

## CatholicMom.com Gospel Activity – Celebrating Our Catholic Faith

### Religious Education Lesson Plan Helpers by Laura Grace

**Please note:** Some of our lesson plans contain links to Christian, non-Catholic resources. When preparing your lessons, we urge you to inform yourself on the teachings of the Catholic Church with respect to the Sunday gospel and readings. If you find links in any of the lesson plans which may be counter to the teachings of the Church, please notify [lisa@catholicmom.com](mailto:lisa@catholicmom.com). These lesson plan helpers are designed to assist you in pulling together creative ideas and activities to supplement your lesson plan, but are not designed to be catechetical in nature. Thank you for your continued prayerful support.

## Zacchaeus/Forgiving

### Review:

Questions from last week's story.

**Vocabulary:** (Write the bold words on the board and discuss with class)

**Tax collector-** he takes money from people for their taxes

**Dishonest-** mean, not honest, cheats, lies, unfair, and takes from others

**Steal-** to take from others

**Forgive-** stop being angry about something that a person has done

### Plan:

1. Read story: "Zacchaeus" from your own story book. While reading the story do cut outs (Snip-And-Tell Bible Stories by Karyn Henley, page 96 & 97) as the story unfolds. Then ask questions from below.

1. What did Zacchaeus do for a living? He was a tax collector.
2. Why did everyone not like him? He often took extra money and kept it for himself. He was dishonest.
3. Why could Zacchaeus not see Jesus? Because he was short.
4. What did he do so he could see Jesus? Climbed a tree.
5. Jesus taught Zacchaeus that what he did was wrong and to live in God's way so what did Zacchaeus do? He gave half of his property to the poor and he would give back four times the amount he stole from others.

2. Introduce activity- What does it mean when God forgives us?

All Clear- <http://www.childrensministry.com/Article.asp?ID=344>

Object lesson to teach children about how God has forgiven us.

3. Introduce movie- What does God want us to do about forgiving others?

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**Movie- Veggie Tales: God Wants Me To Forgive Them?!- The Grapes of Wrath (12 min.)** and ask questions:

1. What did the grapes do to Junior? They made fun of him.
2. Who does God want us to be kind to? Everyone
3. When someone says they are sorry and they really mean it, what should you say? I forgive you.
4. How many times are you supposed to forgive someone? Not 7 times, but seventy times seven (490). In other words, many, many times.

Or

**Movie- Veggie Tales: God Wants Me To Forgive Them?!- Larry's Lagoon (15 min.)** and ask questions:

1. What happened to the boat? Larry smashed it.
2. How did everyone feel about Larry? They were mad at him.
3. How does it feel when someone says they forgive you? It feels good.
4. It is wrong to not forgive someone when they say they are sorry and they really mean it? Yes.

4. Introduce game: What did Zacchaeus do so he could see Jesus? He climbed a tree.

Zacchaeus, Come Down!- Blow up balloon and tie it off. Remind the students that the people did not want Zacchaeus to be with Jesus and they grumbled. Using masking tape, mark spots on the floor that the student must stand on. Have one student stand on each marker and tell the students that they must stay where they are standing (they cannot move their feet) and they have to keep Zacchaeus (the balloon) from touching the floor. The teacher starts the game by saying, "Zacchaeus, Come Down!" and tosses the balloon up high in the air for the students who must try to keep Zacchaeus from touching the ground using their hands.

5. Puzzles & Mazes, Worksheets, etc.

365 Activities for Kids (do the Zacchaeus in the tree maze on October 23 or find the 10 differences puzzle on October 24).

Little Man in the Tree maze-

[http://biblewise.com/images/kids\\_korner/fun\\_games/2005/november/the\\_little\\_man.pdf](http://biblewise.com/images/kids_korner/fun_games/2005/november/the_little_man.pdf)

Little Man in the Tree maze answers-

[http://biblewise.com/images/kids\\_korner/fun\\_games/2005/november/the\\_little\\_man\\_answers.pdf](http://biblewise.com/images/kids_korner/fun_games/2005/november/the_little_man_answers.pdf)

Zacchaeus maze- [http://www.sermons4kids.com/zacchaeus\\_puzzle.htm](http://www.sermons4kids.com/zacchaeus_puzzle.htm)

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Zacchaeus maze-

[http://biblewise.com/images/kids\\_korner/fun\\_games/2005/november/zacchaeus.pdf](http://biblewise.com/images/kids_korner/fun_games/2005/november/zacchaeus.pdf)

Jesus is going to Zacchaeus house. Which path will He take?

Jesus Teaches Us How To Love (maze)- Follow the path through the garden to reach "Love For Others". [http://www.comingtofaith.com/pdf/gradek/4300-W\\_039.pdf](http://www.comingtofaith.com/pdf/gradek/4300-W_039.pdf)

Zacchaeus word search- [http://www.sermons4kids.com/zacchaeus\\_search.htm](http://www.sermons4kids.com/zacchaeus_search.htm)

Sharing God's Love-

[http://www.webelieveweb.com/documents/downloadables/parish/grade\\_2/g2\\_chapter\\_19.pdf](http://www.webelieveweb.com/documents/downloadables/parish/grade_2/g2_chapter_19.pdf)

Fill the hearts with ways that you can share God's love with others.

Forgiveness- [http://www.comingtofaith.com/pdf/grade1/4301-W\\_131.pdf](http://www.comingtofaith.com/pdf/grade1/4301-W_131.pdf)

Write the number of the sentence that matches each picture.

Forgiveness- [http://www.comingtofaith.com/pdf/grade1/4301-W\\_139.pdf](http://www.comingtofaith.com/pdf/grade1/4301-W_139.pdf)

Color only the pictures that show forgiveness.

A Forgiveness Story- [http://www.comingtofaith.com/pdf/grade2/4302-W\\_056.pdf](http://www.comingtofaith.com/pdf/grade2/4302-W_056.pdf)

Write a story about when you were forgiven. Draw a picture about your story.

Celebrating God's Forgiveness- [http://www.comingtofaith.com/pdf/grade2/4302-W\\_066.pdf](http://www.comingtofaith.com/pdf/grade2/4302-W_066.pdf)

Color by letters

6. Introduce snack: Jesus wanted to eat lunch with Zacchaeus at his house. Let's make ourselves a lunch. (Have students make a simple lunch).

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