Grade 2 Safe Environment Lesson Plan

Grade 2 Theological Concept – Commandments and Sacraments

Objective: The student will understand what an appropriate touch is, be able to identify trusted adults and what boundaries they have with personal touch.

Resources and Connections: Copy of 10 Commandments; Scripture – Matthew 2:1-23. This could be taught during sacrament preparation or when presenting the Commandments.

Vocabulary List *(see Religion Curriculum or textbook)*

1. Sacrament
2. Grace
3. Commandment

Estimated time: 40 minutes

INTRODUCTION/LESSON:

***ASK*:**

1. Has anyone ever told you a secret?
2. Did they ask you not to tell anyone? Did you?

Sometimes when someone tells you a secret, it is okay to tell someone else about it if you think you or someone else might get hurt.

I am going to read you a story that took place right after Jesus was born. In this story, there are two secrets. I want you to listen and see if you can tell me if they are good secrets or bad secrets.

READ:

Matthew 2:1-23. Ask students to identify the two secrets in the story.

1. *Herod tells the astrologers (wise men) a secret to tell him where Jesus is so that he can pay him a visit but really he wants to have him killed. (bad secret)*
2. *The astrologers receive a secret in a dream to return to their country another way so that they didn't have to tell Herod where Jesus was. (good secret)*

King Herod was a man of authority. He was powerful and most of the time we should obey those who are in authority.

ASK AND DISCUSS:

1. Who are the people who are in charge in your life? *(Parents, teachers, grandparents, aunts, uncles)*
2. When we obey these people of authority, we are following one of God's commandments. Which one? *(Fourth- Honor they mother and father)*

Sometimes those people that have authority over us may make us feel uncomfortable or say and do things that make us feel confused.

God tells us that we must obey and respect those in authority, BUT they also must care for you and be respectful of you.

3. ***** <u>What are some ways that these people who love and care for us can show you that they love you?</u> *(hugs, kisses, a pat on the back, maybe a gift)*

4. ***** <u>What can we do if someone we know touches us in a way that makes us feel uncomfortable?</u> *(For instance, if an uncle hugs you and it makes you feel uncomfortable or a coach kisses you on the cheek)* These actions seem odd and make you feel strange.

You should tell a trusted adult if this happens. When the wise men realized that Herod had other plans, God led Jesus and them out of danger. The 5th and 7th commandments instruct us to not kill or steal. No one should take something from you or harm you in any way. If they do you should tell someone.

5. <u>What if this person tells us to keep it a secret and they keep doing it?</u> *Tell someone anyway. Keep telling someone and don't go with that person.*

You are making your preparations for two very special sacraments this year. The sacrament of Reconciliation gives us the love and forgiveness of our Lord. Reconciliation gives us the opportunity to ask for forgiveness and to make peace with Jesus and each other. If someone hurts you in any way, talk to Jesus about it or your priest. They will help give you the courage to face any fear you may have. Then when you receive the Holy Eucharist – Jesus, you will receive grace and strength to live a holy life.

ACTIVITY: Have students complete the answers to the questions below by themselves or in small groups to check for understanding.

CONCLUSION:
Remember we always have our guardian angels with us. Pray to your guardian angel to protect you and keep you out of harm's way. Talk to Jesus everyday in prayer. Receive the sacraments often so that you can receive the graces you need to live a good life!

<u>Checking for Understanding</u>

1. What commandment tells us to honor and respect those in authority?
2. Name a trusted adult in your life.
3. When is it good to keep a secret?
4. When should you tell a secret to someone?
5. What should you do if someone touches you and makes you feel uncomfortable?
6. Why do you think the secret was revealed in the Gospel of Matthew 2:1-23?
7. Which sacrament offers us forgiveness for our sins?

* *Another alternative is to speak of what "appropriate" means.*
What is appropriate for our hands and feet when we walk in a line? Is it appropriate to laugh at someone that gets hurt? Is it appropriate to not take a bath for a week?

What are appropriate ways that adults or others may touch us?
(Washing, Clothing)

What makes a touch inappropriate?
The touch itself; The person who is touching you shouldn't touch you in that way.