Everyone Deserves a Home - a Lesson on Adoption

GRADES 1-3 - Lesson I (Year III, Day 3)

Goal: Students will learn about the loving choice of adoption and explore stories of people who have been adopted. Activities will reinforce a thankfulness for family and home and a desire to pray for and support those children who do not have either.

Materials: Popsicle sticks, cardstock, markers, glue, tape

Lesson: Do any of you have any babies in your family?

Explain that when God creates each new person, he sends them into the world as tiny babies, first growing inside their moms. When babies are born, they need a lot of attention. Ask the students if any of them have baby brothers or sisters or cousins or neighbors. What types of things do babies need to be happy? They need things such as food, diapers, clothes, etc., but they also need attention from people who love them. Introduce the idea of adoption—most of the time babies are born and live with their moms and dads and other members of their families. Other times, moms and dads realize they cannot take care of their baby, so they ask for help from other people. Those other people can be adoptive parents who invite the baby into their homes and make them a part of their family. Lots of people are adopted.

Watch: Elijah's Adoption Day and/or "Lott Family"

Discussion:

What did you learn about these children who were adopted? Do they love their adoptive moms and dads? Do they love their adoptive brothers and sisters? Does it look like they have fun in their families? Do you know anyone who was adopted? If someone asked you to describe adoption, what word would you use?

Activity: Create a family of puppets using popsicle sticks, cardstock, and markers.

Prayer:

Dear God, when you create new people for the world, you create them to be part of a family. Some families are big and some are small. Some families live in the city and some in the country. One thing is true about all families—there is lots of love! Sometimes parents cannot take care of their children. When that happens, we ask that You send them new families. Please let these children find families to love them, and give them everything they need to grow up happy and healthy! We thank You for our families! Amen.

Lesson adapted from the plans on the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Life, Justice and Peace website