

FAITH AT HOME

A Parent Companion



THE LOST SHEEP & THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT



Lesson Overview:

This week we looked at how Jesus' teaching relates to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We read one of his parables, the story of the lost sheep:

The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to him, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them." So to them he addressed this parable. "What man among you having a hundred sheep and losing one of them would not leave the ninety-nine in the desert and go after the lost one until he finds it? And when he does find it, he sets it on his shoulders with great joy and, upon his arrival home, he calls together his friends and neighbors and says to them, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you, in just the same way there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who have no need of repentance."

This parable helps us to understand how Jesus cares for us and draws us back to Him when we turn away and get lost through sin.

We also discussed the fourth commandment: *Honor your father and mother*. We taught the children that to honor means to respect, value, and obey. The commandment recognizes that both parents and children have lifelong responsibilities toward one another: to care for, respect, and help each other. We also learned how the command teaches us to obey others in authority, such as teachers, police, and government officials.



"The Sermon on the Mount"
by Karl Heinrich Bloch
Source: Wikimedia Commons

SAINTS AMONG US

Reconciliation



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REVIEW WITH YOUR CHILD

1. What type of stories did Jesus use to teach lessons? **Parables.**
2. What is the meaning of the Parable of the Lost Sheep? **Jesus is the Good Shepherd who wants to save us when we turn away from Him.**
3. What is the fourth commandment? **Honor your father and mother. words, avoiding cursing and using God's name without respect.**

FAITH IN ACTION

One way to show honor to others in our family is to tell them something we appreciate about them on special occasions such as birthdays, Mother's Day, etc.

AT HOME

1. Read the parable copied on the previous page (Luke 15:1-7) with your child. Discuss it with him or her.
2. We asked the children to do something to show you their love this week. We encourage you to do something special for them as well.
3. Practice saying the Act of Contrition as a family.

Act of Contrition

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You, and I detest all my sins because of Your just punishments, but most of all because I have offended You, my God, Who are all-good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin.



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