

# Lesson 19 – A Generous Spirit

Grade 4 - Chapter 19

## KEY CONCEPT

*The Commandments call you to be generous and to have the right attitude toward possessions. Stewardship is the way we appreciate and use God's gifts, including our time, talent, and treasure, and the resources of creation.*

## QUICK SESSION

### OVERVIEW

**STEP 1 - WELCOME**

**STEP 2 - INVITE**

**STEP 3 - DISCOVER**

**STEP 4 - LIVE**

**STEP 5 - CLOSING**

### 3 Helpful Tips to Finish the Year Strong

1. Don't coast through the finish line – be even more intentional than before about teaching these kids the beauty of the Faith
2. Draw on the relationships you built – you've built relationships with these kids and they respect you, use that to challenge them to live out their faith more
3. Choose to enjoy the little moments that might be even more profound to these kids than you will ever know

## **STEP 1 - WELCOME**

### **TIP**

#### **Community Activity**

## **STEP 2 - INVITE**

### **TIP**

#### **Let us Pray (pg. 257)**

#### **Say the Memorare**

Use this story after the opening prayer, before explaining that the Seven Sacraments are signs of God's love for us.

- Read aloud the story as the children follow along.
- Say: Think about something you own that someone else has admired.
- Ask: How difficult would it be for you to give it away. Why?
- Explain that generosity means being free in giving.

#### **The Giveaway**

Some Native Americans have a custom called giveaway. Instead of receiving gifts on his or her birthday, a person gives away a possession that someone else has admired during the year. Native Americans say that this custom helps them show gratitude for the gifts of life and good fortune.

The giveaway is not just a birthday custom. Some Native American families use the giveaway as a year-long custom to honor the memory of a loved one.

#### **Read scripture passage**

**Ask the What do you wonder questions.**

## **STEP 3 – DISCOVER**

### **TIP**

#### **What Really Matters**

- **Ask: What does Jesus want you to know about riches?**
- **Read the paragraph.**

#### **Read Scripture passage.**

- **Ask: What did the rich fool do when he ran out of space to store his harvest?**
- **Remind the children that this parable warns against the foolishness of attaching too much importance to wealth. The rich farmer in this story is portrayed negatively as an example of extreme greed. The story points out that no amount of wealth can protect someone from death and or God's judgement at the time of death. Instead of focusing on accumulating material possessions, we should be focused on growing in love with God and others.**

#### **Poor in Spirit**

- **Read the paragraphs**
- **Ask: What did Jesus tell the rich young man to do?**

#### **Discuss the Share the Faith section**

#### **Generosity and Humility (pg. 260)**

- **Ask: What do the Seventh and Tenth Commandments teach you?**
- **Read the paragraphs**

#### **Called to Share**

- **Read the paragraphs.**
- **Talk about the Catholic Faith words to help the children understand their meaning.**

#### **Activity – Good Stewards sheet**

#### **Called to Stewardship**

- **Read the paragraphs**
- **Read the Scripture passage**
- **Ask: Why do you think the widow contributed more than the rest?**

**Do the connect your Faith section**

- **Talk about how the children can use their time, talent, and treasures to help participate in church.**

## ***STEP 4 - LIVE***

### **TIP**

#### **Our Catholic Life**

- **Ask: How can you learn to have a more generous spirit?**
- **Read paragraphs**
- **In the open sections of the cloth, have the children write ways to follow some of these suggestions this week.**

**Ascension (This feast is celebrated on May 13th this year)**

**Talk about the Ascension from the attached sheet**

#### **People of Faith**

- **Discuss about Saint Margaret of Scotland.**

## ***STEP 5 – CLOSING***

### **TIP**

**Pray:**

**Read the Beatitudes with the children before final prayers. (pg. 264)**

- **Our Father**
- **Memorare**

**Take Homes:**

- **Family and Faith**
- **Chapter Review**

## Chapter 19 Activity Master

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Good Stewards

Fill in the chart to show the gifts that God has given you, why each gift is important, and how you are taking care of it or using it for good. You can include material gifts, such as water, clothing, and toys, as well as spiritual gifts, such as virtues and talents.

My Gift	Why It Is Important	How I Care for It

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Now draw a picture of yourself being a good steward of one of these gifts.



## **The Ascension**

### **Question: "What is the meaning and importance of the ascension of Jesus Christ?"**

After Jesus rose from the dead, He "presented Himself alive" to the women near the tomb), to His disciples, and to more than 500 others). In the days following His resurrection, Jesus taught His disciples about the kingdom of God.

Forty days after the resurrection, Jesus and His disciples went to Mount Olivet, near Jerusalem. There, Jesus promised His followers that they would soon receive the Holy Spirit, and He instructed them to remain in Jerusalem until the Spirit had come. Then Jesus blessed them, and as He gave the blessing, He began to ascend into heaven. The account of Jesus' ascension is found in [Luke 24:50-51](#) and [Acts 1:9-11](#).

It is plain from Scripture that Jesus' ascension was a literal, bodily return to heaven. He rose from the ground gradually and visibly, observed by many intent onlookers. As the disciples strained to catch a last glimpse of Jesus, a cloud hid Him from their view, and two angels appeared and promised Christ's return "in just the same way that you have watched Him go".

### **The Ascension of Jesus Christ is meaningful for several reasons:**

- 1) It signaled the end of His earthly ministry. God the Father had lovingly sent His Son into the world at Bethlehem, and now the Son was returning to the Father. The period of human limitation was at an end.
- 2) It signified success in His earthly work. All that He had come to do, He had accomplished.
- 3) It marked the return of His heavenly glory. Jesus' glory had been veiled during His sojourn on earth, with one brief exception at the Transfiguration.
- 4) It symbolized His exaltation by the Father. The One with whom the Father is well pleased was raised up in honor and given a name above all names.
- 5) It allowed Him to prepare a place for us.
- 6) It indicated the beginning of His new work as High Priest and Mediator of the New Covenant.
- 7) It set the pattern for His return. When Jesus comes to set up the Kingdom, He will return just as He left-literally, bodily, and visibly in the clouds.

Currently, the Lord Jesus is in heaven. The Scriptures frequently picture Him at the right hand of the Father—a position of honor and authority. Christ is the Head of the Church, the giver of spiritual gifts, and the One who fills all in all.



# The Ascension of Jesus

While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up to heaven.  
Luke 24:51 (NIV)

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.



X	W	V	D	J	Q	R	I	B	S	O	A	E	U	C	P	K	N	H	L	G	M	Y	Z	F	T
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26

- 25-14-20-25-8-20-20-13-4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 11-16-13-18-13-4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 22-8-18-4-10 \_\_\_\_\_
- 10-15-7-8-16-26-14-7-13 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7-8-10-13 \_\_\_\_\_
- 7-13-16-13-18-26 \_\_\_\_\_
- 9-20-13-10-10-8-18-21 \_\_\_\_\_
- 26-12-17-13-18 \_\_\_\_\_
- 19-13-12-3-13-18 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2-11-7-10-19-8-16-13-4 \_\_\_\_\_

SCRIPTURE	RISE	REPENT	HEAVEN	BLESSING
MINDS	TAKEN	OPENED	WORSHIPED	FULFILLED