

LESSON PLANⁱ

FORMING DISCIPLES FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATIONⁱⁱ

PREPARING TO TEACH THE LESSON

Lesson Title: The Sacraments as Gifts from God

We will go over the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. We will discuss how they are important to have a relationship with God and how to see them as a gift from God makes them a reality here on earth.

Grade Level: 8th

Standard 3 Sacraments: Understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as effective signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church.

Indicators:

8.03.01 Recognize that the benefits of the sacramental life are personal and ecclesial.

Have a better understanding of the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church, Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Confirmation, Holy Orders, Marriage, and Anointing of the Sick

Pages in Textbook: 4-14

Background Reading: Matthew 28:16-20, Luke 6:19, Romans 6:10, CCC 1122-1126, CCC 774-776, CCC 1084-1085

Environment: Festive theme

Materials: Sacrament costumes, party supplies, supplies for each group for scavenger hunt (water, oil, rings, priest collar, thermometer, white shirt, candle, red bird (cut out), bread, dirt), Ice Cream sundaes (parent volunteers), 30 copies of each

Handout A (Sacraments in Scripture page 11)

Handout B (I need Your Help page 12) 5 copies

Handout C (Sacrament Pledge Cards pages 13-14)

Bibles

Teaching the Lesson

Welcome: As the youth come in the Core Members are walking around and engaged in conversation and having the youth try to guess what sacrament the Core represents. As the youth get into small group, the youth discuss the clue that gave away which Core Member was which sacrament. (Opening Music: You Never Let Go by Matt Redman)

1. Welcome Youth and introduce new youth.
2. Recognize and celebrate youth or Core celebrating birthday this week by singing Happy Birthday.
3. Present Brief Overview of Lesson: Today as you came in you see us dress up as sacraments and you entered into an party theme why do you think that is?

Prayer: Heavenly Father, send your spirit down and open our hearts and our minds to your symbols of love you have given to us and your Church. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

Review: Ask youth -What they know about the sacraments? How many sacraments are there? Which sacraments they have celebrated? Which one can you do more than once?

Preview: Have youth reps hand out flyer before Mass with lesson catch and weekly question. (How many times a year does one have to go to confession?)

Presentation:

1. Some of the middle school youth may feel that this semester topic on sacraments has been done before and they “know it all” when it comes to these topics. This night will reintroduce the idea that God is trying to break into their lives through seven particular ways. This night is meant to build upon the foundation they have received from previous formation on this topic and leave with a better understanding of how the sacraments are meant to experience God and receive His grace. The night begins with the youth being greeted by the various “sacraments” walking around the room. The youth will compete in a small group scavenger hunt based upon items used in each of the sacraments. The teaching tonight will unveil the

new semester topic and will present an overview of sacraments and why we have them and what they do. There will be an opportunity in small groups to find in Scripture where the sacraments come from and how Christ instituted them. The night will conclude with a challenge for all the youth to frequent the sacraments at their Catholic faith community as much as possible. The Sacrament Core members should be walking around as the youth enter the room. They should engage in conversation and have the youth try to understand what sacrament they represent.

2. Teaching Scripture proclamation Matthew 28:16-20

Proclaim talk: Sacraments DO Something

Evaluation: Summary Challenge: Ask students to share a brief summary of what they have learned in this session.

Assignment: Small Group Discussion, Sacraments in Scripture, I Need Your Help.

Announcements: Put on Facebook (To the Parents) and give out a handout to take home parents.

Closing Prayer: Sacrament Pledge Cards

Evaluation of the Lesson: After class sit with Core for 5 minutes and discuss what youth took away from class, what we took away from class and how we could improve next week.

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.