

## LESSON 6

# THE FACES OF EASTER V

### LESSON NOTES

**FOCUS: JESUS AS HEALER AND PARABLE-MAKER**

- LITURGICAL ACTION
- CORE PRESENTATION

### THE MATERIAL

- LOCATION: EASTER SHELVES
- PIECES: SEVEN PLAQUES ILLUSTRATED WITH FACES OF CHRIST, WITH RACK
- UNDERLAY: PURPLE AND WHITE

### BACKGROUND

Lent is the season when we prepare for Easter. This lesson continues to help children prepare for the Mystery of Easter. We move toward the Mystery by hearing the stories of Christ's journey toward the cross and resurrection. This week's presentation focuses on the face of Christ as healer and parable-maker.

You will begin this week's presentation by presenting a summary of the first four plaques:

- Jesus' Birth and Growth (pp. 32-36)
- Jesus Is Lost and Found (pp. 37-41)
- Jesus' Baptism and Blessing by God (pp. 42-46)
- Jesus' Desert and Discovery Experience (pp. 47-51)

Begin with those four presentations before adding the fifth plaque and its story.

### NOTES ON THE MATERIAL

Find the materials for this presentation in the middle of the top shelf of the Easter shelves, in between the material for the Mystery of Easter, and the Synagogue and the Upper Room.

The material consists of a set of seven faces of Christ, mounted on wood or card-stock plaques. The underlay is a purple and white "scroll" that unrolls to show six purple rectangles and one white rectangle. Roll up the underlay so that the white rectangle is hidden inside.

A special carrier rack for the Faces plaques stands them up, making them visible to a child scanning the room full of materials. This stand for the plaques holds the rolled-up underlay. (See the illustration on p. 33.) If you do not use this stand, put the rolled-up underlay and plaques in a tray.

### **SPECIAL NOTES**

**Storytelling Tips:** When Jerome Berryman first developed the presentations of the Faces of Christ, he thought it might be suitable only for older children. However, teachers at Christ Cathedral in Houston, who worked with these materials, used them with younger children, too—children as young as two years old. For the youngest children, keep the stories short, especially the summaries of previous stories. When you summarize the stories for very young children, you might only use a sentence or two for each story, for example:

- Here is the baby who was born.
- Here is the boy who was lost and found.

## MOVEMENTS

When the children are ready, go to the Easter shelves and bring the plaques and rolled-up underlay to the circle.

Put the cards at your side and place the underlay in front of you. Unroll the underlay toward you to uncover the rectangle for the first plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Birth and Growth" (pp. 32-36). When you are finished, lay down the first plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the second plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus Is Lost and Found" (pp. 37-41). When you are finished, lay down the second plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the third plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Baptism and Blessing by God" (pp. 42-46). When you are finished, lay down the third plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the rectangle for the fourth plaque. Tell in summary the story "Jesus' Desert and Discovery Experience" (pp. 47-51). When you are finished, lay down the fourth plaque.

Unroll the underlay to uncover the fifth rectangle. Pick up the fifth plaque and hold it so that the children can see it as you tell this story:

Point to the blind man.

## WORDS

Watch carefully where I go so you will always know where to find this lesson.

Jesus came back across the Jordan River and began to do his work ...but what was his work? His work was to come close to people, especially the people no one else wanted to come close to.

See? He has come close to this blind man; he is so close that he has touched the blind man's eyes.

When Jesus came close to people, they changed. They could see things they could never see before. They could do things they could never do before. They became well.

## MOVEMENTS

Put the fifth plaque down on the fifth rectangle of the underlay.

Begin to go around the circle, asking each child if he or she would like to bring something to put by the plaque illustrating "Jesus as Healer and Parable-Maker." Some children may not be able to think of anything, so move on if it looks as if they are stuck. You can then come back to them later. If they are still stuck, that is okay. Many children learn by watching as well as by doing.

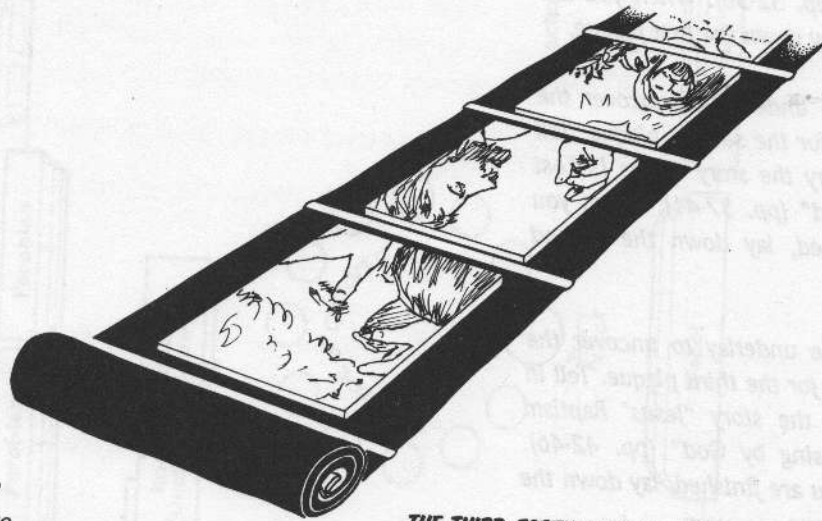
Enjoy the items that the children bring to help tell the story. When you have had time to enjoy the entire layout, invite children, one at a time, to return their materials. Then take the plaques and underlay back to the Easter shelves.

Help the children begin to get out their work.

## WORDS

Jesus also told parables. Finally, he knew that he had to become a parable, so he turned toward Jerusalem for the last time.

Now I wonder what there is in this room that can help us tell more of the story. Look around and see if you can bring something to show more about this part of the story. I will go around the circle and invite each one of you to go and get something to put by the picture to help us show more of the story.



THE THIRD, FORTH AND FIFTH PLAQUES ON THE UNDERLAY (STORYTELLER'S PERSPECTIVE)