

# LESSON PLAN<sup>i</sup>

## *FORMING DISCIPLES FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATION<sup>ii</sup>*

### PREPARING TO TEACH THE LESSON

**Topic:** God's Creation

**Grade Level:** 8<sup>th</sup>

**Methodology:** Critical Thinking

**Standard<sup>iii</sup> 1 Creed:** Understand, believe and proclaim the Triune and redeeming God as revealed in creation and human experience, in Apostolic Tradition and Sacred Scripture, and as entrusted to the teaching office of the Church.

#### **Indicators:**

8.01.05 State that God created us in a state of original holiness and justice.

### TEACHING THE LESSON

**Welcome:** I will prepare a prayer space. A poster having the quotation from John 1:1-5 will be displayed.

**Prayer:** A reading from the book of Genesis 1:1-2:3

- Nine students will enact this bible story.

**Review:** Ask the students to discuss: What is the source of all the living things?

**Preview:** Today, we will link the creation story to our lives.

#### **Presentation:**

- Put the students in four groups.
- We are going to find events in our lives that are important to our creation as Christians.

- Ask the students how the Scripture passage from Genesis links with the reading from John (see poster). John is referring back to the creation story he would have been told and memorized as a young Jewish boy.
  - Why would he tell the story in his gospel?
- Give students time to dialogue.
- Like the seven days of creation, there are things in our lives that shape us into the person Jesus wants us to be. We may not always see those moments when they happen to us, but we will eventually (they may also change).
- Have the students draw a sketch of the seven days of creation.
- Next, ask the students to share how their personal experience of the power and beauty of creation reveal or confirm that God exists.
- At the end of this discussion, I will then ask them:
  - What seven events in their life shaped who they are today?
- I will lead by example. I can look back and find seven events that shaped the person I am today. Some have changed but some have remained the same. (Examples: my baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and confirmation, etc)

**Evaluation/Response:** Your challenge now is to find seven events that have shaped you into the Christian you are now. Know that these seven events won't be the same five years from now.

**Assignment:** Tell the story of creation to you parents. Talk about what events in their lives have shaped them as Christians.

**Announcement:** TBA

**Closing Prayer:** Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be

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<sup>i</sup> 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.”

<sup>ii</sup> The AMS Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide, Grades Pre-K. to 8.

<sup>iii</sup> *Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization* is structured around 14 Standards derived from the 4 pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church and the 6 Key Elements of Catholic Life outlined in the National Directory for Catechesis, no 20. The 14 Standards are: 1) Creed, 2) Sacred Scripture, 3) Sacraments, 4) Liturgy, 5) Conscience, 6) Christian Living, 7) Prayer, 8) Catholic Church, 9) Ecumenism, 10) Catholic Principles and Relationships, 11) Vocation, 12) Catholic Social Teaching, 13) Inter-Religious Dialogue, and 14) Missionary Vocation. Please see the chart on pages 3-4 of the Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum Guide.