

THE FOOTPRINTS
of GOD

MARY

The Mother of God

LESSON PLAN

IGNATIUS PRESS

MARY: THE MOTHER OF GOD

This lesson plan will take you and your class or study group through the video *Mary: The Mother of God*. Make sure each participant has a copy of the Study Guide, available in each video sleeve or DVD case. (You can make photocopies or download a PDF version if needed). Additionally, each should have a Bible and a copy of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. If you are teaching children, you may wish to excerpt the Catechism.

After each chapter, go through the study questions provided in the guide. You can also follow the additional activities, readings, and activities in this lesson plan.

To purchase *Footprints of God* videos and DVDs, call 1-800-651-1531 or go online to www.ignatius.com. Online resources include downloadable study guides, previews and more.

<http://www.ignatius.com/Videos/FootprintsOfGod>

CHAPTER ONE: THE DAUGHTER OF ZION

LEADER:

Before this chapter, read:

- Matthew 1:18-25
- Luke 1:5-80
- Genesis 2:15-24
- The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* article numbers 484-494

THE LESSON:

Introduce the video by having a participant read aloud Luke 1:26-38. Then start the video. Stop when the title for Chapter Two appears (approximately 27 minutes into the program.)

KEY IDEAS:

Mary is the new Eve and Jesus is the new Adam.

Mary was immaculately conceived, that is, she was born without original sin.

Mary was prefigured in the Old Testament. This is why she has such titles as "Ark of the Covenant".

ADULTS:

As the leader, pick four of the 11 questions in the study guide. Discuss these, having different participants read the questions and the references from the Bible and the CCC aloud.

Using a map (usually contained in most Bibles) find the area where Mary lived.

Instruct the participants to read the rest of the questions and references at home.

Close with a recitation of the *Hail Mary*.

CHILDREN:

As the leader, pick two of the 11 questions in the study guide. Have a child read the references after you read the questions aloud. Answer any questions.

Using a map (usually contained in most Bibles) find the area where Mary lived.

What prayer to Mary can we find in the Bible? Look up Luke 1:26-38 again and see if the children can pick out which prayer is there.

Close with a recitation of the *Hail Mary*.

CHAPTER TWO: THE DOORWAY

LEADER:

Before this chapter, read:

- Matthew 2
- Luke 2
- John 2:1-11
- The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* article numbers 499-507, 2618

THE LESSON:

Introduce the video by having a participant read aloud John 2:1-5. Then start the video. Stop when the title for Chapter Three appears (approximately 43 minutes into the program.)

KEY IDEAS:

Mary is Ever Virgin.

The intercessory role of Mary in relation to Jesus is shown at the Wedding at Cana.

ADULTS:

As the leader, pick four of the 5 questions in the study guide. Discuss these, having different participants read the questions and the references from the Bible and the CCC aloud.

Using a map (usually contained in most Bibles) find the areas that Mary and her Holy Family traveled through during her years in Bethlehem, Egypt, and Nazareth.

Instruct the participants to read the rest of the questions and references at home.

Close with a recitation of the *Memorare*.

CHILDREN:

As the leader, pick two of the 5 questions in the study guide. Have a child read the references after you read the questions aloud. Answer any questions.

Using a map (usually contained in most Bibles) find the areas that Mary and her Holy Family traveled through during her years in Bethlehem, Egypt, and Nazareth.

Mary is called by many names and titles. Here are just some of them: Mirror of justice, Seat of wisdom, Cause of our joy, Spiritual vessel, Vessel of honor, Mystical rose, Tower of David, Tower of ivory, House of gold, Ark of the covenant, Gate of heaven, Morning star. Read these out loud and discuss what they might mean with the children.

Close with a recitation of the *Memorare*.

CHAPTER THREE: MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

LEADER:

Before this chapter, read:

- John 19:25-27
- The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* article numbers 963-965

THE LESSON:

Introduce the video by having a participant read aloud John 19:25-27. Then start the video. Stop when the title for Chapter Four appears (approximately 52 minutes into the program.) This chapter is very short, so we will conclude with a longer prayer.

KEY IDEAS:

Mary is the Mother of the Church.

United with Christ in suffering, Mary is a mediator of grace.

ADULTS:

As the leader, pick five of the 6 questions in the study guide. Discuss these, having different participants read the questions and the references from the Bible and the CCC aloud.

Instruct the participants to read the rest of the questions and references at home.

Close by praying the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.

CHILDREN:

As the leader, pick three of the 6 questions in the study guide. Have a child read the references after you read the questions aloud. Answer any questions.

There have been many visions of Mary throughout the centuries, from the visions of Mary in Revelation to the appearance of Mary at Fatima. Discuss some of these with the children, focusing on Our Lady of Guadalupe, since she is the Patroness of the Americas.

Close by praying the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary.

CHAPTER FOUR: QUEEN OF HEAVEN

LEADER:

Before this chapter, read:

- The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* article numbers 966-972, 148-149
- Revelation 12

THE LESSON:

Introduce the video by having a participant read aloud Revelation 12:1. Then start the video.

KEY IDEAS:

Mary is the Queen of Heaven.

There are types and signs of Mary and Jesus in the Old Testament. Look for them when you read the Bible.

ADULTS:

As the leader, pick five of the 12 questions in the study guide. Discuss these, having different participants read the questions and the references from the Bible and the CCC aloud.

Using a map (usually contained in most Bibles) trace the route of Mary and John from Israel to Ephesus and Patmos.

Instruct the participants to read the rest of the questions and references at home.

Close by singing the *Salve Regina*.

CHILDREN:

As the leader, pick three of the 12 questions in the study guide. Have a child read the references after you read the questions aloud. Answer any questions.

Using a map (usually contained in most Bibles) trace the route of Mary and John from Israel to Ephesus and Patmos.

Give each child a rosary. Now that they have seen the video, they will be more likely to use it!

Close by singing the *Salve Regina*.