

Lesson 5

Sin Hurts Our Relationship with God

I. Objective

- Students will identify that God has given us commandments for how we should live. They will recognize that God loves us and deserves to be obeyed, and that when we break His commandments, we commit sin, which always has bad consequences.

II. Materials

- Adventure Catechism text
- Student religion picture journals
- Drawing paper
- Colored pencils or crayons

III. Procedure

- Open the lesson each day with prayer. You may choose the Come Holy Spirit prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to guide your lesson. Or, if you are learning a particular prayer as a class, this is an excellent time to practice and reinforce that. As the school year progresses, you may consider asking students to lead the prayer.
- Be sure to close each day in prayer, as well, and encourage students to share with their families what they are learning.

A. Day One

- Introduce students to the Big Ideas for this chapter (the In Brief section of the chapter preview). Write the chapter's vocabulary words on the board.
- Read the chapter in the text as a class. Stop frequently to answer student questions, and to check for comprehension. Highlight the vocabulary words when you read them, and be sure that students understand them.
- As you close in prayer today, begin by reading about this week's Saint, St. Mary Magdalene, and discuss how her life relates to the topic of the lesson.

B. Day Two

- Begin by reviewing the Big Ideas from yesterday's lesson. Allow students to share what they remember, and ask any questions they may have thought of.
- Break the students into pairs or small groups. Instruct them that they are going to write some rules, some commandments, for the class. Encourage them to develop three rules, and to be ready to share those rules with the class and explain why they are important.
- Once the students have finished creating their rules, allow each group to share its three rules, and why those rules are important. Next, ask the students to consider who has the authority and competence to make rules that we should follow. They should think about rules at school, in their community, and at home. Discuss them. Ask them to consider why we should obey those rules and what happens when we don't.
- Finally, help them recognize that God is perfectly wise and perfectly loving, and He is our Father. He makes the best possible rules, and most deserves to be obeyed. Discuss with students some of the rules and commandments they know, that God has made.

C. Day Three

- Today, write the "Question to consider" from the chapter on the board. Let students know that they should keep this question in mind as they re-read the chapter, and you will be discussing it later in the class.
- Guided Reading – Divide students into partners or small groups, and have them re-read the chapter. This would be a wonderful activity to invite parent volunteers to help with, to read with the students and facilitate small group discussions.
- When they finish reading, the students should discuss the "Question to consider" in their groups, and each student should write a short answer to the question on a slip of paper or note card, which you may choose to use as an exit ticket for the class.
- After students have had a chance to discuss in their small groups, invite students to share their ideas, and a facilitate a large-group discussion about the question.

D. Day Four

- Today students will work in their religion picture journals. Begin the lesson, after prayer, by reviewing the Big Ideas, vocabulary, and "Question to consider." Then, as a class, create a one or two-sentence summary of the chapter. Write it on the board.
- Students should now draw a picture in their religion journals representing the chapter, using the class's summary as a caption.

E. Day Five

- Students should complete the chapter review page at the end of the chapter.
- When students have completed the chapter review, correct it as a class. Be sure to check for any questions students may still have.

- Students should choose one of God's rules that you have discussed this week, and make a drawing of it. They can draw someone obeying that rule, or someone breaking it. If there is time, they can follow up with a second scene of the consequence – the good consequence of the person obeying God, or the bad consequence of the person disobeying Him. Encourage them to take it home and share them with their families, explaining what they learned in class this week.
- Consider putting some of them up in the classroom as a visual reminder of this lesson's theme, or encourage students to take them home and share them with their families, explaining what they learned this week.