

Jesus Is Our King

Allelu!

Growing and Celebrating with Jesus

Lesson 10, ages 4-5

Lesson 10 Goal

- Your child will learn that Jesus, the Son of God, is also our King.

Key Points

- Jesus is the King of Heaven and the earth.
- We celebrate the “kingship” of Jesus on the feast of Christ the King.



Parent Reflection

In the second chapter of his letter to the Philippians, Saint Paul connects Jesus’ kingship to his humility, saying that even though Jesus was God, “he did not deem equality with God as something to be grasped at. Rather, he emptied himself and took the form of a slave” (Philippians 2:6-7). The passage goes on to say that God the Father exalted Jesus to the highest place because of this humility.

Before he went back to be with the Father, Jesus gave Peter the “keys to the kingdom” (Matthew 16:19). This was a common expression in Jesus’ day, when there were more monarchies than there are in present times. When a king gave the “keys to the kingdom,” it meant that the king would be away for a while and he was appointing someone to act in his absence. The person was charged with choosing actions the king would choose were he present.

This Christ-instituted tradition of the papacy has continued throughout the history of the Church. Our honor of Christ the King should also include respect given to the one who holds “the keys to the kingdom.” As parents, this means faithfully handing on the teaching of the Church, showing respect for our leaders, ensuring that we do not misrepresent Church teaching. Instead, we should prayerfully seek to understand why our Church teaches what she teaches, and help others to do the same.

Reflection Question

How do I acknowledge the “kingship” of Christ in my daily life? In what ways do I allow him to lead in the decisions I make?

Lesson Preparation

Before inviting your child to sit with you for lesson time, prepare all materials.

Materials

- ❑ Family Activity Sheet
- ❑ crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- ❑ safety scissors
- ❑ poster board
- ❑ glue stick
- ❑ pictures from magazines or online images that portray aspects of nature, such as clouds, insects, plants, trees, animals, and pictures of people of varied ethnicities and ages

- ❑ Activity Master #2 – Saint Page (Keep the saint page from each lesson to gather together a Communion of Saints Book created by your child.)

Preparation Steps

- ❑ Make sure your child has a copy of Activity Master #2 (included with this lesson).
- ❑ On the poster board, print the words *Jesus Is King of All Creation*.

Gathering

Create a prayerful space. You might place a candle on the table, or set a cross in front of you. Invite your child to join you in quietly preparing for prayer.

Say the following or similar words: *“Now that we are in this prayerful space, let us find the quiet in our hearts so we can talk with God.”*

Sit together for several seconds of shared silence.

Say, *“Today we will learn more about a feast called Christ the King. First, I’ll read a prayer, which is from a beautiful psalm in the Bible. The prayer celebrates Jesus who can also be called Christ the King.”*

Begin in prayer:

Pray the Sign of the Cross together or bless your child by tracing a cross on his or her forehead: *“In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”*

Read aloud the psalm:

*Sing praise to the Lord with the harp,
with harp and melodious song.*

*With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy to the King, the Lord.*

Let the sea and what fills it resound,

*the world and those who dwell there;
Let the rivers clap their hands,
the mountains shout with them for joy.*

*Before the Lord who comes,
who comes to govern the earth,
To govern the world with justice
and the peoples with fairness.*

(Based on Psalm 98)

Pray together: *“Thank you, God, for our gifts. May we use them to do your work. Amen.”*

Discovering

Sing Praise to the Lord. Turn to the first page of the Activity Sheet and read about praising God.

Ask your child, “Why is Jesus the most important king of all?”

Turn to the second page of the Activity Sheet. Ask your child the “Ask Me!” questions and review the answers.

Exploring

Use the following activities to enrich your child’s understanding of the lesson and of our Catholic

faith.

1. Christ the King. Turn to the main activity of the Activity Sheet (center pages) and invite your child to describe what he or she sees. Give your child crayons or colored pencils. Explain the activity to your child and have him or her complete it.

2. “King of All Creation” Collage. Explain to your child that in this activity he or she can make a collage. Hold up a few of the pictures that you have ready and lead your child to realize that the pictures show items of creation, such as plants, animals, and people of different ethnicities and ages. Show how to glue the pictures on the poster board. Display the completed collage for the family to see.

3. The Communion of Saints: Saint David I of Scotland. Show your child the picture of Saint David I on the Family Activity page and read about him. Then read more about Saint David to your child (see page 4).

Ask your child:

► “David wanted to be a good king. What are some ways he did that?” (*He helped all people who came to him. He built schools. He let people come to him with their problems.*)

► David’s parents taught him to love God and be kind? Who teaches you to love God and be kind?

Have your child write and draw about Saint David I using Activity Master #2.

Sending

Pray with your child. Begin by making the Sign of the Cross together, or bless your child by tracing a cross on his or her forehead. Pray aloud with your child.

Say, “We know Jesus is our teacher, our friend, and that he helps people. And today, we celebrate Jesus as King of Heaven and earth. He brings us a kingdom of truth and life, of holiness and grace, and of justice, love, and peace.

“Let us pray. Dear Jesus, thank you for being the King of our lives. We celebrate you and your love for us. Amen.”

Saint David I of Scotland

A Good King

David was a four-year-old prince. His mother and father were the king and queen of Scotland. Today he was watching his five big brothers and two sisters read and study. The teacher worked with each one. Their mother had carefully chosen the children's teacher.

The door opened and the children smiled. Their mother, Queen Margaret, came in to teach the religion class. "David, you can join us now that you are four years old!" she said. David sat in his mother's lap. First the family prayed together, and then David's lessons began.

On other days David watched his parents do good deeds as king and queen. They welcomed hungry people at the castle, serving the food themselves. His mother held orphaned babies on her lap and fed them. As she held them, she smiled at David and said, "They are God's children, just as you are!"

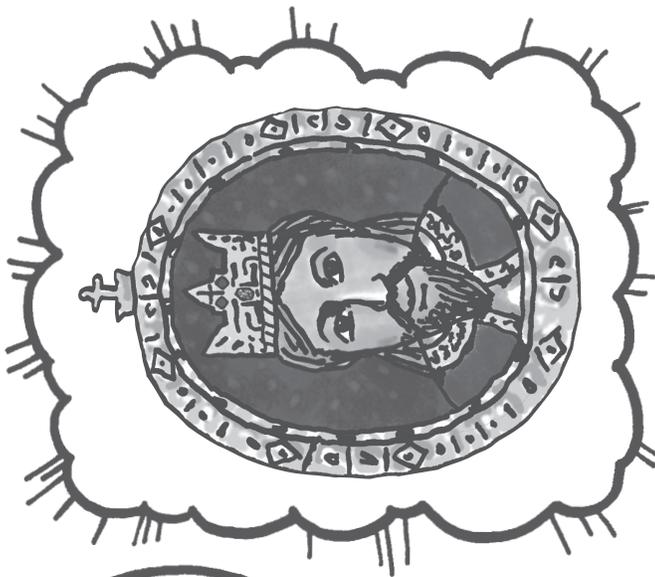
David's parents also had schools and hospitals built for the care of the sick. His mother welcomed everyone to come to her with a problem. "Most kings or queens don't do that," his sister explained.

Each day, the king and queen prayed with their children. David grew up to be a prayerful and happy man. His older brother was now king. But when his brother died, David became the King. King David wanted to be a very good king, following his parents' example. King David prayed. He made laws that were fair to everyone and shared his money. He used his money to build schools, because he wanted everyone, rich or poor, to go to school. Like his mother, Queen Margaret, he let people come to him with their problems.

David was a good king to all people because he knew that all people are children of God.



DRAW



**Saint
David,
pray for us!**