Gospel of Life Week

A LESSON ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

PK-K - Marriage - Lesson I (Year I, Day 4)

Goal: To introduce children to the concept and understanding of marriage as a sacramental bond between a man and a woman that is lasting, loving and fruitful, and that marriage is the basis of the family.

Materials: construction paper, crayons/markers

Lesson:

God wants each of us to have a family so we can learn how to love one another. Moms and dads have special jobs in showing their children what it means to love. Love is doing what is good for someone else. Families teach us that we are loved *no matter what*.

Watch: <u>Animated Nativity Story for Children</u> by Latter Day Kids

Discussion:

- Who is the family in this story?
- Who is Mary? (Jesus' mother) Who is Joseph? (Jesus' father)
- Who is Jesus? (the Son of God)
- Do you think Mary and Joseph were excited to see baby Jesus?
- Do you think Jesus was happy to be born into a family? Why?
- Why do we need families?
- Do you think it would have been difficult to be Jesus' mom or dad on earth?
- What do you think Jesus liked to do when he was little?
- Do you know what it was like the day you were born? Who was there? Was it warm or cold out?
- How do you think your parents felt when they saw you for the first time?

Activity:

Have students create their own family tree. Use brown and green paper for students to cut out the trunk and leaves. Have them draw a picture on each leaf of each of their family members. Once they are done, ask for volunteers to share with the class.

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UP-HOLDING THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

Prayer:

God our Father, thank you for my family, for hugs and kisses and special times together.

Thank you for my friends, for laughter and chatting and sharing.

Thank you for my home, for rest times and bed times.

Thank you for playtimes, for toys and games and books, and for helping me to enjoy them all.

Amen.

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