

Kolbe Academy Home School

GRADE FOUR RELIGION

Faith and Life: Jesus Our Guide

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Teacher's Notes: Begin every class with a prayer. This is a good way to help the child memorize new prayers. Repeat the same ones every day until they are known. Be sure to explain the meanings of the prayers. Repetition in all areas of study is most beneficial. In most cases, Fridays have been left open. You may do a four day week or use Friday as a "catch-up" day. While art and music should be worked in during the week, Friday is also a good day to concentrate on those subjects.

Your student may not need all of Week 8 for review. You can use this time to catch up if necessary and then go over the subject matter. If you intend to use the sample tests provided, look them over before teaching the subjects and make sure you teach the material in the tests. Some children have a difficult time doing written exams, but it is important for them to learn how to take them. If your fourth grader does poorly on them, give them to him orally a couple of days after he has taken them and average the grades.

COURSE TITLE: Religion**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Grade Four Religion introduces the student to God's plan for the salvation of His people from sin. It shows us how we participate in that salvific act. This course explains to the student in clear and unmistakable terms the many ways God helps us in our pilgrimage here on earth. God, His Law, and His Church help and guide us.

The material from the *St. Joseph Baltimore Catechism #1* will overlap in many places with that of the *Faith and Life Series*. You may choose to follow the framework of the *Baltimore Catechism* rather than that of the *Faith and Life Series*, which is followed in this outline, but you should choose one and only use the other for supplementary material. This will help you avoid repetition beyond that which is beneficial for learning. The Old Testament survey from the *Faith and Life Series* has no counterpart in the *Baltimore Catechism*. To supplement these chapters, try readings of Old Testament material and screenings of doctrinally sound movies, even blockbusters like *The Ten Commandments*. Children may benefit from a discussion of where the movie differs from the Biblical account, if it is read in conjunction with the showing.

Most of the chapters in *Jesus Our Guide* have **Words to Know**. The definitions of the words are in the back of the book. You may want the student to look up the words and be responsible for remembering the definitions.

If you intend to use the sample quarterly tests, please review them before teaching the lessons so you will be certain to cover the material in a proper manner. There are many wonderful activities at www.catecheticalresources.com that can be used in conjunction with the lessons in this book. Go to Resources, click on "For the classroom", and then click on "activities." The Old Testament section is especially good for this level.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- ❖ To help the student understand the relationship between the Catholic, His Church, and Scripture.
- ❖ To examine the creation and fall of man and the promise of a Savior, and to see how the Old Covenant prepared for the New and Eternal Covenant established by Jesus Christ.
- ❖ To provide students with information that will assist them in understanding their purpose and vocation as students.
- ❖ To learn from Jesus our Divine Savior the basic content of the New Covenant plan for our salvation.
- ❖ To see God's plan in history and society.
- ❖ To understand and cooperate more fully with the work of the Holy Spirit, Mary, and the Church in bringing about our salvation.
- ❖ To understand that His plan is to lead us all to Heaven, our true and eternal home.

SCOPE AND SEQUENCE:

1. B.C. (Before Christ)
The fall of mankind and the first murder. Man engages in sin and suffers as a result. God chooses His people and selects their leaders.
2. A.D. (Anno Domini)
The great gift: the Incarnation. The whole world was groaning for the coming of the Savior. Jesus the King arrives in truth and justice, announced by the testimony of the Old Testament. The student learns of grace and how we participate in the life of grace in the world and in the Church. He learns how we receive the strength to do good.

SKILLS TO BE DEVELOPED

Prayers for memorization during the course of the year:

- The Sign of the Cross
- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Glory Be
- The Apostles' Creed
- Acts of Faith, Hope, Charity and Contrition
- The Rosary
- The Angelus
- The Memorare
- The Prayer to Saint Michael

COURSE TEXTS: *Jesus Our Guide*
 St. Joseph Baltimore Catechism # 1

COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY: *Jesus Our Guide* is represented by the abbreviation **JOG**, the *Jesus Our Guide Activity Book* is represented by the abbreviation **AB**, and the *St. Joseph Baltimore Catechism #1* is represented by the abbreviation **SJBC**. Each weekly assignment is summarized in the first line of the week’s daily course plan. The specific daily assignments are outlined in the following lines indicated by the **MON**, **TUES**, **WED**, and **THUR** abbreviations.

Kolbe Academy has worked diligently to create the best possible course plans with the home schooling family in mind. Remember, however, that our program is intended to be flexible. Per the principle of subsidiarity, these course plans are a **suggested** course of study. As the teacher, you should adapt and modify these course plans to meet the individual learning needs of your child. **Do not feel obligated to follow these course plans exactly.**

◆◆◆ FIRST QUARTER ◆◆◆

WEEK 1		
JOG	Chapter 1	Memorize the answers to the questions on page 16. You may choose to have the student memorize the answers to the questions in JOG , SJBC , or both. They are not in contradiction to each other, but rather reinforce each other. Every week explain all of the answers to the questions before assigning the memorization of them.
AB	Pages 1 – 4	
SJBC	Lesson 5	
MON	Read and discuss JOG Chapter 1. Discuss God’s creation of all things. He gave the angels free will and some of them turned against Him because of pride. They were cast into hell. They were not given a second chance. Discuss free will. With free will one has the power to choose and the power to love. We each make choices that lead us closer to God or further from Him.	
TUE	AB pages 1 – 2. God created Adam and Eve. Adam named the woman Eve which means “Mother of all the Living.” Adam and Eve disobeyed God and committed original sin. With their free wills, they chose to love themselves more than God. Discuss the punishment given to Adam and Eve. They were sent out of the Garden, they would have to work for a living, suffer, and die, and they lost the gift of God’s grace in their souls.	
WED	AB pages 3 – 4. Adam and Eve were punished, but God did give mankind a second chance. He promised to send a Redeemer. Adam and Eve were truly sorry for their sin and lived good lives after the Fall. We all inherit original sin from Adam and Eve, our first parents. Original sin is washed from our souls at Baptism, but some of the effects of the sin remain in us. We have an inclination to sin, and we need to choose to freely love and follow God in our daily lives. The late, great Bishop Fulton Sheen told a parable to help explain our part in original sin. Greatly paraphrased, here it is: A king had a beautiful palace. He invited a homeless couple to live there. They were given free reign. They had everything they needed to live quite comfortably. He did give them one order: They were not to enter a certain room in the palace. After some time, curiosity got the best of them. They entered the room. Naturally, they would be sent away for their disobedience. Their children, then, would never have access to the palace. God was better than the king. He sent His Son who, by His suffering and death made up for the sin of our first parents and we now have the right to go to Heaven.	
THUR	Oral quiz on the answers to the questions memorized. Read and discuss SJBC Lesson 5. Write the answers to the questions on page 29.	

Notes		
WEEK 2		
JOG	Chapter 2 Chapter 3	Memorize the answers to the questions on page 19 in JOG . Memorize the answers to the questions on page 23 in JOG .
AB	Pages 5 – 12	
MON	Read and discuss JOG Chapter 2. AB pages 5 – 6. Explain that after Adam and Eve left the Garden and had children, they began to teach the children about God and what had happened. This was the beginning of Sacred Tradition and the way the Word of God was passed on to their descendants. Think about the sin of Cain. Cain committed a mortal sin. He freely chose to do what he knew was evil. You can bring in here the sins of abortion and euthanasia. Think about the sadness of Adam and Eve when they realized that Cain had killed Abel. Wouldn't they have blamed themselves for it? If they had not committed original sin, would this have happened?	
TUE	AB pages 7 – 8. Discuss the lineage of Jesus. God had promised a Savior to Adam and Eve. After the death of Abel, Seth was born to Adam and Eve. Jesus came from the family of the descendants of Seth. Answer orally the questions on page 19.	
WED	Read and discuss JOG Chapter 3. AB pages 9 – 10. Think of how the people must have laughed at Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, for building a huge ark in the desert. They still continued to do God's will in spite of being ridiculed. Only the four of them and their wives were saved.	
THUR	AB pages 11 – 12. The Flood can be compared to the Sacrament of Baptism in which water washes away all sin. The ark prefigures the Church in which we can be saved. Discuss the descendants of Noah and where they went. Recite the answers to the questions on page 23.	
Notes		
WEEK 3		
JOG	Chapter 4	Memorize the answers to the questions on page 27 in JOG .
AB	Pages 13 – 15	
MON	Review the past chapters by having the child start a family tree of Jesus. Begin with Adam and Eve at the top with Cain and his descendants under it and Seth and his descendants alongside. Under Seth show Noah, etc. By following the stories told in this book, he will see how God constantly prepared for the coming of His Son through His chosen people.	
TUE	Read and discuss JOG Chapter 4. Impress on the child especially the unquestioning obedience of Abraham. He always trusted God and would have even sacrificed his only son whom he loved dearly. He passed the test God gave him with an A+.	
WED	AB pages 13 – 14. Explain that Isaac prefigures Christ, God's only Son, Who would be sacrificed for our sins. The sacrifice of the ram prefigures the sacrifice of Christ, the Lamb of God. Have the child continue with the family tree by adding Abraham and Sarah and then Isaac.	