

We thank God for our Families

Everyone Deserves a Home—a Lesson in Adoption

Grades 1-3 Lesson

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.

Diving into Dignity

As humans, we possess special **powers** that animals do not. These are the powers to **think** and to **choose**. We are given these amazing powers so that we can know and choose to do good. Today we'll learn about people who used their powers to help others.

Based on the Human Dignity Curriculum (World Youth Alliance)

Materials: Coloring supplies.

Lesson: Have the children gather in a circle on the floor. Play and sing [“I Love You”](#)

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 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. Let's learn a few of their stories.

Watch: [“Story of Moses”](#) (stop at 4:55)

Discussion:

What did we learn about Moses' birth?

When he was born, Moses' mother was unable to care for him. What did she do? Did she do that because she loved Moses?

Who became Moses' adoptive mother? Do you think she loved him?

Activity: [Coloring page](#) for Moses' adoption story.

Discussion: There are children today, like Moses, whose moms and dads love them so much that they entrust them to another family who can take care of them best. Do you know any children who are adopted?

Watch: [“Lott Family”](#)

What did you learn about these children who are adopted?

Do they love their adoptive moms and dads?

Do they love their adoptive brothers and sisters?

Does it look like they have a lot of fun in their families?

Activity: If someone asked you to describe adoption, what words would you use? Draw a picture of adoption.

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