



CIRCLE OF GRACE



LESSON PLAN Gr. 3 & 4

Jesus told us that he would always love us, and His Spirit would always be with us. If we are always in His presence, we are always in a special, holy place. We call that place our *Circle of Grace*.

Opening Prayer:

Holy Spirit show us the way. Be with us in all we think, do, and say. Amen.

Made by God:

We are all Children of God:

- As Children of God we are made in His image and loved by Him
- Jesus teaches us how to love and respect God and others
- We are all called to know, love and serve Him. We should learn about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit and make good choices

God calls us all to:

- be responsible
- make good choices
- respect ourselves and others
- know the difference of what is right and what is wrong

Grace Filled: Circle of Grace

- **Grace:** The gift of God's goodness and love to help me live as his child.
- **Holy:** Special because of a connection with God.
- **Holy Spirit:** God is present with and within me.

Vocabulary:

- **Boundary:** The borders of limits we need to keep ourselves safe.
- **Feelings:** Something I sense inside myself (e.g. angry, sad, happy, afraid, embarrassed, confused, excited, peaceful, etc.)
- **Respect:** Being kind to others and doing what's best for myself and others because I honor all people as children of God.
- **Secret:** A secret is something I know but do not tell.
 - **Safe secret:** a secret is safe when it does not hurt others or me.
 - **Unsafe secret:** a secret is unsafe when I think that someone, including me, might be hurt or get in trouble if I do not tell. These secrets make me feel uncomfortable or unsafe.
- **Treasured:** We are so treasured and unique that we could not be replaced in God's eyes.
- **Trust:** Being able to count on someone to help me to stay safe.
- **Trusted Adult:** A grown-up who helps me to stay safe and someone who I turn to when I have a question or need help.
- **Violate:** To break a law, promise or boundary.

Discussion:

- Does Jesus always love us? (Y)
- Is Jesus always with us? (Y)
- We are always surrounded by God's love. God wants us to behave with respect for ourselves and others. (Y)
- When a person ignores boundaries, sometimes someone may be harmed physically or emotionally. The person who knowingly or unknowingly violates a boundary may have consequences. When you are unsure or have confused feelings you need to speak with a trusted adult.
- Can anyone name one or two people you trust and helps you to stay safe?
- Be sure to speak to your parents about your trusted adult and who they may be.

Have a Plan:

- **Boundary:** The borders of limits we need to keep ourselves safe.
- **Safe Secret:** a secret is safe when it does not hurt oneself or others.
- **Trust:** Being able to count on someone to help me to stay safe.
- **Trusted Adult:** A grown-up who helps one to stay safe and respect others

Wrapping Up: There are always adults available to listen and talk. Can anyone name one or two people you trust and helps you to stay safe? This is an example of how we can ask a trusted person for help.

- Look at the trusted person
- Say to the person "I need help. I do not feel safe."
- Tell the person what is wrong, why you don't feel safe.

**Thank you, God, for giving me people who care about me
and want me to be safe.**

Amen.