

Kindergarten: MARRIAGE

OVERVIEW

OBJECTIVE: To gain a sense of each person's helpful and loving purpose in his or her own family.

MAIN CONCEPTS:

- God calls some people to the vocation of marriage.
- Marriage is the life together of a husband and a wife.
- Marriage is about family.
- Families help each other live and love God.

PLANNING DIRECTIONS:

Do the core components. Choose other components you wish to use given the time you have and the needs of your children.

INTRODUCTION

2 min

Summarize today's theme.

Do you remember what vocation means? God calls. Right! You know that God calls all of us to be close to him. That is the most important thing. When people grow up, God calls each person to live a certain way that will be very good for the world and very good for that person. When a person is living the way God asks him, it is called his vocation. Right now, you are in the single state of life, but someday God may call you to a particular vocation—marriage, priesthood, or religious life. Today we will focus on the vocation of marriage, which is when God calls a person to be a mom or a dad.

SIMPLE PRAYER

1 min

Let's draw near to God during today's lesson. Read aloud Matthew 2:10-11.

"When the wise men saw where the star had stopped, they were filled with joy. There they saw the child with Mary his mother and they knelt down and worshipped him." MATTHEW 2:10-11

MARRIAGE

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ACTIVITY



VOCATION LESSONS | Kindergarten: Marriage



POSSIBLE PRAYER:

"Thank you for the holy family of Joseph, Mary and Jesus. Please bless our own families with the same love and peace."



MAIN CONCEPTS

5 min

TEACH:

- God calls some people to the vocation of marriage.
- Marriage is the life together of a husband and wife.
- The vocation of marriage is about family.
- Families help each other live and love God.

REINFORCE:

Ask the children simple questions that they can answer aloud.

- *What is the vocation of marriage about?*
Family!
- *What is it called when God calls people to live together as husband and wife?*
Marriage!
- *What do families do?*
Help each other!

ACTIVITY

10 min

PRETEND VOCATION

Let's play a game to see what kind of things a person does in the vocation of marriage.

1. Display on the board a picture of a mom and dad.
Say, "pretend to be... holding a baby."
2. Students act each one out as teacher says it.
3. Repeat with different actions... i.e., reading a bedtime story to a child, cooking dinner, driving to work, brushing a child's teeth, praying the rosary, or some other action that is common to the vocation of marriage.

READING

15 min

The Best Nest by P.D. Eastman

1. Introduce the story.
2. Read aloud *The Best Nest* (if you have it in your classroom), or show the video.
3. Discuss the reading using the reflection questions and/or any of your own.

MARRIAGE

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ACTIVITY



VOCATION LESSONS | Kindergarten: Marriage



INTRODUCTION:

Families help each other. God brings together a mom and a dad so that they can work as a team to lovingly help their family and lead them to God. Listen to this story of Mr. and Mrs. Bird. See how they work together as a team to help their family.

DISCUSS: BE CURIOUS

- Why did Mr. and Mrs. Bird want a new home?
- What sort of things did Mr. and Mrs. Bird do together?
- What do you think was the funniest place they looked for a new house?
- How did Mr. Bird show his love when Mrs. Bird was missing?
- What did Mrs. Bird realize at the end of the story?
- Why do you think the baby bird liked the old nest?

READING *continued*

CONCLUSION:

A home doesn't have to be big or fancy or new. It just has to be a special place for your family. God gave you the people in your family to love and help you and for you to love and help them. You are a team. Just like Mr. and Mrs. Bird's house, your family doesn't have to be fancy or perfect, but it is always special for you.

EXPLORATION

15 min

MY TALENTS HELP

A family helps each other in life and toward God. There are things about you that you do well- maybe even small things. You are in a family. How do the talents you have help your family?

1. Have the children trace their own hands on a ½ sheet of paper, or give them each a paper with hand outline already on it. In the hand, children should draw a picture or symbol of what they do well that helps their families.
2. Each child then can affix his paper hand to a display (tape, glue or pin it onto a poster, bulletin board or blackboard) that reads, "Family = Helping and Loving Hands."

VISUAL ART

10 min

Display "Return of the Holy Family from Egypt" by Jacob Jordaens, and discuss using the questions below.

- The Holy Family made a trip far away to protect Jesus from some mean people. Now they are walking home. What are Mary and Joseph thinking about as they walk?
- What clues from the painting show you how Joseph feels about Jesus?
- Whose hand is Jesus holding?
- What is light in this painting? What is dark?
- How does the world around the holy family look?



MARRIAGE



PRAYER

"And Joseph went... with Mary to the city of David that is called Bethlehem.. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Mary treasured all these things and thought about the deep in her heart."

- LUKE 2:4-7, 19

PRAY TOGETHER

Hail Mary full of Grace,
the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou
among women

and blessed is the fruit of
thy womb Jesus.

Holy Mary,

Mother of God,

pray for us sinners,

now and at the hour
of our death.

AMEN.

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REFLECTIVE PRAYER

5 min

THE HOLY FAMILY

We study vocation not just to learn about things, but also to realize that God calls each of us to do something today and when we are older.

Your vocation right now is to be a child. This is where God has called you, and he loves you just how you are. How is God calling you today? Does he want you to know him a little more? Does he want to give you the gift of peace? Does he want you to do something good for your family?

Listen to a Bible reading about the Holy Family, and think about Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Their love can come to you and your family. In the quiet moments, you can talk to Jesus about what you are thinking and feeling.

REFLECTIVE PRAYER *continued*

Read Luke 2:4-7, 19 slowly with a few seconds of silence in between each phrase for thought.

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PRAY TOGETHER

5 min

Mary, the Mother of Jesus, helps us with our families and helps people hear their vocation—the life God is calling them to live.

Let us pray the Hail Mary together.

(If students do not yet know this prayer, have them repeat it after you line by line.)



MARRIAGE



PRAYER

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