

The Kerygma Experience Script

CREATED

- A. From the book of Genesis, we discover that God intended goodness, beauty, and wholeness for humanity. Man and woman were created to be in loving union with God and one another. Adam and Eve walked freely in the Garden of Eden, without shame or sin. They conversed with God. They were made in his image and likeness, and all of creation was good. God created everything out of nothing in order to share his perfect love. As the Catechism articulates, “God created the world to show forth and communicate his glory. That his creatures should share in his truth, goodness, and beauty—this is the glory for which God created them.” (CCC 319)
- B. Lord, you are the Creator of the heavens and the earth. We thank you for creating all that exists out of nothing, and for making man and woman in your image and likeness. Your love has been poured out upon creation in order that we may experience your perfect love and be in loving union with you. Help us to rediscover and embrace our identity as your sons and daughters who have been created to love and glorify you. Amen.

CAPTURED

- A. At the fall, God’s original design for his creation was broken through sin. Adam and Eve, representing humanity and deceived by the devil, chose to break from God and in pride go their own way. As a result, sin and death entered the world and marred the goodness of creation. Ever since this original sin, our world has been broken and humanity weakened. We are poor and unable to save ourselves. “All have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God.” (Romans 3:23). Humanity is far away from the heart of God and desperately in need of salvation.
- B. Lord, we are weak and humanity is broken. Like Adam and Eve, we have chosen to worship ourselves instead of God. We sin and do the very thing we don’t want to do. We vow to be patient and then lose our temper. We’re determined to be generous and then find ourselves envious of others. We promise not to gossip and then our tongues wag. We are weak and continually fail at relationships. We have broken our relationship with you, God, the very One we long for and need the most. We often feel a hole in our hearts, and have sought to fill it with the distractions or pleasures of the world. Our hearts ache for unconditional love, meaning, wholeness, peace and strength. We cry out, “Lord, I need you.” Amen.

RESCUED

- A. Though we turn from God's love, goodness, and freedom, God refuses to abandon us. In great mercy, God chose to send His only begotten Son, Jesus—Mercy—into the world. Through Mary's fiat, her 'yes,' God became man in Jesus Christ, wedding God and humanity forever. God entered the world as a baby—weak, vulnerable, and humble. Through Jesus, Emmanuel, God is indeed with us—in all of our joys and sorrows—in our sufferings and our celebrations. God is with us in our human experience, to the point of death. It was Jesus' infinite, unconditional, and sacrificial love which brought us back to the Father—fulfilling the covenant and opening the gates of Heaven. Jesus restores our relationship with God, who claims us as His beloved children.
- B. Lord, it is hard to imagine your love for us. It's hard to believe you became so vulnerable as to depend upon Mary's 'yes.' Jesus, you too experienced the human condition—knowing warmth and comfort, as well as cold and pain. You know the joy of being human: the love of a family, friendship, celebration, and a good day's work. But you also know heartache: the rejection of friends, the death of a loved one, the suffering of physical pain, or the feeling of being overwhelmed. We come to you weak and broken, far from the life you desire for us. Yet, you continue to love us unconditionally, leading us back to your heart and making all things new. Thank you for restoring our relationship, as it was intended from the beginning, and for rescuing us. Amen.

RESPONSE

- A. Jesus became one with us to take away our sins, and to reveal to us who God is, who we are, whose we are, and our ultimate destiny with Him. It is God's desire for us to live a life free from sin, with the joy of spiritual abundance. He desires for us to be in an intimate relationship with the Trinity—in union with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit—but we must have faith. No matter our past, he eagerly waits for us to turn in faith, to repent, and to surrender our lives to him. He is eager to embrace and heal us. Jesus is the Good News of salvation, as He became man to make us fully human, fully alive—partakers in the divine life. Through the waters of baptism, we die to self and rise as a new creation in him.
- B. Lord, it's hard to surrender what little we have, and it's difficult to repent of our sins. But you are true to your promises, and love us—even to the point of death. Help us to trust in you. Give us the courage and strength to surrender our entire lives to you. Let us exclaim a wholehearted 'yes' to your plan for our lives. Help us to lay down our lives completely for others, putting their needs before our own. Lord, help us to renew our commitment to you—knowing you love us infinitely more than we love ourselves. May we follow you all the days of our lives. Amen.