

Lesson Plan: Grade 6
June 2013

Instructions: Using the *Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization: Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide*, choose a topic, the Standards, and the Indicators for the grade level you teach (Use Grade 8 if you work with older students.) Find supporting materials for teaching the lesson in the religion textbook for your grade level. Develop a lesson plan which incorporates the **methodology of critical thinking**. Follow the Lesson Planning Outline. Be sure to indicate the grade or age group you are teaching.

Preparing to Teach the Lesson

Topic: Our Actions Matter

Standard 5 Morality: To develop a moral conscience informed by church teachings.

Indicators:

6.05.02 *Explain that we receive wisdom and understanding from God's Spirit in the Church which helps us to know how to act*

6.05.03 Relate living a Christ-like life with keeping God's covenant

6.05.4 Identify that we learn how to live good lives through the teachings of Scripture

Grade Level: 6th

Pages in the Textbook: Be My Disciples (Student Edition and Catechist)

*Student pages: 163-170

Catechist pages: 267-271

Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization:

Key Element III

Appendix #2 Key Practices & Prayers for Catholics

Background Reading:

Be My Disciples (Catechist)

Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization (AMS):

Key Element III [Standards 6.05.02-6.05.04]

Appendix #2 Key Practices & Prayers for Catholics

Environment: Student Area: Set up 2 chairs for James and John the disciples. The rest of the class can sit in a semi circle or move chairs away from conference table and set a semi-circle.

Prayer Space: Green cloth for table; electric votive candles; Bible; Rosary

Materials for class: Be My Disciples (Student Edition)
Disciple Pack

Bible

Skit for E.P.I.C. Disciples

Art paper

Markers, pencils

Mural paper

Teaching the Lesson

WELCOME: Good morning young disciples and welcome to our continued journey in faith formation. As we greet each other with the Sign of the Peace (give time for the students to offer the Sign of Peace to each other). Let us be open to the learning more about Jesus.

PRAYER: Let us now begin our prayer to the Holy Spirit. (Refer students to page 259 for the Prayer of the Holy Spirit)

REVIEW: Review the definition of "the covenant of God" and Beatitudes.

PREVIEW: Today's class we will have the opportunity to learn the ability to choose. How our actions matter and discern (decide consciously) whether or not those actions respect and show reverence to God and His people. We also welcome our E.P.I.C. Disciples (Ever Present In Christ Disciples) who will share with us as we traveled back "In the Days of Jesus".

LESSON: Morality (Methodology of Critical Thinking)

1. How do we live as disciples? Please turn to page 163 of your books. On "Living as Disciples" you read how life on earth God created us with spiritual

souls as well as our physical bodies.

Let us look at Examination of Conscience when you look inside your own heart and ask for the grace to see your thoughts, words and actions as Christ sees them. We do this to see where we are. Have we found ourselves being part of a gossip? Did I tell a lie because my friend would get in trouble? While surfing the internet did I go to a web-site that is against the teachings of the Church? Of Christ?

We don't only examine our conscience before we go to Reconciliation but we do so every day. Stop and spend a brief moment talking to God from your heart.

If He gave us the wisdom and understanding to choose right and wrong, then why is it difficult? Give me examples of some of these?

2. Before we share our time with E.P.I.C. Disciples let's reflect on how sin turns us away from God. Any volunteers? Can you think of a time that your parents asked you not to do something and you did it? How did you feel? How about the time in school when your friends made fun of another student and you just stood there? Did you say something to your friends? Did you wonder how Jesus would have felt if you too denied Him? Explain that all sin, whether we are conscious of it or not, is a turning from God and rejection of his love. Now, let us begin to read page 166 together. (pick students to read each paragraph).

To reinforce this lesson students will be selected as E.P.I.C. Disciples and perform this skit.

SKIT

E.P.I.C. Disciple Narrator [EDN]: Hello everyone and welcome to our studios called E.P.I.C. Yes, Ever Present Is Christ. Let's begin by introducing our Disciples. John and James are no strangers to the teachings of Jesus. They are from a town called Capernaum. Both are fisherman by occupation and disciples or followers of Jesus. They are in His close knit group. John is the writer of 5 books of the New Testament and both are a pillar to the church.

[EDN]: Let's begin our debate on Jesus teachings of living the good life and how do we achieve this? The rules are simple each Disciple, John and James, will be given a question from our studio audience and given a few minutes to debate with each other. Let's see how "the sons of thunder" do against each other. Here we go!

Our first question is about sin and turning away from God.

Question: Sins. With the knowledge of the 3 types of sins (capital sin, mortal sin and venial sin) our first question is on capital sin.

We know our God is a forgiving God. If we have committed a capital sin, such as anger

what is our first response? What type of decisions can we make? What and why will you do it?

James: First Jesus taught us to be kind to one another. This means we need to show patience to everyone.

John: Yes, but the first thing I want to do when someone takes something from me (look over at James) is to get angry. I think a little anger is okay. Isn't it?

James: John, no. Anger goes against the preaching that we have heard Jesus tell us. He knows our heart is broken and maybe our trust. But He wants us to be true disciples.

John: I suppose so, but how do I tell someone they have hurt me without throwing stones at them!

[EDN] Okay let's move on.

Question: Conscience. We know a good conscience helps us to judge if an act is good or evil. Our life is filled with so many things that compete with us. Like do we listen to what we know is right or do we go with everyone else. Explain this thought: "Right is right, even if everyone is against it; and wrong is wrong, even if everyone is for it."

How does this fit in to living a Christ-like life?

John: Let me ask James this question. When we heard Jesus preach, he reminded all of us that it is so easy to judge someone when they have more than we do. James, if you had more fish than someone because you worked all day, but someone was hungry and your friends were saying let them learn. What would you do?

James: If I worked all day for my family I would be very careful of what I have. I mean I know I'm supposed to share. But Jesus also told us to take care of our families. My friends are usually right.

John: James, I know you want to be liked. But remember when Jesus took a few loaves of bread and fish? He fed thousands. He could have said okay I have nothing, but he didn't. Always when Jesus preached He shared His wisdom of being a kind person or doing the right thing when it wasn't popular. So, James what may be popular with your friends, is not with doing the right thing.

[EDN]: John I can see that James needs a few more time. So, let's move to the next question.

Question: Let's close with this discussion. As you live your life following the teachings of Jesus, what can each of you share with us that can help our young church make difficult decisions?

John: That's tough. When you think about what you are doing or saying ask yourself "What would Jesus Do?" I have heard Him preach to so many people but one thing I remember is to be kind to one another. He also reminded us to be honest and fair.

James: I agree with John. I want to do what is right and fair. Jesus also taught us how to forgive one another. This means whether I am right, okay if someone has done something mean to me, I need to find it in my heart to forgive them. Jesus taught us to pray for help. See what I do can hurt someone too and I would want them to forgive me.

[EPN]: First, let's thank James and John for taking time to share with us first hand some of the teachings of Jesus. How incredible it is to have a look and visit back in time.

Let's hear now from our young church of this incredible debate from James and John. [Since time is critical review the questions and have students give their insight. Spend a few minutes with explaining to the students the answers.]

[EPN]: Let's give big thanks to John and James for taking time out of their fishing schedule to join us. (Encourage students to clap)
END OF SKIT.....

Read the following scripture:

Ephesians 4:32

"Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you."

EVALUATION/RESPONSE: Reviewing the questions that were in the skit and examination of conscious will measure how much the students understand. With an additional group assignment: Creating a Conscious Cartoon. The students will have the opportunity to provide additional input in the next class. End by summarizing the three types of sin

ASSIGNMENT: Creating Conscience Cartoons

Purpose: To reinforce our conscience guides that help us judge what is right or wrong.

Directions: Work as a group to create cartoon-like illustrations with four frames. Show characters listening to their conscience as they face and resolve a moral problem.

The cartoon will be mounted on mural paper and displayed within the chapel. For their enjoyment and learn examining of conscience.

Materials: Art Paper

Paint

markers

mural paper

CLOSING PRAYER:

Thinking about and evaluating our moral conscience decisions are important in living a Christ-like life. We can do this by examining our conscience daily.

Let us close in prayer:

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Catechist: Let us look back into our hearts and see where we have failed to love God and our neighbors as Jesus taught us.

Students: "Happy those who observe God's decrees, who seek the Lord with all their heart." [Psalm 119:2]

Catechist: Now as we greet each other we leave each other with the Sign of the Peace (students offer the Sign of Peace to each other). Now go in peace to serve and love all God's people.