

T·H·E· T·A·B·L·E·T jr.

For Kids By Kids

Teachers Instructional Guide
December Edition: Volume 3



Highlights
Lessons
Activities
Puzzles
Questions



CEN



A World of Change

A look into how the world's most troubling times was a wake-up call!

Read the Tablet Jr. article as a class.

Essential Question: Is it easy to find JOY in our lives every day?

Lesson1: Finding JOY everyday

James 1: 2-3

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds,
3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.

Reflection Questions:

1. What is God telling you in this scripture passage?
2. How does this reflect the way many people are feeling today?
3. What are ways we can better understand God's presence in our life?

Student Activities:

Create a list of things or people that bring you joy. Choose one to share through a narrative or video.

The Joyful Mystery: The Birth of Christ

Learn360:

[O Holy Night: A King Is Born](#) Grades K-5

[The Chosen: The Story of the First Christmas](#) Grades 6-8

Lesson 2: Acrostic Poems

An acrostic poem is a very fun poem for kids. Each acrostic poem has a topic idea running down the left side of the poem. Each letter in the topic word has a new thought that runs off the side from left to right and is relevant to the topic word. The topic word is typically the title as well.

J
O
Y

[Create a Christmas/Winter Poem](#)



How Should We Feel?

The importance of experiencing joy in one's life.

Read the Tablet, Jr. Article aloud.

Discussion Questions:

- St. Teresa of Calcutta said, "Joy is a net of love in which you can catch souls." What do you think Mother Teresa meant by this quote?
- Take a moment to think about your everyday routine. Who are the people that bring you Joy?
- In Valarie Neira's article, she wrote about the importance of forgiveness. Was there ever a time in your life, when you needed to say sorry to a person? How did you feel, after you were forgiven?

Activity:

- Take a moment to think about your everyday routine. Who are the people you interact with the most? On a blank piece of paper, write your name in the middle and create a web with the name of these people stemming from your name. Examples of this would be the names of family members, names of teachers, names of students, and names of friends. These are the people that God has placed in your life.
- Using your Chrome book type each name and under each person write ways they bring you joy. Similarly, ways you can bring joy to them.

Learn 360:

- For further information on St.Teresa checkout this Learn360 [video!](#)

Word Search:

- Mother Teresa Word Search





Art on the Walls

Essential Question:

Can joy be expressed through art?

Teacher Resource:

Spread some joy by participating in The [Changemaker Challenge](#). Create an award for someone who is making a difference - and raise money too. Here is an [Art Guide](#) to help you along the way.



Home Activities:

[50 Easy Christmas Crafts for everyone in the family](#)

[9 Fun DIY Family Christmas Projects](#)



**Truth About Joy: More Than a Feeling, its
Peace within**

Read the Tablet Jr. Article

Research: World Youth Day

Questions

Who started World Youth Day?

What year did it begin?

When was the last World Youth Day?

Social Studies Lesson:

Explore Central America:

[Central America and Caribbean Geography](#)

[Central America | Britannica Kids](#)

[Learn 360 Central America Video](#)

[Central America Map and Quiz](#)

Which countries are considered part of Central America?

Use Google Earth to visit one country. Share your experiences.

Diocesan History Corner:



December 3, 1977

Read The Tablet Jr. Article

Research the role of a Deacon.

Why do you think Deacons have become such an important part of our diocese?

How are deacons different from priests?

What are the two types of deacons?

Deacons often sacrifice time from their families to serve others; knowing this sacrifice, why do you think these newly ordained deacons are so joyous?



Extra Credit:

Interview a deacon.

Ask Sr. Elizabeth

Create a [Gratitude journal](#) - reflect on all the people and events of the last year that have given you joy. Acknowledge that these moments of joy may be different from past years, but being different doesn't take away from their value. Write a prayer of thanksgiving for all these moments of joy.

Sadlier Activities JOY

[Lives of the Saints | Sadlier](#)



The Lives of the Saints

Name: _____

Saint Philip Neri

Saint Philip Neri was a great Christian teacher in Italy. He was not tall because he was gentle, kind, and had a warm personality. He had a joyful spirit and he found an easier path through life's challenges. One of his favorite books was a book of poems.

Saint Philip Neri used his gifts of charity and humor to reach others about Jesus. He shared his faith with the poor and helped them find hope and happiness.

Sometimes we take things to life too seriously. Like Saint Philip Neri, we can use humor to lighten our lives and make things better.

Write a time that you were really excited about something in school.

How could you use humor to make this situation better?

Write a time that you were really excited about something at home.

How could you use humor to make this situation better?

When you feel yourself in these situations, remember the example of Saint Philip and use the following prayer:

Saint Philip Neri, teach those who take themselves too seriously. Help us to be calm, cheerful and fun as we love Jesus.

Family Activity:

Share words of *joy* with your family. Ask everyone to write something nice about each family member and put their paper in a jar. Then, as a family, sit and read what everyone wrote. Share the laughter. Tell family stories and jokes. Offer prayers of thanksgiving. Notice how this joyful behavior becomes contagious! Share these joyful moments with your classmates and watch the happiness spread.