



Future-proofing our children

Religious Instruction Class 2

Lesson Title Encounters with Jesus can bring about a change of heart

A Parent's Guide
Sunday School Home Schooling



Dear Parent

Welcome to the “**Encounters with Jesus can bring about a change of heart**” Religious Instruction 2 lesson.

This document provides you with a minimum guide on how to present the lesson.

How to prepare and present the lesson

Below are some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
1.	Access the New Apostolic Church Website by keying-in or clicking on the following link from WhatsApp: https://bit.ly/3NACSSHS
2.	Gather the following tools to ensure that you are ready for the lesson: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Bible● The PDF lesson that is already prepared● Child’s workbook and pencils, crayons, etc.● The Video Clip which is an additional optional resource tool <p>Note:</p> <p>2.1: An ideal time preferably to present the lesson is after the Sunday morning service in line with the normal Sunday School time to maintain the routine.</p> <p>2.2. Please keep the lesson as concise as possible, bearing in mind the retention span (to focus on the lesson) of our children – you know your child best. <i>Sunday School normally does not exceed 45 minutes.</i></p> <p>2.3: The lessons are class specific (i.e. SS, RI or Confirmation).</p> <p>2.4: Please contact your SS teacher if you need any of the above resources.</p>
3.	Pray (see the prayer at the end of this document) and ask God to use you as a tool to present the lesson the way He would want us to present it.



Present a Sunday school Lesson at Home

How to prepare and present the lesson

We continue to share some tips on how to go about preparing and presenting the lesson:

Step	Action
4.	Create a pleasant (disturbance free) learning environment where you and the children are at the same level Example: Sit on the mat or at a table
5.	Read through the lesson. Re-read the lesson so that you understand it. Watch the video clip of the lesson to get a better understanding of the lesson.
6.	Make notes for yourself on important points that you would like to remember.
7.	Understand the objective of the lesson that your child must remember.
8.	Present the lesson to your child by telling the story. You can even read the story if you like.
9.	Show your child the video and recap on the meaning/purpose of the lesson.
10.	Refer your child to the activity in the child's workbook.
11.	Pray, or ask your child to pray and close the lesson.

Available tools in terms of Home Schooling

Herewith some tools to enhance the quality of the lesson:

1. WhatsApp chat the lesson with another Religious Instruction family.
2. Discuss with other parents to obtain clarity regarding the lesson before it is presented.
3. Feel free to conduct your own research for additional information.
4. Your congregation Sunday School Coordinator and Religious Instruction Teacher.



Lesson Title	Encounters with Jesus can bring about a change of heart
Text	Luke 19: 1-10
Lesson Objective	The children find out about the effect of an encounter with Jesus.

Lesson Summary:

- At the time of Jesus, tax collectors collected taxes and duties from everyone who wanted to sell goods inside the city of Jerusalem or Jericho.
- They often overcharged the people and lived off the extra money they collected. This made them **very** rich.
- Tax collectors were dishonest and greedy and they were disliked by the Jews. The Jews regarded them as sinners.
- Zacchaeus, the chief tax collector in Jericho, heard that Jesus was coming through the city and desperately wanted to see Him.
- Jesus was in a large crowd as many wanted to see him.
- Zacchaeus was a very short man and couldn't see over the taller people in front of him.
- He ran ahead and climbed in a sycamore tree, so he could see Jesus when He passed by.
- Read in Luke 19: 1-10 what happened when Jesus came by. The following happened:
 - The meeting with Jesus had a very big and positive effect on Zacchaeus.
 - Zacchaeus realised that he had done wrong to the people.
 - Zacchaeus stood up and told Jesus, "Listen I will give half my belongings to the poor, and if I have cheated anyone, I will pay back four times as much."
- Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house. This man is a Jew also. I have come to seek and save the lost."



What does this lesson teach us?

- We too, have encounters (meetings) with the Lord Jesus.
- Matthew 18 verse 20 states: “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.”
- We encounter the Lord Jesus through word and sacrament in our divine services and during our pastoral care visits.
- During the divine services and pastoral care visits, we too get to know ourselves better, we realise what we have done wrong like Zacchaeus, and have a desire to change in order to please the Lord.
- We must go fix what we have done wrong and be prepared to ask for forgiveness.

Through our encounter with the Lord we receive salvation:

- Our sins are forgiven,
- We receive the strength to overcome through Holy Communion and
- During our pastoral care visit we receive encouragement to turn away from the bad and do good.

What behavioural changes have your encounters with Jesus caused within your life?

Always try to avoid sin, exercise Christian love and live according to God’s will.

Do the exercise with your child.

Answer to Exercise 2: Luke 19: 9

“Today salvation has come to this house.”



Some questions we can ask:

1. Why did the Jews despise the tax collectors?

Answer: Tax collectors were dishonest and greedy. They overcharged the people for taxes and duties. They regarded them as sinners.

2. What was the name of the chief tax collector in Jericho?

Answer: Zacchaeus

3. What was the name of the tree Zacchaeus climbed in to see Jesus?

Answer: A sycamore (fig) tree

4. Why was the people angry when Jesus went to Zacchaeus' home?

Answer: The people did not understand why Jesus went to the house of a sinner.

5. What did Zacchaeus do after he met with Jesus at his home?

Answer: He had a change of heart and said he would give half of his belongings to the poor and to those he cheated he would give back four times what he has taken from them.

A Prayer for Daddy and Mommy to pray before the lesson:

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank You for another day and for Your Love and Kindness.

Please bless my mom and dad and bless our Ministers and all our friends and family.

We pray that we will always treasure You and that we will be obedient to our parents.

Bless us that we may be kind and loving and treat everyone we meet with respect and kindness,

Please bless this Sunday School lesson and thank you for choosing us to be your children.

Help us to remain faithful and obedient to You until You come to take us Home with you.

We ask all of this in your Precious Name. Amen

A prayer after the lesson:

Dear Father in heaven, thank you for keeping us safe and for allowing us to have heard another beautiful Sunday School lesson.

Thank you for protecting us and keeping us safe from all danger.

Please help us to always be obedient to our parents and to be kind to everyone we meet. Please also help us with our schoolwork.

Bless our Chief Apostle, the Apostles and all the ministers. Please keep them safe when they travel so they can teach us more about Your great work, dear Lord.

Please help all your children, especially those who are sick and who have no food or shelter. Please come soon and take us all home.

We ask all of this, not because we deserve it, but in Jesus name. Amen.