

HOUSEHOLD MATERIAL FOR KIDS (AGE 4-7 YEARS)

God protects us...so Trust God

1) Prepare – 30 Minutes

1. Start with teaching the kids a song or two with some actions
2. Teaching them a traditional prayer
3. Familiarizing a psalm
4. Lead them to praise and worship with the help of the songs and psalms they learned and conclude with the traditional prayer.

1.1 SONGS

Teach them one or two suitable songs. For this month teach them the song, "Baby Jesus"
It can be made interesting by including actions, making them sing standing in a circle etc...

Baby Jesus Song

(To the tune of "Are you sleeping Brother John")

Baby Jesus, baby Jesus,
please don't cry, please don't cry.
Don't you know I love you, Don't you know I love you,
Very much, very much.

Baby Jesus, baby Jesus,
born to us, born to us.
Come let us adore Him, Come let us adore Him.
Joyously, joyously.

Baby Jesus, Baby Jesus (cup and rock your arms)
Born to us, Born to us
You came to save us, You came to save us (raise hands to heaven)
Amen, Amen (prayerful hands)

Baby Jesus, Baby Jesus (cup and rock your arms)
We love you, We love you (hug yourself)
We're going to heaven, going to heaven (point upwards)
Thank you, Thank you (prayerful hands)

Repeat



Adapted by V. de Castro

1.2 PSALMS

Teach them a suitable verse. For this month teach psalm 27:10.

Include some dynamics to make it interesting. You can ask them to make a song out of this verse - an action song would be better.

1.3 TRADITIONAL PRAYERS



Teach them the Sign of the cross.



When they keep their hand on their forehead, ask them to bring into mind how God the Father loves us.



As they move their hand down you can ask them to think of Jesus who came down to save us.



When they complete the cross ask them to think about Holy Spirit who is with us to help us always.



Finally when they say Amen, ask them to say Yes to the love of the Trinity.

2) Present- 2 Hours

1. Narrate the Bible Story for the Month
2. Key Message and Key Bible Verse
3. Game/Activity: Find Baby Moses Game.
4. Story of St. Isidore
5. Activity based on St. Isidore

2.1 BIBLE STORY

Narrate the Bible Story for the Month

This month we will start with Exodus, narrating the story of baby Moses and the river. Story of Moses as the deliverer of Israel must be told to introduce the savior of mankind – our Lord Jesus.

Resources for story narration:

<http://ministry-to-children.com/baby-moses-lesson/>

If time permits you could use some activity as you narrate the story. These activities are available in the internet. For the basket craft activity try: <http://www.mssscrafts.com/crafts/baskets/>

2.2 KEY MESSAGE

Proclaim the key message

This month we will start with Exodus, narrating the story of baby Moses and the river. Story of Moses as the deliverer of Israel must be told to introduce the savior of mankind – our Lord Jesus.

Proposal: There is a gift for you today. Baby Jesus your savior is born as a baby boy (Luke 2:10 / John 3:16). Would you like to have Him today?

Response: Keep ready a set of small cards with the picture of baby Jesus similar to the one provided here. Place them near a cross/crucifix on a table. As a response to the proposal you made to receive baby Jesus - ask them to come one by one to the front with the baby basket they made during the craft activity. Once a child comes near the table you can ask the child to take a baby Jesus card in their hands. Ask them to slowly and prayerfully place it in the basket they made.

Link the Old Testament bible story and the key message:

Baby Moses was protected from the hands of Pharaoh to save his people from Egypt. Baby Jesus was protected from the sword of Herod, to save you from sin by His death and resurrection.

2.3 ACTIVITY/GAME

Play a "Find Baby Moses" Game

Inform the children that they are going to play a game. One of them will be Moses' mother and she will hide Baby Moses. The other children will pretend to be the princess (if you would like you could have them wear crowns or make crowns to use in this game). Send all the children out of the room except "Baby Moses' mother". Help the child hide the baby. If you have a very small room and not many hiding places for a real baby doll, you can use the craft picture of Baby Moses and tape the baby under chairs and table and on the walls. When the baby is hidden, call the "princesses in to find Baby Moses". Whoever finds the baby gets to hide him. Play until every child gets a turn. If you think this activity will get too noisy, you can have a Baby Moses hidden before class and when activity time comes tell them to find the baby.

2.4 SECTION ON SAINT

St. Isidore-Patron Saint of Farmers

Feast Day – May 16th

St. Isidore was born into a very poor family in a place called Madrid, Spain. As he had no money to study, at a very young age he started to work as a farmer. He was working in the fields of wealthy men.

Even though, he was not educated, he was a very strong devotee. He never missed Holy mass. He had a good and intimate relationship with his guardian angel. One incident from his life is as follows:

Isidore was working in the field of a wealthy landlord. Harvesting season was near. The field was full of ripe and matured corns ready for harvesting. We all know that the birds would come down to eat the ripe corns. By evening, the birds would come to the fields in flocks to eat the corns. That is when our Isidore had to attend the Holy Mass in a nearby church. But he cannot fail in his duties and he also cannot miss the Holy Mass. You know what he did?

He had a stick in his hand, which he inserted in the middle of the farm and it stood on the ground. Then he asked for the help of his guardian angel, "My guardian angel, guard my field till I come back from the Holy Mass". And the guardian angel helped him. Thus he was living happily by working and attending the Holy Mass with the help of his guardian angel.

One day, unexpectedly his master came to visit the field. When the master looked for Isidore, he was nowhere to be seen but noticed a stick standing in the middle of the field. He also observed an astonishing sight: he saw birds eating the corns in the neighbouring fields in spite of the labourers guarding. Many of them were running around the field with sticks to keep the birds away. But in his field there was not even a single bird to be found, even without anyone guarding. As the master was standing there bewildered, our Isidore came running from church. He fell on the feet of the master and asked forgiveness. The master made him stand up. He explained the help of his guardian angel while he attended the Holy Mass. What would have been the response of the master hearing all that? He hugged Isidore. Friends, thus the master also became a believer. Jesus has given us guardian angels as our helpers to assist us in fulfilling our duties. We need to be friends with this angel. Guardian angel would help us in everything – to study better, pray well, to take part in the Holy Mass prayerfully. Thus, he would make us all the children of God.

From today onwards, let us all pray to our guardian angels.

Prayer to Guardian Angel:

Angel of God, my guardian dear,
To whom God's love commits me here,
Ever this day, be at my side,
To light and guard, rule and guide.
Amen.

2.5 ACTIVITY BASED ON SAINT

Provide the kids with the picture of the guardian angel and crayons, ask them to colour the picture

3) Preserve:

Repeating the message helps in impressing it in their heart and mind. It is always better to summarize the day with some activity which would help them to make something that they can carry home. It will be a reminder of the message back home.

Summarize and Memorize

We can do a short craft activity, which brings out the key message.

Homework

You can give them a suitable assignment to do. It could be something like memorizing the bible verse they learnt.

Concluding Prayer

Help them to pray a small prayer on their own with some songs they learned.

Summary Activity: Savior's Cube

Take printouts of the picture and cut the shape carefully out of it. Instruct the children on how to make a cube out of it. You can ask them to color it and then fold it and glue it to make the savior's cube. Ask them to keep it somewhere in their room so that others also can see. Ask them to memorize John 3:16.