

# LESSON PLAN<sup>i</sup>

## *FORMING DISCIPLES FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATION*<sup>ii</sup>

### **PREPARING TO TEACH THE LESSON**

Topic: Jesus Christ: The Fulfillment of God' Promise (The Good News)

**Grade Level:** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (+ Adult)

**Key Element I:** Knowledge of Faith/What we believe

**Standard 1: CREED:** Understand, believe and proclaim the Triune and redeeming God as revealed in creation and human experience, in Apostolic Tradition and Sacred Scripture, and as entrusted to the teaching office of the Church.

#### **Indicators:**

8.01.01 Show understanding that the mystery of the Holy Trinity is central to the mystery of the Christian faith and of Christian life.

8.01.05 State that God created us in an original state of holiness and justice.

8.01.06 State the meaning of original sin.

8.01.08 State that the Incarnation is the mystery of the union of the divine and human natures in Jesus Christ.

8.01.09 State belief that Jesus died for our sins, thus opening the possibility of eternal union with God.

8.01.10 State belief that Jesus' death has the power to save all people even though they do not know Christ.

8.01.XX Support that Jesus is consubstantial with the Father (i.e., Son of God, notional indicator)

8.01.XX Contrast the focus and celebration of Jesus in the different Liturgical Seasons (i.e., Advent, notional indicator)

**Textbook and the pages: Making Disciples, Comprehensive Catechesis for the RCIA Catechumenate, Jane Carew; PP 57-61**

Background Reading for Catechist/Facilitator:

Gen 3, 9, 15; Exodus 19, 24; 2 Samuel 7, 23; Isaiah 7, 61; Jer. 31, Ez. 16: 8, 36-37, 60-63; Psalm 79:9; Matt 1:23, 2:18; Mark 1:2-8; Luke 1:26-38, 5:33-35; John 1:1, 14-18, 35-38; John 3:16-18; 1 John 1:1-4, 1 John 4:9; 2 Peter 1:4, Phil; 2:5-8; Gal. 4:4-5; Heb. 1:5-7; Acts 4:12

CCC 232-266, 374-384, 396-404, 419-682, 724, 1168-1178, 1250

**Environment:**

Appropriate liturgical season setting/discussion orientation: Linen color based on liturgical Calendar: Violet (Advent/Lent), Rose (Gaudete Sunday/Laetare Sunday), Red (Pentecost, Passion Sunday; feasts of Apostles, Evangelists, and Martyrs), Green (Ordinary time).

**Materials:**



- Catholic Bible
- US Catholic Catechism for Adults
- CCC
- Catholic Source Book
- Gold Crucifix
- Lighted “electric” candle (because of fire code)
- Linen (Advent, Purple Color)
- Seasonal element from nature (e.g., leaves, fruit, etc.)

**TEACHING THE LESSON**

**Welcome:** Music, “Child of the Poor, What Child Is This? Notre Dame Folk Group”  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mEkdr62eVMY>

**Prayer:**

*Father in heaven our hearts desire the warmth of your love and our minds are searching for the light of your word. Increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of his coming may find us rejoicing in his presence and welcoming the light of his truth.*

*We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the Lord. Amen.*

## Review:

- Adam and Eve; original sin; the promise of the final victory of a descendant of the Woman and the Serpent; exile from the garden
- Covenants: Noah, Abraham, Moses
- A New Covenant (Jer. 31, Ez. 16: 8, 36-37); only God could save His people from their sins.

## Preview:

Read aloud and slowly for impact

***Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: Ask for a sign from the LORD, your God; let it be deep as the nether world, or high as the sky! But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask! I will not tempt the LORD!" Then he said: Listen, O house of David! Is it not enough that you weary men? Must you also weary my God? Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign; the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. Isaiah 7: 10-14***

## Presentation:

### Key Points

- Salvation history
  - God chooses to be a part of the history of humanity
  - Old Covenant, sin grows and becomes more universal, invoking the name of the redeeming God once a year (Day of Atonement, Holy of Holies, Mercy Seat, Blood Sacrifice)
- The Good news – fulfillment of the promise
  - Incarnation ... Word became flesh ... “free cooperation of a creature”
  - In the fullness of time, born of a virgin woman, born under the law to redeem those under it, and we might be adopted (and save his people from their sins)
- Who is Jesus Christ?
  - Jesus – God Saves
  - Messiah, anointed with the Holy Spirit and power (Acts 10:38)
  - Son of God (unique and eternal relationship with God His Father; He is God )
  - Lord (no one can say Jesus is Lord, except by the Holy Spirit)
- Advent themes
  - The “coming” of God “with us” Emmanuel
  - The precursor role of John the Baptist

- Mary, the New Eve, Mary's Fiat
- Prepare the way of the lord (Huc veni; Marana tha!)

#### Evaluation/Response:

- How can you deepen your personal relationship with Christ? Identify concrete ways you can grow in your participation in the mystery of Jesus Life, teachings, death, and resurrection – at work, home, or school?
- “Who do you say that I am?” Jesus asked. Peter responded, “You are the Christ, Son of the living God.” Who is Jesus to you when you meet him on the street? At the metro? In a person you dislike?

#### Assignment:

*Journaling- How do we become like Mary and John the Baptist in our preparation for the Kingdom of God (our encounter with Christ)?*

#### Announcements: N/A

#### Closing Meditation/Prayer:

#### <Excerpt, US Catholic Catechism for Adults, *The Good News: God Has Sent His Son*, Chapter 7>

The Word became flesh to save us from sin and reconcile us to God. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but have eternal life’ (John 3:16). By the incarnation we are made aware of the death of God’s love for us. “In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world that we might have life through him” (1 John 4:9). When the Son of God became man, he became a model of holiness for us. “This is my commandment: love one another as I love you”.

(John 15:12). God became man that we might partake in the divine nature. “He has bestowed on us the precious and very great promises, so that through them you may come to share in the divine nature” (2 Peter 1:4).

There is no salvation through anyone else. Nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved (Acts 4:12).

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me, a sinner. Amen.

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<sup>i</sup> The language used in this Lesson Planning Outline is geared to work with children and teenagers. When using it with adults, you may want to substitute the word “session” for “lesson,” and the word “participant” for “student.”

<sup>ii</sup> The AMS Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide, Grades Pre-K. to 8.