

PARENT / GUARDIAN CONNECTION

THIRD GRADE: TOB LESSON 9

THEME: ORIGINAL SOLITUDE (PART 3)

SOW THE SEED



Dear Parents,

The first human person learns universal truths about himself (us!) from **Original Solitude**. He is created for a unique relationship with God, is self-aware, and is given the ability to choose the good (TOB 6:1). By naming the animals he becomes aware of his bodily difference from all other living beings and realizes his superiority to all other creatures because he can care for creation (TOB 6:3-7:2). He becomes aware of his solitude as a body among bodies and desires a helper fit for him (TOB 6:3).

In the last lesson, Original Solitude (Part 3): Our Destiny, we learned that death was not part of God's original plan for human persons, and when someone dies, his or her body and soul separate. After Jesus died, he rose from the dead and ascended to heaven (body and soul). In His resurrection, He conquered death thus restoring the unity of the body and soul. At the end of the world, Jesus will come again, and will raise all those who have died, so that our perfected male or female bodies will join our soul, so that we are once again a body-soul unity.

In this Theology of the Body (TOB) lesson, your child will contemplate and imagine what heaven is like. The class will review how God made us in the beginning; where we are now in our wounded relationship with God; and how Jesus is restoring our relationship with him so that we may reach our destiny in heaven.

In the previous two lessons, the class activity has been to complete the "Salvation History Timeline." The three segments are "In the Beginning;" "Where We Are Now;" and this week is "Our Destiny." Your child will have the opportunity to see how the story of our lives fits right in the middle of the Salvation Story. Jesus is preparing us to live in eternity with Him.

GERMINATE THE SEED



FAMILY DISCUSSION QUESTION:

What do you think heaven will be like? **(Note to parents: Catechism of the Catholic Church, Article 1024, "The perfect life with the Most Holy Trinity—the communion of life and love with the Trinity, with the Virgin Mary, the angels and all the blessed—is called 'heaven'").*



GROW THE SEED



FAMILY ACTIVITY:

Mass Intentions — Make a list of your loved ones who have passed. Share a fond memory of them. Call your parish office to offer a mass intention for one of your loved ones. Attend the mass and pray for their soul and family members.

FAMILY PRAYER:

Play the song “I Can Only Imagine,” by Mercy Me. Invite your family to meditate on the words and the beauty of heaven that awaits.

Stay up to date with the TOB lessons your child is learning in the classroom. Look for the leaf at the bottom of your child’s worksheets to see a summary of their current TOB lesson labeled “THEOLOGY OF THE BODY TIDBITS.”

Want to learn more? Visit RuahWoodsInstitute.org/parents to view a TOB parent presentation.

