

You can make father very happy by being kind to him and the rest of the family. You can make father's job easier by obeying him willingly with a smile and listening to his advice. You can also show father your love for him by being helpful whenever possible. Can you mention some other ways you can show your love for father?

If you do all this your home will be a happy home because everyone will do something to make others happy.

C. Organization

1. How does your father show you that he loves you?
2. Why does he do all these things for you?
3. How can you show your love and gratitude?
4. How do we show respect for our fathers?

D. Virtues and Practices

1. Show love for your father by being respectful, obedient, truthful, helpful, patient, considerate.
2. Show your father that you appreciate the home he gives you.
3. Be helpful and willing to give up little things you want.

IV. SUGGESTED LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- A. Dramatize ways of helpful and courteous behavior at home.
- B. Draw pictures to illustrate kindness at home.
- C. Stories: "Alice's Shoes," Sister Marguerite, *Their Hearts Are His Garden*, pp. 41-42; "Father Helps," *ibid.*, pp. 43-44.
- D. Poem: "Helping Others," Belger, *Sing a Song of Holy Things*, p. 82.

V. TEACHER REFERENCES (cf. p. 303 ff.).

- A. S.N.D., *Religious Teaching of Young Children*, p. 81.
- B. Schumacher, *I Teach Catechism, Vol. I*, pp. 1-5.

LESSON 11

I. SUBJECT MATTER

Love and Care of Our Heavenly Father

II. OBJECTIVES

- A. To develop the knowledge that God is our heavenly Father.
- B. To instill in the children a deep love for our heavenly Father.

III. SUGGESTED PROCEDURE

A. Approach

Work, sacrifices, surprises, and gifts are some ways through which your father shows his love for you. He cares for you and does many kind things to make you happy. However, there is Someone who loves you more than your earthly father.

B. Presentation

1. *God Is Our Heavenly Father*

God, our heavenly Father, is the best of fathers. From His heavenly home, He watches over us day and night, lovingly sending us all the good things we need. God, even more than our earthly fathers, thinks of us every minute of the day. He listens to us when we speak to Him. He sees us everywhere and knows all our needs. God, our kind heavenly Father, takes the best care of us because He knows all about us.

2. *God Made Us to Show His Goodness*

God shows us His goodness by making everything we see around us — flowers, trees, stars, sun, moon, etc. The most important creature that God made is a human person. God made you and God made me. He made your mother, father, brothers, sisters; in other words, God made everyone in the whole world. Do you know why? God wanted to show us His goodness; therefore, He made us all. Isn't it wonderful that God thought of us and loved us so much?

3. *God Made Us to Be Happy With Him in Heaven*

God made us to show His goodness. He also made us because He wants us to be happy with Him in heaven. Heaven is a beautiful place. That is our heavenly home. God is waiting for us all to come there and enjoy it with the angels and saints. We are happy with our family in our earthly home, but we will be happier with God in heaven.

4. *We Belong to God*

Our fathers and mothers always say we belong to them. But God has more right to us. We really belong to Him because He made us for

Himself. God wanted us, God made us, and now God takes care of us. No one can do more for us than God. We are His children. Therefore, we should always try to please Him in all we do and say, so that some day we can be happy with Him in heaven.

5. *Ways We Can Show God Our Love*

Just as we like to show our love and make our parents happy, we should try to show God our love, too. There are many chances during the day in which we can do it. Praying to God is loving Him. God loves to see you say your daily prayers in the nicest way. How pleased He is when He sees you are an obedient child. We can love Him by being kind to others. Each day we have many chances to prove our love for God. Can you mention other ways?

C. **Organization**

1. Why do we call God our heavenly Father?
2. Who made us?
3. Why did God make us?
4. What does God do to make us happy?
5. How can we show our love for God's goodness to us?

D. **Virtues and Practices**

1. Praise God for being so great and good.
2. Thank God for His goodness to you.
3. Obey His laws.
4. Show kindness and helpfulness to others.
5. Learn all you can about God.

IV. **SUGGESTED LEARNING ACTIVITIES**

- A. Compose original prayers of love and gratitude.
- B. Stories: "God's Love," Sister Marguerite, *Their Hearts Are His Garden*, p. 3; "God's Happiness," *ibid.*, pp. 6-10.

V. **TEACHER REFERENCES (cf. p. 303 ff.).**

- A. Sister Mary, et al., *The Catholic Mother's Helper*, pp. 20-21.
- B. S.N.D., *Religious Teaching of Young Children*, pp. 81-84.
- C. Schumacher, *I Teach Catechism*, Vol. I, pp. 1-8.

LESSON 12

I. **SUBJECT MATTER**

Why God Created Us

II. **OBJECTIVES**

- A. To understand God's purpose in creating us.
- B. To appreciate His great love for us.

III. **SUGGESTED PROCEDURE**

A. **Approach**

Do you remember why God made us? God made us to show His goodness and to make us happy with Him in heaven. To share the happiness of heaven we must do what God wants us to do.

B. **Presentation**

1. *We Must Know God*

It is nice to know your friends. It is much nicer to know God, our heavenly Father. We know that He is a good and kind Father. He loves us and cares for us every day. As the days go by we will learn more and more about God in our religion lessons. We will learn how wonderful and powerful He is. The priest in church and our parents at home will tell you many things about God, too. Just think — you will know Him more and more as your best Friend. Then you will try to be like Him in everything you do and say.

2. *We Must Love God*

We love our friends because we know them. If we know God we will love Him, too. The more you learn about God, the more you will love Him. Every time you think of God whisper to Him a secret that you love Him. Whisper it to God now. (Minute meditation.) Prayer is talking to God; it is also loving God. When you pray God listens, because He knows you love Him.

3. *We Must Serve God*

We must not only tell God we love Him, but, above all, we must show how much we love Him. Doing things for love of God proves our love. A child who really loves God will gladly serve Him. To