

Jesus Heals and Forgives

Keep these ideas in mind as you study **Unit 3, Session 14**.

Any word, thought, or action done in hatred or defiance against God is known as blasphemy. When Jesus forgave the sins of the paralytic man, Jesus was accused of blasphemy. **PAGE 116**

Jesus gave sight to the man born blind to emphasize that the religious leaders were spiritually blind because they did not have the gift of faith to recognize Jesus. **PAGE 116**

Forgiveness is Jesus' central message throughout his public ministry. After his Resurrection, Jesus empowered the Apostles to forgive sins. Ordained priests have the same authority as the Apostles to forgive sins through the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. **PAGE 116**

Although venial sins are less serious, they still lead a person further away from God and others. Capital sins can lead someone to commit more serious sins. Mortal sins are serious decisions to turn away from God by doing something seriously wrong. **PAGE 117**

Contrition is the sorrow we feel when we know that we have sinned, followed by the decision not to sin again. When our sorrow is based on love of God above all else, it is called perfect contrition. When our sorrow for sin is based more on fear of punishment or consequences, we call it imperfect contrition. **PAGE 117**

Forgiveness of sins is important to have a healthy relationship with God, other people, and ourselves. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the priest gives an appropriate penance. Penance consists of prayers or actions that repair the damage caused by our sins and help us turn away from sin and live closer to God. **PAGE 117**

The sacramental seal binds the priest to absolute secrecy regarding the sins confessed to him. **PAGE 117**

Jesus manifested God's kingdom with every spiritual and physical healing he performed. His words and touch freed and transformed hearts and bodies. **PAGE 118**

In the Anointing of the Sick, the Church brings God's care and concern to those who are seriously ill. This sacrament brings spiritual healing and, if it is God's will, physical healing. **PAGE 119**

The Second Vatican Council declared that the Anointing of the Sick, a source of grace, could be administered more than once during a person's life. The sacrament could be received any time there is a danger of death. In this way, the person who is sick or suffering is helped in faith and trust in God that he or she is not alone. **PAGE 119**

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