and proclaim faith to them.
- The important means of missionary activities of the family are:
 - a. Married life based on love.
 - b. Christian formation of children.
 - c. Participation in sacraments and prayer.
 - d. Life witness.
 - e. Charitable acts etc.

2. Attitude

- Interest in Family Prayer and in reading the Word of God.
- Desire that one's family should become a model family.

3. Habit

- Will lead the family prayer and Bible reading.
- Will respect family relations.

III. Teaching Aids:

News paper reports on families engaged in evangelisation. The Bible, The documents of the Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class with a discussion on a news paper report about a family engaged in some unusual evangelization work. Also bring up topics like family Prayer, Bible reading, mutual love, Care and consideration etc. for discussion.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in lesson 1 and 2

Answers

1. Page 81
2. Page 80, 81
3. Page 81, 82
4. Page 82
5. Page 82, 83

VI. Correlated Activities:

Discuss and write down what type of missionary work could be done by families.

LESSON 12

Apostolate through Priestly Life

I. Introduction

This lesson should help the students to understand the status and duties of Priesthood and develop respect towards Priesthood.

II. What children should understand

1. Conviction

- The greatest missionary activity of priestly life is to sacrifice one's own life just as Jesus did.
- It is to the Bishops that Jesus has given the fullness of priesthood through the apostles.
- The most important mission of ministerial priesthood is preaching the Word of God.
- Priests continue their sanctification ministry through the administration of sacraments and by proclamation of the Word of God.
- Priests are shepherds leading others to Christian communion.

2. Attitude

- Interest and love towards priests.
- Interest in helping the Priests in their services.

3. Habit

- Will maintain friendship and love towards the Priests.
- Will pray for the Priests.

III. Teaching Aids:

Pictures of pastoral services, the Holy Bible, the documents of the Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class with a discussion on the services of the priests. Explain with the help of the pictures, the different aspects of priestly ministry.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated lessons 1 and 2.

Answers

1. Page 86
2. Page 86
3. Page 87
4. Page 88, 89
5. Page 89, 90

VI. Correlated Activities:

Prepare a note on the priestly ministry.

LESSON 13

Mission Through Religious Life

I. Introduction

This lesson should help the students to understand the importance and duties of the Religious Life in the church and develop respect in them towards the Religious.

II. What children should understand

1. Conviction

- Religious are those who are called to respond to God through a complete and fruitful life in Christ.
- Religious life in christianity had taken root in AD 3rd century. However, in India it began in 1831 with the institution of the religious congregation known as 'Amalolbhava Das Sangham'. Today this congregation is known as Carmelites of Mary Immaculate (CMI).
- On the basis of the evangelical counsels, the religious live the three vows of obedience, chastity and poverty.
- The religious make their dedication meaningful by prayer, participation in parish activities, catechism, family visits, social service, missionary activities and such other services.

2. Attitude

- Encourage religious vocation.
- Treats the religious respectfully.

3. Habit

- Will maintain friendship and love for the religious.
- Will pray for the religious.

III. Teaching Aids:

A CD or photograph of the religious taking their vows, paper cuttings on services rendered by the religious, the Holy Bible, the documents of the Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class either by showing the CD/photo of the religious taking vow or by discussing the services rendered by them. Use pictures to explain to the students the various types of activities that the religious are engaged in.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in lessons 1 and 2

Answers

1. Page 93
2. Page 94, 95
3. Page 96
4. Page 97
5. Page 97, 98

VI. Correlated Activities:

Make an album with pictures and photographs of the services rendered by the religious. Arrange an interview with the religious on their services in the parish.

LESSON 14
Be Saints, Be Missionaries

I. Introduction

This lesson should be presented in such a way as to make the students aware of the fact that everyone who has received Baptism has been called to become a saint and having identified the means for growing in holiness, one has to live accordingly.

II. What children should understand

1. Conviction

- Just as God is Holy, we who have been chosen as the children of God, are also called to holiness.
- All should grow in holiness which is the fullness of loving God and man.
- The greatest quality of God's holiness is His compassion.
- The first means of attaining holiness is to be with Jesus.
- The measuring rod of one's holiness is Christian love that conquers evil with good.
- The church is our mother who helps us to grow in holiness.
- We attain holiness in daily life by obeying the commandments of God and thus living according to His will.

2. Attitude

- Desire to become Saints.
- Interest in spiritual matters.

3. Habit

- Will lead an ideal life.
- Will find out what others need and help them.

III. Teaching Aids:

Pictures of saints, Verse cards, the Holy Bible, the documents of the Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class with a discussion on the passage from the Bible about the angel of the Lord appearing to Moses in the midst of the burning bush. Then show the pictures of saints and discuss the peculiarities found in each of them. Explain that it is those who live according to God's will that become saints.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in lessons 1 and 2

Answers

1. Page 101
2. Page 101, 102
3. Page 103
4. Page 103, 104
5. Page 104

VI. Correlated Activities:

Make a list of people who live an exemplary life in different walks of life. Also write down the prominent virtues found in them.

LESSON 15

Let us Join Hands of Building up a New Creation

I. Introduction

The majority of world population desires and prayers for a new world filled with peace and joy. This lesson should be presented in such a way as to make the children understand the relevance of Catholic associations in building up this new creation and to motivate them to work actively in such associations.

II. What children should understand

1. Conviction

- Christians have a duty to create a new era by giving Jesus, the prince of peace to the world where there is no peace.
- Christians participate in various such organizational activities right from their childhood so that they get trained in witnessing Jesus to the world.
- Holy childhood, Little flower mission league, CLC, KCSL, KCYM, AKCC, association for Fathers and Mothers, Vincent De Paul, etc. help one grow in Jesus.
- Just like these associations, family units are also helpful for the liveliness and growth of the parish.
- The aim of all those associations and community gatherings is to nourish the church.

2. Attitude

- Interest in working with the Catholic association.
- Cooperation with the family Units.

3. Habit

- Will participate in the activities of various associations actively.
- Will participate in the meetings of family Units and encourage others to do so.

III. Teaching Aids:

Pictures of the activities of the Parish associations, verse Cards, the Holy Bible, the documents of the Vatican Council.

IV. Presentation of the lesson:

Begin the class with a discussion on the various associations in the church and their benefits. Arrange an interview with the leaders of family Units and find out what more could be done for the fulfilment of their objectives. Explain the need of participating in different associations according to one's age.

V. Activities related to the lesson:

As stated in Lesson 1 and 2

Answers

1. Page 108
2. Page 108
3. Page 109, 110
4. Page 111
5. Page 112, 113

VI. Correlated Activities:

Make an album of the pictures of the activities of the associations in your parish.

Syro-Malabar Catechetical Centre Provides



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