

STD 4 Lesson Plan 11: The Anointing of the Sick

Introduction (10 minutes)

Objective: To introduce the concept of the Anointing of the Sick through the story of the healing of the paralytic man and explain the importance of caring for the sick.

Activity:

1. **Opening Prayer:** Begin with a prayer asking for God's help to understand His care for the sick and the meaning of healing.
2. **Story Introduction:** Show the picture of the paralytic man being lowered through the roof. Ask the children if they know the story and briefly explain it, focusing on Jesus' healing and forgiveness.

Presentation of Topic (15 minutes)

Objective: To explain the story of the paralytic man, the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, and the role of prayer and care for the sick in our Christian life.

Lesson Content:

1. **Bible Story:** Read Mark 2:1-12. Emphasize how the faith of the friends and the healing power of Jesus helped the paralytic man. Highlight Jesus' words, "Son, your sins are forgiven" and "Stand up, take your mat and go home."
2. **Explanation of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick:**
 - **What is It?** Explain that this sacrament is given to those who are seriously ill. It helps them find strength, healing, and forgiveness through the power of prayer and holy oil.
 - **Historical Background:** Briefly discuss how Jesus healed the sick and how the apostles continued this tradition by anointing the sick and praying for them.
 - **The Role of the Sacrament:** Explain that the sacrament is given to help people in body and soul. It involves anointing with holy oil and prayer for healing and forgiveness.

Bible Verse: "Are any among you sick? They should call for the elder of the Church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord" (James 5:14). Discuss how this verse shows the importance of praying for and caring for those who are sick.

Practical Application (10 minutes)

Objective: To help children understand how they can care for others who are sick and the importance of prayer and kindness.

Activity:

1. **Reflection Sheet:** Distribute activity sheets with prompts like “One way I can help someone who is sick,” “A prayer I can say for someone who is ill,” and “How I can show kindness to someone who is not feeling well.” Have children complete the sheets, helping them think about their own actions and prayers.

Activity (15 minutes)

Objective: To reinforce the lesson through a creative activity that helps children remember the importance of caring for the sick and understanding the sacrament.

Activity:

1. **Healing Tree:** Make a “Healing Tree” on a large piece of paper. Have each child decorate a paper leaf with a way they can help or pray for someone who is sick. Attach the leaves to the tree as a reminder of their commitment to caring for others.

Closure/Homework (10 minutes)

Objective: To review the lesson and encourage children to practice what they’ve learned about caring for the sick and the Anointing of the Sick in their daily lives.