

LESSON PLANⁱ

FORMING DISCIPLES FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATIONⁱⁱ

PREPARING TO TEACH THE LESSON

Topic: The Day after Pentecost

Grade Level: 8th

Standard 2 Scripture: Read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through Sacred Scripture.

Indicators I will use are how the disciples received the Holy Spirit in scripture at Pentecost. Also, how the Church was established after Jesus' Ascension.

Indicators:

8.02.07 Identify the [Holy Spirit](#), received by the disciples at [Pentecost](#), as the major figure in the Acts of the Apostles, enlivening the establishment of the Church after the Ascension of Jesus.

At the end of this session the youth will be able to understand what life was like for the early Church, especially in the years that followed Jesus' Ascension. The youth will also be challenged to live out their faith boldly.

Pages in the Textbook: EDGE : The Early Church Semester ___pages 72-80
_____To Pentecost and Beyond

Background Reading for Catechist/Facilitator: CCC 727-741, Compendium 143-145, USCCA 102-103

Environment: The environment; "Upper Room" Chairs (wooden) need to be pushed down, wooden table, (make it look like people left in a hurry not to leave town but to spread the Gospel.) Have the west wall decorated to look like an open door. (use large cardboard boxes).

No chairs, Carpet squares.

Prayer table in corner with red cloth because of Pentecost, with crucifix, bible opened to Acts 2 42-47, one large candle not lit, large picture of dove.

Carpet squares will be in a rows facing TV screen main altar. (will have diagram attached)

Altar for monstrance: Altar cloth white, white candle on four corners (centered under TV screen).

Materials: Wooden chairs from upstairs, wooden table already there, cardboard from RC Willey,

Carpet squares from office

Prayer space item box.

Picture of Dove from home

Download images for Apostles Proclaim, and Holy Boldness Proclaim

Music from Matt Mahar and Josh Blaklesy.

Computer

PA System

Gifts for Birthday (bracelets)

Rewards for challenge from last week (candy bars)

Table, White Altar cloth, table blocks, four altar candles, Monstrance, umeral veil, censer, altar servers (2), kneelers, incense, charcoal.

Copies of Benediction

Teaching the Lesson

Welcome:

1. Welcome and introduce new youth.
2. Recognize and celebrate any youth or Core birthday by singing "Happy Birthday"
3. No Breaking of the Word (due to time allowance for adoration)

Prayer: Opening Prayer:

Music by: Matt Maher "No Greater Love", and "Be Lifted High" by Josh Blakesly

Review: Who completed last week challenge? (give out rewards)

Preview:

Point the youth to the "upper room" that you have (table empty, chairs not pushed in/fallen over) and let them know that it's the day after Pentecost – the day after the

Holy Spirit was poured out on the world and the Church was born. Give each group a poster board and markers. Ask them, “Now what?” The groups have five minutes to brainstorm and decide, if they were alive in Jesus’ time, what do they think should be done to spread the faith. Help the youth to come up with specific ideas as well – instead of “live like Jesus,” ask them to specify what that means – feed the hungry, go to Mass every Sunday, be kind to your neighbor, etc.

Presentation:

Walking through scripture with different images on the screen.

Put images of the early Church, and ask youth how they can do this today?

Images of Apostles spreading the Gospel, and ask youth how they can do this today?

(While showing images reading (The Apostles)

Community Life:

Read Community Life and give each group 5 minutes to come up with a jingle: why it is important to have community?

Holy Boldness: Read Holy Boldness (on screen have Saints who have been Martyred slowly scrolling, why and when they were martyred). At the end have a few hopeful images (father, Core, parents, youth) Ending talking about standing firm and boldly sharing our faith with others.

Evaluation Response:

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

Discuss the following questions in your small group:

Let’s read Acts 2:42 again: “And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.”

- What does this tell you about the early Church?
- How did our “Now What?” poster compare to what we heard during the Proclaim?
- What does it mean, “they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching”? How can we also devote ourselves to learning our faith?
- Why is it important to live in community – why can’t we just live our own lives and do our own thing when it comes to our faith?
- What are some ways that you can share your faith with others?

- What does it mean that they devoted themselves to prayer? What does it mean to be devoted? How can you become more devoted in prayer?
- How can you live your life so that others can see your faith?

Assignment:

Place on facebook:, email parents and/or give a note to take home to parents.

TO THE PARENTS OF

Now what? Your child was challenged to think of what happened after Pentecost. On the day of Pentecost, the disciples were gathered in the “upper room” and fearful. As the Holy Spirit came upon them, however, their faith was ignited and the Church was born. The apostles went out, preaching and teaching as they had seen Jesus do and as Scripture tells us, many believers were added to the faith. We shared with the youth tonight how important it is for us to learn our faith so that we can both live it and share it. We also are called to live in community so that we can support one another and call each other to holiness. Here are some questions to help start a conversation with your youth about what he/she learned during Edge:

- What do you think life was like for early Christians?
- Why was it important that the apostles and disciples were “sent out”?
- How is our catholic community like one of the early communities that you talked about tonight?
- How can we as a family help to share our Catholic faith?

Announcements:

Based on Calendar Events

Closing Prayer:

Father will come in with Monstrance and start adoration for half an hour.

After Adoration: Father Comes back to join us for closing with benediction.

Everyone joins hands in a circle, Core starts with prayer then squeezes the person’s hand next to them, if the youth or Core has a special prayer or intention to say they mentioned it at this time, then, the squeeze continues on. When it comes back to the first person we will lift all the prayers up with a Hail Mary and a Glory Be.

Evaluation of Lesson:

At the end of the session the CORE will get together and talk about the strengths and the weaknesses of the lesson, what could we have added or taken away, and what the youth got from the lesson.

1. On a scale of 1-10, how well did this Edge Night accomplish the goal we set? Explain.
2. What was the strongest aspect of this Edge Night?
3. What kind of follow-up do we need to do after this Edge Night?
4. What can we improve for future Edge Nights?
How can we accomplish this?

Who will be answering the questions on facebook this week and keeping up with the weekly challenge.

ⁱ The language used in this Lesson Planning Outline is geared to work with children and teenagers. When using it with adults, you may want to substitute the word “session” for “lesson,” and the word “participant” for “student.”

ⁱⁱ The AMS Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide, Grades Pre-K. to 8.