

GETTING TO KNOW JESUS:

introducing children to Jesus

Scope and sequence

Unit 1: <i>Introducing Jesus</i>		
Aim: This unit introduces children to Jesus from the baby Jesus that they may have heard about at Christmas time, to the adult Jesus beginning God's mission on earth. The children will explore: Jesus is a gift from God to help understand God's great love for us; God uses ordinary people to spread the Good News of Jesus; that like Jesus, they are growing in wisdom and strength; Jesus beginning his public ministry.		
Lesson 1	Jesus Blesses the Children	Mark 10.13-16
Lesson 2	The Birth of Jesus	Luke 2.1-7
Lesson 3	Good News Messengers	Luke 2.8-20
Lesson 4	Jesus Grows Up	Luke 2.41-52
Lesson 5	Jesus is Baptised and Tested	Mark 1.9-13
Unit 2: <i>Jesus' Ministry</i>		
Aim: This unit introduces children to key stories in the ministry of Jesus. The children will explore: Jesus calling particular people to follow him; how Jesus offers people a way to be healed in mind, body, and soul; that Jesus is the Messiah, the Anointed Chosen One promised by God; Jesus' last meal with his disciples and the significance of his actions breaking bread and sharing wine; that not everyone was happy with the message Jesus was spreading (for older children); the events of Jesus' life from Palm Sunday to Good Friday.		
Lesson 6	Jesus Calls Four Fishermen	Mark 1.14-20
Lesson 7	Jesus Heals Many People	Mark 1.21-45
Lesson 8	Jesus Rides into Jerusalem	Mark 11.1-11
Lesson 9a	Jesus has a Last Supper with his Disciples	Mark 14.22-25
Lesson 9b*	Jesus Makes Enemies, Judas Betrays Jesus *for older children	Mark 14.1-2, 10-11
Lesson 10	Jesus Dies	Mark 15.33-37
Unit 3: <i>The Risen Jesus</i>		
Aim: This unit introduces children to key post-resurrection stories. The children will explore: that for Christians the Easter story is one of hope, a story of new life; that Jesus brings peace in times of fear and disappointment; they can trust Jesus even without seeing him; how Jesus can bring them an abundance of gifts; how Jesus' mission continues today through his followers.		
Lesson 11	Jesus is alive	Mark 16.1-8
Lesson 12	Jesus says 'Peace Be with You'	John 20.19-23
Lesson 13	Jesus Appears to Thomas and the Other Disciples	John 20.24-29
Lesson 14	The Disciples Catch Many Fish	John 21.1-14
Lesson 15	Jesus Farewells his Disciples	Matthew 28.16-20

Unit 4: *The Early Church – In the Spirit of Jesus*

Aim: This unit introduces children to stories of the early Church. The children will explore: the beginnings of the Church that we know today; explore the power of the Holy Spirit of God; how the first followers of Jesus lived their lives; the many miracles and wonders performed through the apostles in the name of Jesus Christ; the practice of the early followers of Jesus who joined the apostles and were of one heart and one soul; the storey of Lydia, a woman who opened her heart to respond to Paul's message.

Lesson 16	The First Community in Jerusalem	Acts 1.13-14,21-26
Lesson 17	The Birthday of the Christian Church	Acts 2.1-12
Lesson 18	The Common Life of Believers	Acts 2.42-47
Lesson 19	Peter Heals in the Name of Jesus	Acts 3.1-10
Lesson 20	Sharing All Things Together	Acts 4.32-37
Lesson 21	Remembering Jesus – Lydia	Acts 16.11-15

Unit 5: *Encounters with Jesus*

Aim: This unit introduces children to people whose lives were changed through their encounter with Jesus. The children will explore: the first of the signs through which Jesus revealed his glory; this story of the faith and friendship of four friends; Jesus helping Bartimaeus; how Zacchaeus changed his ways on meeting Jesus; Jesus wants to get know them; that Jesus, the Son of God, is able to help them; how Jesus helped people who were outcasts of their community.

Lesson 22	Wedding Feast at Cana	John 2.1-12
Lesson 23	Four Friends take a Paralysed Man to Jesus	Mark 2.1-12
Lesson 24	Jesus Heals Bartimaeus	Mark 10.46-52
Lesson 25	Jesus Meets Zacchaeus	Luke 19.1-10
Lesson 26	Jesus Visits Martha and Mary	Luke 10.38-42
Lesson 27	Jesus Feeds a Crowd of People	John 6.1-15
Lesson 28	Ten People with Leprosy	Luke 17.11-19

Unit 6: *Stories Jesus Told*

Aim: This unit explores five parables that Jesus told his followers to teach them lessons in their daily lives. Through these simple and memorable stories, the children will explore: how they can spread God's goodness to others; ow they respond to God; how to live as a Christian; how God and all of heaven celebrates when someone who is lost returns to Jesus; being humble rather than proud and showing off.

Lesson 29	The Sower and the Seed	Mark 4.1-9
Lesson 30	The Two Sons	Matthew 21.28-32
Lesson 31	The Good Samaritan	Luke 10.25-37
Lesson 32	The Lost Sheep	Luke 15.1-7
Lesson 33	The Tax Collector and Pharisee	Luke 18.9-14

Unit 7: Stories Jesus Knew

Aim: This unit introduces children to some of the stories Jesus knew from the Hebrew scriptures. The children will explore: several creation stories from the Bible and the messages they have for them; through the story of Abraham and Sarah, that God keeps every promise that God makes; God's providence through the story of Joseph and his brothers; Christians' belief that God has a plan for every person, through the story of the birth of Moses; how God might be trying to get their attention, just as God called Moses; the Ten Commandments which God gave Moses; the story of God choosing David to be king; how David did not act on his own but put his faith in God.

Lesson 34	A Story of Creation	Genesis 1.1-31, 2.1-3
Lesson 35*	Another Creation Story – Adam and Eve *for older children	Genesis 2.7-25
Lesson 36	Another Creation Story – Noah	Genesis 6.9-22, 9.8-13
Lesson 37	Abraham and Sarah	Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16
Lesson 38	Joseph and His Brothers	Genesis 37.5-36
Lesson 39	The Birth of Moses	Exodus 2.1-10
Lesson 40	God Calls Moses	Exodus 3.1-6
Lesson 41	Moses and the Ten Commandments	Exodus 20.1-17
Lesson 42	David is Anointed	1 Samuel 16.1-13
Lesson 43	David and Goliath	1 Samuel 17

Unit 8: Messages from Jesus

Aim: This unit introduces children to some key messages Jesus gave his followers about the Kingdom of God. The children will explore: how the Christian Church is like the largest garden plant, the mustard tree, which grows from the smallest of all seeds; that the most precious treasure is God's kingdom; how closely connected they are to Jesus; how Jesus cares about them and that they can always trust Jesus.

Lesson 44	The Kingdom of God is Like ... a Mustard Seed	Mark 4.30-34
Lesson 45	The Kingdom of God is Like ... a Treasure Hidden in a Field	Matthew 13.44
Lesson 46	Jesus is the True Vine	John 15.1-5, 7-8
Lesson 47*	Jesus Says ... *bonus lesson	

Unit 9: Catholic Addendum

Aim: This unit contains some basic information regarding Catholic practice that would be helpful for those who work with Catholic children only in State School Religious Instruction, in parishes, in Catholic schools, and in out-of-school activities with Catholic children.

Lesson 48	The Feast Day of St Mary of the Cross MacKillop	Matthew 6:24-34
Extra Content	Catholic Corner Mysteries of the Rosary	