



## Family Catechesis for First Reconciliation (Session 7) Making Things Right with God and with Others

**Aim: To help your child to understand how good it is to make things right with God and with others.**



**Parent:** Welcome the child and other members of the family and gather them in a circle in the room.

- ❖ Tell everyone: Today we are going to hear a story of some children who stole money.

**Parent and other Members of the Family:** Tell the following story: (*P = Parent, M = Other Member of the family*)

- P. One afternoon two boys, they were brothers, were walking home from school. Every day they walked by a wall surrounding a large house.
- M. At intervals, around the wall, were some brick pillars. In one of the pillars there were a number of holes in the plaster. Boys being boys, decided to investigate what was inside the pillar.
- P. Imagine their great surprise, when they dug out some coins. It was a real treasure to them. The more they dug into the plaster, the more money they found. They spent it all on sweets and had a great time!
- M. Some weeks later the brothers had a row. During the row, the one brother told their mother what they had been doing. Now they were in trouble!
- P. But their mother did not scold them. She simply told them that as a young girl, she had lived with her family in a house beside the wall. She told them that inside the wall of the large house was a place where poor people could find hot food and shelter from the cold weather in winter. Their mother said no more about the incident.
- M. The boys decided they had to do two things:
- P. First, they would go to Confession and receive God's forgiveness. They had stolen money from poor people.
- M. They would repay the money they had found in the wall, and so give it back to the poor people.
- P. The first was easy. They knew that God always forgives when they confess their faults or wrong-doing in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- M. The second took some planning. Their mother had said nothing to them about paying the money back. She didn't need to. The boys had learned this in their Catechism Lessons.
- P. Here's what they did:
- M. They calculated how much they had found in the wall; They divided the amount in two. And they calculated it would take them 8 weeks to repay the money.
- N. Week by week, they put some money from their own pocket-money into a new box at the gate of the house.
- P. They did this. On the 8<sup>th</sup> week they had paid back the money!!

**Parent:** Now have a discussion among the Members of the Family:

- What do you think of the boys?
- How would you feel if you were one of the boys?

### **Celebration:**

**Parent** Let us pray quietly for those people who steal from others. (No names, please!)

Let us also pray for poor people who have no food or shelter.

Is there anything we can do help them?

Say 'The Act of Contrition' carefully. This time ask Jesus to help us to make up for any future wrong we may do.

**All: O my God, I am truly sorry for having offended  
because you are so good.  
With the help of your grace,  
I will do my best not to sin again.  
Amen.**

