

Level 5 Lesson Plan #1: The Creed

Objectives:

The children will be able to discuss/support these beliefs about the Creed:

- We believe in God. We believe in only one God. We know this through Sacred Scripture and because logically, there can only be one God. (Y. 30, C 36,37)
- To believe in the one and only God involves coming to know his greatness and majesty, living in thanksgiving and trusting always in him. (C. 43)
- We believe in one God in three persons. This is the Trinity. The fact that there are three persons in one God is a mystery. We know this only through Jesus. (Y. 36, C. 45)
- God is the creator of the world. He created the world out of nothing and called all things into being. Everything exists because it is God's will and for His glory. (Y. 43 44, C. 51 52 53)

Discussion Points/Procedure:

First, ask children if they know what a creed is. Have them brainstorm ideas and guide to the goal: A creed is a brief group of words that tell the formula of our faith so that there is a common profession made among believers. (Y. 25,26)

Help children identify the Apostles Creed and the Nicene Creed. Ask about when they hear the Creed and pray it often. Find the words to the creed in the missals in the church.

Explain that the Apostles Creed is special because it is thought to be a summary of the faith of the apostles. (Y. 26) and the Nicene Creed is thought to be great because it is the result of great Church councils. All the creeds of the Church are based on the faith in the Trinity. (C. 44)

The gospel of Matthew 28:19 is a good way to show how Jesus told the disciples to "go, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit". Jesus told them to baptize in the NAME of , though he named THREE.

(forums.catholic.com:explaining the Holy Trinity to a Child)

Each of the creeds starts with a discussion of God the Father, our Creator. Then, the Son, our Savior, and ends with a profession of faith in the Holy Spirit, who is the presence of God in the Church and the world. (Y. 27, C. 36)

Take the Creed line by line and discuss the point of each line or concept. Talk about the Trinity and its mystery to us.

Additional Ideas/ Activities:

A great way of giving children the idea of the Trinity: www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/resources

www.twb.catholic.edu has a document titled The Creeds' Teaching Activities.docx that has activities to help children understand.

www.loyolapress.com/the-nicene-creed is a game to help children memorize the Creed

www.catholicblogger1.blogspot.com/2011/04 The Catholic Toolbox is a blog with many activities/ explanations of the creed.

www.faithfirst.com Grade 4 activities about the Creed.

www.gotquestions.org/Trinity-Bible good article and good symbol of Trinity.