



Formative Parenting

Cultivating Character in Children

A Ministry of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Immaculata, Pennsylvania

A ROSARY OF CORE GOSPEL VALUES FOR CHRIST-LIKE CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Directions:

Read a Gospel story and isolate specific character traits that Jesus is teaching. Express each trait in a clausal statement that refers to **JESUS** and begins with the pronoun **WHO** or **WHOSE**. Then connect the clause to the first part of the Hail Mary prayer. Every ten statements form a decade of the Rosary.

For example,

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, **Jesus . . . who wants us to give second chances as he did for Peter** (Jn. 21: 15-17).

Gospel Story	Suggested Clausal Statement
Ten Lepers (Lk. 17: 11-19)	Who taught us the value of <i>saying "thank you"</i>
Paralyzed Man Cured (Lk. 5: 17-26)	Who asks us, like the Scribes and Pharisees, why we hold onto <i>hurtful thoughts</i>
Son of Widow of Naim (Lk. 7: 11-17)	Who desires us <i>to help others without being asked</i> , as he did for the Widow of Naim
Woman at the Well (Jn. 4: 1-30)	Who is happy when we <i>tell the truth</i> like the Woman at the Well did.
Avoiding Judgment (Mt. 7:1)	Who commanded us <i>not to judge</i> other people
The Golden Rule (Mt. 7:12)	Who taught us to <i>treat other people the way we want to be treated</i>
Forgiveness (Mt. 6: 14-15)	Who told us to <i>forgive</i> each other
True Riches (Mt. 6: 26-34)	Who reminded us to <i>depend on God's providence</i> to take care of us rather than worry about tomorrow
Love of Enemies (Mt. 5: 43-48)	Who gave us an example to <i>love our enemies</i> and to <i>pray for people who have hurt us</i>
Purity of Intention (Mt. 6: 1-4)	Who advised us to <i>keep our good deeds secret</i> instead of bragging or showing off

Gospel 1
Zacchaeus the Tax Collector (Lk. 19: 1-10)



Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.'" But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount"

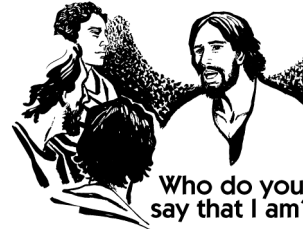
Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

Gospel 3
The Straying Sheep (Luke 15: 3-7)



Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

Gospel 2
Peter's Confession of Christ (Mark 8: 27-33)



Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Christ."

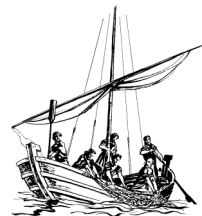
Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

Jesus Predicts His Death

He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men."

Gospel 4
Jesus Calms the Storm (Mark 4: 35-41)



That day when evening came, he said to his disciples, "Let us go over to the other side." Leaving the crowd behind, they took him along, just as he was, in the boat. There were also other boats with him. A furious squall came up, and the waves broke over the boat, so that it was nearly swamped. Jesus was in the stern, sleeping on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said to him, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?"

He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm.

He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"

They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!"

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb, JESUS . . . who _____

Dr. Patricia McCormack, IHM, a former Catholic schoolteacher and catechist, is a formation education consultant, an author of several books as well as the PARENT PARTNERSHIP HANDBOOK feature of *Today's Catholic Teacher*, and director of **IHM Formative Support for Parents and Teachers**, Arlington, VA. She speaks and writes frequently on topics of child formation.