

Lesson 24

Be Reconciled

Lesson Objectives

- Realize that throughout life we are continually called to turn away from sin and be reconciled with God and others.
- Explore the parts of the Holy Mystery of Penance.
- Deepen our desire to celebrate the Mystery of Penance frequently.

Lesson Summary

In this lesson, we will see how the Mystery of Penance brings us back to God.

Lesson Plan

Introduction (Minutes 1-10)

- Pray the Opening Prayer together.
- Review the introduction.
- Show a video or song.

Review Point 1: Be Reconciled (Minutes 10-15)

- For reflection: Think about a time that you offended God and how you felt afterward.

Review Point 2: Ongoing Conversion

- For reflection: Think about how you felt after you asked God to forgive you.

Review Point 3: The Mystery of Penance (Minutes 15-20)

- For reflection: Think about how wonderful it is that God always forgives us and continues to love us.

Activities: Choose 1 or 2. (Minutes 25-30)

Activity 1:

Fill in the blanks.

Answer key:

Act of Contrition

1. O my God, I am heartily sorry **(E) for having offended thee.**
2. And I detest all my sins **(D) because of thy just punishments.**
3. But most of all because they offended thee, my God **(C) who are all good and deserving of all my love.**
4. I firmly resolve **(B) with the help of thy grace.**
5. To sin no more **(A) and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen.**

Activity 2:

Forgiving father skit.

Answer key:

- Answers will vary.

Prayer and Role Model (Minutes 30-35)

- Pray From the Maronite Tradition (Together)

Complete Recall Section (Minutes 35-40)

Underline the correct answer in each sentence.

Answer key:

1. The word (penance | reconciliation) means “to become friends again.”
2. God is always willing to (forgive | punish) us.
3. (Chrismation | Penance) is the Holy Mystery that reconciles us to God and others.

4. The (absolution | penance) is a prayer or action that shows we are truly sorry for our sin and will try to make things right again.
5. The term (contrition | Immaculate Conception) means “sorrow for sin.”
6. (Mary | Saint Maron) was the first human to be reconciled with God after the sin of Adam and Eve.
7. We take part in a (Penitential | Communion) Rite before receiving Holy Communion during the Divine Liturgy.

Review Weekly Journal (Minutes 40-44)

For Additional Reflection:

- How do you think you have grown as a Maronite after these lessons?

Closing (Minutes 45)

- Pray the Concluding Prayer together.

Optional

- Use the Climbing Mountain Section and Reaching the Summit Section.

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