

Lesson 4



Theme: Loving Choices

Learning Objectives:

By the end of this lesson, your child should be able to:

- List three steps in making good moral choices
- Apply moral decision-making skills to concrete situations
- Examine their conscience to uncover sinful choices they may have made

Key Words

1. conscience
2. examination of conscience

Materials Needed for this Week:

Candle

o If your child has to miss Mass, please fill out backside of questionnaire and turn in.

- **Looking Ahead:** Sign up for which Saint your child will present this month! (List by Shelly's office.)

PARENTS

Keep in Mind

This week, we focus on making moral choices. There are many factors in making a moral choice: motivation, intention, the situation, and possible consequences. Conscience is the gift of loving God to help us make good moral choices.

The process of talking through life situations together with your child – exploring good and bad choices by considering consequences will help them to develop a correct, well-formed conscience that will guide them toward the goodness of God's call to holiness (choosing right from wrong). These are important conversations to have, as it is not always easy to discern what is right from what is wrong. This is especially true for young children – whom often tend to be self-serving (motivated by the prospect of getting something in return); however, they do have a sense of morality and can act on their feelings of what is right, just, or loving.

How can we form our conscience according to God's will: Examine the Sacred Traditions of our faith, listen to the teaching authority of the Church, pray to the Holy Spirit for wisdom and understanding, and through seeking the counsel (advise) of trusted people. Conversion of heart is a lifelong process. A well formed conscience is totally honest with oneself and finds ways to avoid rationalization or excuses for sin.

Preparatory Thoughts:

- This week, were you forced with a moral decision? How did you respond?
- What experiences of conversion have enriched your life?

Daily Prayer: Loving Father, help me to take an honest look at my attitudes and actions. Open my hear to your guidance and grace so that I can respond to others with charity, justice and compassion. /Amen/

PARENT & CHILD LESSON 4

****Don't rush ~ A page (or two) a night = easily done! ****

NOTE: These lesson plans' structure is provided as a guide, only. You are free to complete these lessons with your child on your family's timetable. (If you prefer to sit and do the entire lesson in one afternoon – fine.) I will be meeting with your children on November 19 to go through the home study's key words, reviewing their prayers with them, and guiding them through an examination of conscience in preparation of receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Dec 3. Your study/discussion/review time, at home, is vital. If you are struggling to get the work done or with any of these core concepts, please call me.

My Best,
Shelly

Day One: YOU DECIDE

- Read Psalm 119, as your opening prayer.
- Review SIN and FREE WILL
- Read the story and discuss the questions in the gold box – be sure your child considers both choices Lisa could make.
- ✓ *Practice the Sign of the Cross and pray the Five Finger Prayer together focusing on those in our lives we love (attached).*

Day Two: ON SOLID ROCK

- Read story together and consider the choices in 'What is the message?'
- Use examples from your family life. (For ex: You don't want to go to an event, so you think about pretending to be sick.)
- ✓ *Practice the Sign of the Cross and have your child lead Grace before dinner.*
- ✓ *Practice Hail Mary prayer together.*

Day Three: MAKING CHOICES

- Discuss a few choices you've make today. For each, consider was it a right or wrong choice (some may not be a moral choice).
- Read and Discuss reading & complete LETS TALK
- Review ON ROCK or SAND (answer: #2 and #4 = rock)
- ✓ *Pray the Lord's Prayer together.*

Day Four: EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

- Discuss questions on page #169
- ✓ *Practice the Sign of the Cross and say The Glory Be*

WRAP UP:

- Consider your child's saint – what choices did he/she make that called them to holiness?

