



Holy
Communion
Preparation

Lesson 1
First
Reconciliation

Following Jesus

Are the following children following Jesus? Circle the correct answer.

- | | | |
|---|-----|----|
| Gemma cheats to win a board game. | Yes | No |
| Oran helps his younger brother Rian to learn his spellings. | Yes | No |
| Caoimhe shares her sweets with her friend. | Yes | No |
| Tom kicks Shane in the playground. | Yes | No |
| Grace tells a lie to her teacher. | Yes | No |
| Oisín helps his friend Fionn tidy the classroom. | Yes | No |

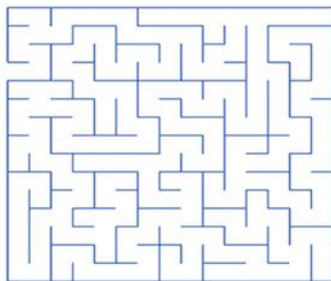


Fill in the blanks with the words provided below

- Our _____ is the inner voice that helps us to tell the difference between right and wrong.
- In the Sacrament of Reconciliation we _____ our sins to the priest, which means we tell him our sins.
- The priest gives us _____ so that we can show we are sorry for our mistakes.
- The prayer of _____ prayed by the priest forgives us our sins and gives us a brand new start.
- God is full of love and forgiveness. We see this in the story of _____ who climbed a tree to see Jesus.

(absolution, confess, conscience, Zacchaeus, penance)

Help Zacchaeus come
down from the tree
and find his way
through the maze to
Jesus



Holy
Communion
Preparation

Lesson 1
First
Reconciliation

Section C: Celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation

The following steps will help you to celebrate well the Sacrament of Reconciliation

1. Think of your sins, the things you have done wrong that separate you from God and others.
2. Be sorry for these things that you have done wrong.
3. Go to the priest and say hello.
4. Bless yourself, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.'
5. Say, 'Bless me Father for I have sinned, I did not show love when...'
6. Tell the priest your sins (the things you had thought about earlier).
7. The priest gives penance—he may ask you to say a prayer or do something nice to show that you are sorry.
8. Pray the 'Act of Sorrow' to show that you are sorry and that you want to do better.
Act of Sorrow: O my God, I thank you for loving me. I am sorry for all my sins. For not loving others and not loving you. Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again. Amen
(Practice the forgiveness prayers that are on page 66 of your 'Grow in Love' student's book)
9. The priest prays the prayer of absolution and forgives your sins. At the end of this prayer you bless yourself, 'In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.'
10. Do whatever penance the priest asked you to do (and celebrate the fact that you have been forgiven!!!)



Family Assignment



Complete the following section with members of your family (where possible)

1. Think about how you make decisions
 - a) Think about a good decision you made, something that was kind that you were glad you did. Talk together about what you did, why you did it, how it affected someone else and how you felt afterwards.
 - b) Think about a bad decision you made, something that may have been unkind or hurtful. Talk together about what you did, why you did it, how it affected someone else and how you felt afterwards.
 - c) Share with each other what you feel helps you know the difference between right and wrong.
 - d) 'Is it always wrong to steal?' - think about this as a family, talk to each other about this.
2. Zacchaeus treated people unfairly but Jesus still loved and forgave him and Zacchaeus changed his ways.
 - a) Write the name of someone you feel is very forgiving. Compare your answers to see if you have named the same person. Share with each other the reasons you think this person is forgiving.
 - b) Share a story about a time when you forgave someone. What did they do wrong? How did you feel? How did you forgive them? How did it feel to forgive them?
 - c) Share with each other what you might say and do if you have hurt someone? Have you ever had to ask someone to forgive you? Was it hard? What did you do wrong? How did it feel to be forgiven?
3. As a family share your memories of your First Reconciliation. What class were you in? Who was your teacher? Were you nervous? Can you remember what you said? What does it feel like to be forgiven?