



FAMILIES FORMING DISCIPLES

A FAMILY-FOCUSED APPROACH TO FAITH FORMATION

LIFE OF CHRIST: THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

TOPIC: THE FINDING IN THE TEMPLE & PREPARING FOR ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS DAYS

GOALS

- Families will prepare for All Saints Day by sharing about their favorite saints.
- Families will prepare for All Souls Day by sharing about the family members for whom they will be praying.
- Families will read the story of the Fifth Joyful Mystery of the Rosary, the Finding in the Temple.
- Families will reflect on and discuss how just like the Holy Family, they also do not always understand one another. They will share about ways they can love each other better.
- Families will pray for their loved ones.

MATERIALS

- Whiteboards, posters or large paper for Bible Pictionary
- Markers
- [Rosary Coloring Book](#) Station: At any time during the lesson, younger children can color the Fourth Joyful Mystery, the Presentation in the Temple, in the Rosary coloring book. ([Option 2](#)) or print from [Ministry to Children](#)
- Chalk or tape for making hopscotch diagram in [Jesus as a Boy Game](#) by Catholic Mom
- Pair of dice (1 pair per family)

OPENING PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ,
We entrust our family to You and ask for Your blessing and protection. We love You Lord Jesus with all our hearts and we ask that You help our family become more like the Holy Family. Help us to be kind, loving, and patient with one another. Give us all the grace we need to become saints and Your faithful disciples. Amen.

ICE BREAKER

Bible Pictionary

Pictionary is a game where players draw an item or a phrase, and everybody else guesses. Each family is a team and the leader sets a timer. Family members take turns drawing and guessing, and the family with the most correct guesses after everyone has a turn wins.

Here is a list of Bible Pictionary phrases for you to draw: Simeon, Anna, Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, Presentation in the Temple, Archangel Gabriel, Elizabeth, Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth, Nativity of Jesus, the Annunciation.

TIP: Sometimes the answer will be close enough, but not exactly what is written in the phrase. The drawer can use their judgment to determine if the guesser had the right idea!



REVIEW MAIN CONCEPT

The Finding in the Temple



FAMILY SHARING

Ask each family to show the photo/picture and tell about the loved one(s) that they will be praying for during All Souls Day which is celebrated on November 2nd.

- Share about who the person is, and why he/she is important to your family.
- Do you know if that special person had a favorite saint? If so, who is it?
- Do you have a favorite saint? Why is the saint your favorite?

CONTENT

Invite: Let's open our bibles to Luke 2:41-52 and read the story of the Fifth Joyful Mystery of the Rosary, *The Finding in the Temple/The Boy Jesus in the Temple*.

Watch:

- [Young Jesus at the Temple](#)
- [Or Jesus at 12](#) (for younger children)

FAMILY CONVERSATION

- How do you think Joseph and Mary felt during the three days when they were searching for Jesus?
- What do you think they were doing during those three days as they were searching?
- Do you think Mary and Joseph fully understood what Jesus meant by leaving their family, spending three days talking to the teachers of the Temple, and then telling his parents that that was what he was supposed to be doing?
- Joseph was a saint, Mary was immaculate and had no stain of sin on her soul, and Jesus was and is God. If the Holy Family had moments when they did not fully understand one another, is it surprising that our families also have moments when we do not understand one another? What can we do to follow their example of how to love one another even when we don't understand?

CONTENT

Play:

- [Jesus as a Boy Game](#) by Catholic Mom (hopscotch)
- Or use the questions below adapted from the Jesus as a Boy Game. (Dice Game) Have each family member take turns rolling a pair of dice and answer the question that correlates with the number they have rolled.
 1. What town was Jesus born in? **Bethlehem**
 2. Jesus was born in a house. True or false? **False**
 3. What town did Jesus grow up in? **Nazareth**
 4. How old was Jesus when Mary and Joseph took him to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover? **Twelve**
 5. What is the Feast of the Passover? **It is a festival reminding them that God had freed his people from slavery in Egypt all those years ago.**
 6. When the festival was over, Mary and Joseph joined the other families going back to Nazareth. Where did they think Jesus was during this time? **They thought Jesus was in the caravan with other family and friends.**
 7. When did Mary and Joseph realize that Jesus was missing? **After they had journeyed for a day (likely when they stopped in the evening to camp for the night and to have a meal).**
 8. Where did Mary and Joseph go when they couldn't find Jesus? **They hurried back to Jerusalem.**
 9. How many days did Mary and Joseph search for Jesus in the city? **3 days.**
 10. Where did they find Jesus? **In the Temple.**
 11. What was Jesus doing? **He was sitting with the Temple teachers, listening to them, and asking and answering questions.**
 12. What did Jesus say to his parents when they found him? **Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?**

CLOSING PRAYER

(Gather everyone around the home altar/prayer space.)

Our loved ones who have died may be in Heaven with God, but since we can't know that for certain, we will pray for them just to be sure they have all the help and love we can give to them. If they are in Heaven, Mary will use the grace from our prayers to help a poor soul in Purgatory who has no one to pray for him/her, because God never wastes anything! Meditating on the Mystery of the Finding of Jesus in the Temple, let us pray a decade of the rosary for our loved ones.

TIP

Create a prayer altar in your gathering space for everyone to gather around when you are praying to model for families how they can pray at home around their own home altars.

REMIND

Remind families about the next meeting date and time.

