

Catechists and Teachers
Lectionary
Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A
January 16, 2011

Primary Session

John 1:29-34

Opening Prayer

Let us pray.

O God, thank you for loving us.

Thank you for sending your Son Jesus to become one of us.

Help us to live as followers of Jesus.

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray.

Amen.

Opening Life Reflection

The focus for today is the identity of Jesus. To begin, provide outlines of commonly used symbols for Jesus, such as a butterfly, fish, candle and cross on white paper and scissors. Invite the children to choose one symbol that they think best represents Jesus and have them cut it out and decorate it with crayons or markers. Discuss:

- What symbol did you choose for Jesus? Why?
- Who is Jesus?
- What are some names for Jesus?

Allow time for discussion. We find many names and titles for Jesus in the Bible. The names for Jesus help us to understand the truth about who Jesus is.

Listening to the Word of God

In the gospel today listen for the names given to Jesus.

Read John 1:29-34.

Allow for silence.

Scripture Discussion Starters

- What names are given to Jesus?
- Why does John tell the others about Jesus' baptism?
- How does Jesus baptize?

Scripture Background

Provide 2-3 minutes of background information on the gospel using the Catechist Background section.

Today's gospel focuses on the identity of Jesus. During Ordinary Time, we will hear about Jesus as God's Son and our Savior. God made a special promise to send a Savior. We believe God kept his promise by sending his Son, Jesus.

In the gospel today we find clues about who Jesus is. Jesus is given the title, "Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world" and God's Chosen One." These names teach us the truth about Jesus. The names for Jesus found in today's gospel show that Jesus was sent by God.

Questions for Deeper Reflection

- What was God's special promise?
- Why was Jesus sent to live with us?
- How do the names for Jesus found in the Bible help to show us who Jesus is?

[If you are not going to continue with the doctrinal discussion, proceed to the Gospel in Life.]

Doctrinal Discussion Starters

Names of Jesus

God loves us so much that he sent his Son to be with us. Jesus became one of us. Jesus is both God and man. The Bible gives us many names for Jesus to help us come to know him better.

Some names for Jesus found in scripture are "light of the world," "bread of life," "living water," and "good shepherd." Four titles given to Jesus in the New Testament stand out. They are, "Lord," "Christ," "Son of God," and "Son of Man." These names reveal Jesus to be the Savior of the world. The title "Christ" describes Jesus as the promised one of God.

- How does Jesus show God's love for us?
- What name for Jesus do you like best? Why?
- Who helps you come to know Jesus?

The Gospel in Life

Bring home your symbol of Jesus and tell others about who Jesus is this week.

Connecting to Faith First® Legacy Edition

At Home Family Guide, theme 3
Kindergarten, chapters 11, 13, 14
Grade 1, chapter 3
Grade 2, chapter 5
Grade 3, chapter 5

Connecting to Faith First® Original Edition

At Home Family Guide, theme 3

Kindergarten, chapters 11, 13, 14

Grade 1, chapter 4

Grade 2, chapter 5

Grade 3, chapter 5