

# Consecrated for Christ

## *God's plan for Religious*

### Grades K-2: Lesson 4

*Goal: Students will explain that Religious live with Jesus and are His special helpers. Students will tell how Religious help the Church.*

**Scripture:** Isaiah 43:4

"...you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you."

**Catechism:** CCC 916

"In the consecrated life, Christ's faithful... propose to follow Christ more nearly..."

#### **Lesson:**

**Opening Prayer:** "Dear Jesus, thank you for loving us. We love you. Help us to learn about your special helpers called Religious. Amen."

- Ask students who they live with at their house. Ask what the group of people they live with is called (family).
- Today they are going to learn about a special vocation called the Religious Life.
- In the Religious Life, people live with Jesus.
- What are some things families do together (talk to each other, help each other, spend time with each other). In Religious Life, sisters and brothers spend time with Jesus talking to Him and being His special helpers.
- Sisters and brothers want to live like Jesus.

#### **Instruction:**

1. Because Religious want to live like Jesus, they "copy" His example.
2. Play *Follow the Leader* imitation game (Choose a leader. Children copy the actions of the leader by marching in place, clapping hands, hopping, etc...) Connect how as Religious we try to "copy" Jesus' example (loving the poor, teaching the people about God, praying to God, trying to make good choices so we can be saints...)
3. Play song: Walk like Jesus (available: "Mary Rice Hopkins & Company - 15 Singable Songs For The Young At Heart") Use motions to act out the song.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwamsO6KqCk>
4. To live with Jesus and be like Him it is most important for Religious to listen and talk to Jesus. Religious do this by praying to Jesus. Prayer is talking to God and listening to Him.

5. Religious help people like Jesus did. Jesus was a teacher and some Religious help people who are sick today. Jesus taught people how to pray and talk to God and some Religious help others to pray too. Jesus helped the poor people and some Religious help the poor people too.
  - a. Read a story/view a video showing how Jesus helped others.
  - b. Suggested resources: Bible App for Kids <https://www.bible.com/kids/> (allows children to read/hear the Bible stories and interact with them on an iPad)
  
6. We are going to hear about a few saints who were Religious and how they followed Jesus. (Retell these saints stories to the students)
  - St. Francis – taught people about God’s love
  - St. Teresa of Calcutta – helping the poor
  - St. Teresa Margaret Redi – helping the sickResources:
  - a. Holy Spirit Interactive has biographies for all the saints. <http://www.holyspiritinteractive.net/kids/saints/>
  - b. Holy Heroes has excellent DVDs available for purchase about the lives of the saints <http://www.holyheroes.com/Audio-CDs-s/28.html>

Remind children to ask Jesus and Mary every day to help them to know what their vocation is.

**Conclusion** watch: “Do You Want to be a Sister?” video by the Salesians  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FZ31MJfk1cM>

**Prayer:** Dear Jesus, Thank you for all the men and women who are your special helpers as religious. Help them to follow you every day. Help me to know what my vocation is. I love you.

**Homework/A Step Beyond:**

As a family, find out if there are any religious that are part of your parish and/or diocese and what areas of service they help with. Make a card for them thanking them for being Jesus’ special helpers and, if possible, give the card to them in person.