

RESPECT

L I F E W E E K

2023

TOGETHER AS ONE

Lesson: Adoption and Foster Care

1st – 3rd grade

Goal:

Students will learn about the loving choice of adoption and explore stories of people who have been adopted. Activities will reinforce a thankfulness for family and home and a desire to pray for and support those children who do not have either.

Materials:

- Coloring/Drawing Materials.

Lesson:

Begin by reaffirming that when God creates each new person, he sends them into the world as tiny babies, first growing inside their moms. When babies are born, they need lots of attention.

Ask the students if any of them have baby brothers or sisters or cousins or neighbors. What types of things do babies need to be happy? Material things but also attention from people who love them.

Introduce the idea of adoption—most of the time babies are born and live with their moms and dads and other members of their families. Other times, moms and dads realize they do not have all of the tools they need to take care of their baby, so they ask for help from other people. Those other people can be adoptive parents who invite the baby into their homes and make them a part of their family. Lots of people are adopted. Let's learn a few of their stories.

Watch: "[Story of Moses](#)"

Discussion:

- What did we learn about Moses' birth?
- When he was born, Moses' mother Jochebed was unable to care for him. What did she do? Who became Moses' adoptive mother?
- What else do we know about Moses?
- What other things did he do in his life?

There are children today, like Moses, whose moms and dads can't take care of them.

- Do you know any children who are adopted?

Watch:

"[Bomberger](#)" family and/or "[Lott](#)" family

Discussion:

- What did you learn about these children who are adopted?
- Do they love their adoptive moms and dads? Do they love their adoptive brothers and sisters?
- Does it look like they have a lot of fun in their families?

Watch:

Then look at the [Wednesday's Child](#) website. Choose one or two of the short videos highlighting children available for adoption in LA. You can ask the students to choose which videos they would like to watch. Many of these videos involve siblings. Help students to make the connection that some parents don't know they need help with their children until the children are older. Then, many of these children have temporary homes—foster care—while waiting for a family to give them a forever home.

Discussion:

These kids waiting for forever families are just like many kids in our school. I bet you can find kids with similar likes and dislikes, talents and skills that you have. Except that these kids don't have homes to live in with moms and dads. They are waiting for a forever family.

- What would you say to those kids if you could talk to them?

Activity:

- If someone asked you to describe adoption, what words would you use?
- Draw a picture of adoption.

PRAYER FOR FAMILIES

Dear God,

We thank you for our families!

When you create new people for the world,
you create them to be part of a family.

Some families are big and some are small.

Some families live in the city and some in the country.

One thing is true about all families—there is lots of love!

Sometimes parents cannot take care of their children.

When that happens, we ask that you send them new families.

Please let these children find families to love them

and give them everything they need

to grow up happy and healthy!

Amen.