

Grade 5 - Chapter 20

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Discover

Catechist Edition Instruction

Discover (1)

Objectives

- Discuss Jesus' teaching on the Last Judgment, using Matthew 25.
- Understand that at the time of death, each person will be judged and God will decide where he or she will spend eternity.

Choosing Love and Life

Tell the children that you will be discussing what the Church teaches about life after death.

- Write the words *Heaven*, *Hell*, and *Purgatory* on the board or on chart paper.
- Have the children share what they know about each.

Read aloud the text.

- Ask the children how Christians "choose" eternal life in Heaven.

Scripture

Invite a proficient reader to proclaim the Scripture passage.

- Challenge the children to listen for the acts of kindness that will separate the righteous from the others.

Say: Based on this Scripture passage and without reading the caption, can anyone tell me what is going on in the stained glass artwork on the page?

- Allow a brief discussion before reading aloud the caption.

Have the children answer the question at the bottom of the page.

Eternal Life

Invite the children to silently read the two paragraphs.

► Music Option: While the children read, play “God’s Greatest Gift” or “Whatsoever You Do,” downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

- Discuss how Christians prepare for eternal life in Heaven.

For more information on this topic, have the children turn to page 310 in the Our Catholic Tradition section of the Student Book to read the section “Everlasting Life.”

Work With Words

Draw the children's attention to the Catholic Faith Words feature.

- Have them silently read the terms and definitions.
- Answer any questions they may have.
- If you do not have the answer, tell the children you will find out, and be sure to get back to them.

Activity

Read aloud the directions.

- Instruct the children to work on the activity in pairs.
- Invite the pairs to share one or two of their choices with the group.

Quick Review

Christians are called to meet the needs of others; those who show love to others in this life will be with God in eternal life.

Discover (2)

Objectives

- Identify how Christians prepare for eternal life by serving God and one another right now.
- Relate the symbols used at a Mass of Christian Burial with our Baptism and Jesus' Resurrection.

Establishing Hope

Ask: What happens at the end of your mortal life?

- List the children's responses on the board or on chart paper.

Read aloud the text.

- Tell the children to listen for an explanation of why humans experience death.
- Music Option: Sing with the children “A Song of Farewell,” downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.

Care for the Dying

Have a volunteer read aloud the text.

- Ask the children to point out which three Sacraments may be included in care for the dying.
- Discuss the purpose of the rites.

The Journey Home

Ask the children whether any of them have ever attended a Catholic funeral.

- Invite those who feel comfortable doing so to share what they remember and how they felt.
- Have the children silently read the text.
- Music Option: While the children read, play “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light,” downloaded from aliveinchrist.osv.com.
- Point out how the following three objects are used during a funeral Mass: holy water, the Paschal (Easter) Candle, and the white pall that covers the casket.

Activity

Read aloud the Connect Your Faith activity instructions.

- Allow time for the children to complete the activity.
- Invite volunteers to share their answers with the rest of the group.

Quick Review

Christians prepare for eternal life by accepting God's grace and serving him and one another. In the funeral liturgy, the Church proclaims the message of eternal life, and uses symbols connected to our Baptism and Jesus' Resurrection.

Catechist Tips: Cultural Awareness - Funeral Customs

Catholic funeral customs differ from one ethnic group to another. Most cultures have a wake, or viewing, before the funeral Mass.

A wake gives friends and neighbors the opportunity to pray by the body of the person who has died and offer condolences to the family. Often there is an additional prayer service at the cemetery.

Catechist Tips: Angels and Devils

Angels and devils are prominent in the popular images of Heaven and Hell.

Be prepared for questions about these beings. The Church affirms the existence of good angels and of fallen angels, but since angels do not have bodies or gender, all depictions of angels and devils in art are purely symbolic.

Catechist Tips: Bereaved Students

This lesson may bring up difficult or confusing emotions in children who have experienced a recent death in the family.

- Be sensitive to individual needs. Some children may wish to share their experiences of mourning while others might prefer to keep the subject private or ignore it completely.
- Remind the children to be respectful of the other children's emotions.

Catechist Tips: Let Go

Part of human life is learning to let go.

- Remind the children that in any overwhelming situation in which they feel out of control, they can let go and let God sustain them.
- Assure those who are grieving that there is no “right” way to mourn; they can take all the time they

need to let go of their sadness while holding on to their memories.

Catechist Tips: Drama - Jesus Wept

In advance of the session, designate an empty space in your gathering area as a "tomb," for the reenactment of the Lazarus story.

Introduce the activity by explaining that the children will retell the story of Lazarus (John 11:1-44) to experience how Jesus felt when his friend died. Assign the following parts: Narrator, Jesus, Disciple(s), Martha, Mary, their friends, and Lazarus. Have Jesus and disciples in one area, and Lazarus, his sisters, and others in another area.

Narrator will read the following, pausing between each to let children act out and add dialogue:

- a. **Lazarus was sick.**
- b. **Martha and Mary sent one friend to get Jesus.**
- c. **He told Jesus that Lazarus was sick, then he went back home.**
- d. **Jesus and disciples stayed away two more days.**
- e. **Lazarus died. His friends put him in a tomb with a stone over the entrance. They were really sad.**
- f. **Then Jesus said to disciples, "Let's go see Lazarus." So they started walking.**
- g. **When Jesus arrived, Mary and Martha said, "Lazarus is dead. If you had come sooner, he would have lived."**
- h. **Jesus wept. He mourned because Mary, Martha, and Lazarus' friends were so sad.**
- i. **Jesus went to the tomb and told the friends, "Roll the stone away."**
- j. **The friends did as Jesus commanded.**
- k. **Jesus said, "Lazarus, come out!"**
- l. **Lazarus rose from the dead and came out!**

Point out how Jesus mourned with Lazarus' sisters and friends even though he knew Lazarus would rise again. Jesus mourns with us, too, when someone close to us dies.

Catechist Tips: Who Is Blessed?

Proclaim, or have a student proclaim, "The Judgment of the Nations," page 268. List the actions that the blessed will do as Jesus describes them in Matthew 25:31-40. Ask the students to share stories of someone who took care of other people, perhaps even in the exact ways Jesus described. It can be a Saint, someone on the news, a friend or relative, or someone they heard about. When finished, give them a brief quiet time to think of some way they want to imitate one of these people and silently ask God to help them carry this out. Proclaim the Scripture again.

Glossary Activity: Heaven

In *L'Inferno*, Dante tailors the torment to the sin of the damned.

- Organize the class in groups. Assign each group one or two of the Beatitudes to illustrate.
- Ask the children to draw rewards in Heaven for those who are blessed in the assigned Beatitudes.

Additional Activity: Agnus Dei

A requiem is a setting of the Latin Mass for the Dead that was used before Vatican II. Listen to the *Agnus Dei* from the requiem of Mozart or Fauré.

- Help the children understand how rhythm and melody express emotion and enhance the theme of God's mercy.

Additional Activity: Mourning Customs

Have the children research funeral and mourning customs. The children may...

- make a timeline of changes in American funeral and mourning customs since Colonial times.
- create a photo display of traditional funeral customs in various world religions or cultures.

Parish Video Connection: Heaven Is Open

After completing the Catechist Edition instruction for page 269, play this video of Pope Francis explaining how the love of God leads us to Heaven.

Say: Pope Francis tells us we need an increase in love and sharing in our time. How do we make that happen, and work with God as he builds his Kingdom?

Then have the children complete the Share Your Faith activity.

YouTube Link: <https://youtu.be/0B1vJnpBEG4>

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