

LESSON PLANⁱ

FORMING DISCIPLES FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATIONⁱⁱ

PREPARING TO TEACH THE LESSON

Topic: Discipleship -The Way of the Cross

Grade Level: 8TH GRADE /YOUNG ADULT

State the Standard: 12 Catholic Social Teaching –Know, critique, and apply social justice and stewardship principles to societal situations in a way that acknowledges and affirms the dignity of the human person and community.

Indicators:

- 8.12.14 Understand that service is action rooted in and flowing from prayer.
- 8.12.18 Engage in service to the community (i.e., family, parish, local, national, and global) in response to the Gospel call.

Upon completion of this lesson, students should be able to:

1. Explain the Stations of the Cross devotion.
 - a.) Opening Discussion: How can we contemplate that last moments of Jesus life on Earth?
 - b.) What method of devotion has the Church given us for this contemplation?
2. Demonstrate an understanding of Sacrifice.
 - a.) Recognize resolve in 2 Stations of the Cross.
 - b.) Explain how resolve is needed in acts of forgiveness, mercy and charity.
 - c.) Explain how the Stations of the Cross inspire such works of mercy displayed in the construction of a mobile Stations of the Cross path for the parish.

Pages of the text book: N/A

Background reading for the Catechist / Facilitator: Baltimore Catechism #3 (Lesson 8), CCC (Para 595-628).

Environment: Class will convene in the parking lot of OLQP. Transportation will be provided to the location for the lesson (Poor Clares Monastery, at the outdoor Stations of the Cross path.)

Materials: Rakes (3), trash bags (10), 409 Cleaning Solution (1 bottle per 3 students), rags(2 per student).

TEACHING THE LESSON

Welcoming: Warmly welcome the class. Ask how their week has been.

Prayer: Ask for intentions. Then pray, 1 Our Father, 3 Hail Mary's, 1 Glory Be.

Review: Last lesson quick review. Ask feeler questions [explain what is a feeler question] to gauge understanding.

Preview: Jesus gave many examples of service to others. The greatest of these was His crucifixion for all of humanity. It is the Holy Mother Church's custom to have great devotion to commemorate Jesus' Passion and Resurrection through the Stations of the Cross. As you can tell we are in a different kind of classroom. Today, we are going to follow Christ's example in providing a service for the Poor Clares. As we clean the path and wipe down all the Stations, I want each of us to reflect on what the Station is depicting.

Presentation: The Stations of the Cross

(Read each Station to the students prior to clean up of each Station. Tell the students to think about the meaning of the Station while cleaning. After the Station is cleaned, ask the questions listed.)

Students will view each Station. Students will then wipe down the Station, rake and bag any leaves/yard debris.

The 1st Station

1. Alone. No one defends Jesus.

a.) Where can we go for comfort when we feel alone?

The 2nd Station

1. Jesus carries His Cross. He knows it will be hard, but He picks it up and walks.

a.) Do I embrace my cross? Do I see difficulties as opportunities to love God and my fellow man?

The 3rd Station

1. Jesus in fatigue falls down. If Jesus can fall down, we will fall down.

a.) How do we respond when we fall? How did Jesus show resolve?

The 4th Station.

1. During this struggle, Jesus is comforted by His Mother.

a.) Who can we turn to in moments of pain and anxiety?

The 5th Station.

1. Simon of Cyrene is forced to help Jesus.

a.) Do I willingly help those in need? Am I willing, out of the love for God to help others?

The 6th Station

1. Veronica does all that she is able to comfort Jesus.

a.) Do I feel compelled to serve to reduce suffering? Why did Veronica “get involved”?

The 7th Station.

1. Jesus falls for the second time. The weight continues to press down.

a.) Do we allow the pains and suffering that we experience to press us down? Do we fall into despair or do we push through?

The 8th Station.

1. Jesus, in his suffering still reaches out to the women of Jerusalem.

a.) Do we think only of our suffering? Can we recognize the pain in others and reach out to them despite our personal pain?

The 9th Station.

1. When Jesus falls for the 3rd time we are reminded of His perseverance.

a.) Are we quitters? Will we turn away from a challenge if the going gets tough?

The 10th Station.

1. Jesus is robbed of His clothing and ridiculed.

a.) Have we accepted that which is not mine (praise, accolades and rewards)? Have we gossiped or slandered others?

The 11th Station.

1. Our sins hammer the nails into Jesus on the cross.
 - a.) Do we hurt those around us?

The 12th Station.

1. Jesus died on the cross for us out of love for us.
 - a.) Why does Jesus love us? How can we love him more?

The 13th Station.

1. Jesus is gently removed from the cross.
 - a.) When others are in pain, do I seek their well-being? Can I see the goodness of God in others?

The 14th Station.

1. Jesus is laid in the tomb. He is protected and hidden away.
 - a.) When injured, do I withdraw from those around me?

Walk the entire Stations of the Cross with the students. Remove all trash bags and tools as you go. Have the students look at the newly cleaned Stations. Remind all the students that there needs to be a Crucifixion before the Resurrection. There has to be joyful service (works) before something wonderful.

Closing: The Stations of the Cross remind all of us that we need to continually strive to grow closer to Christ. The example Jesus gave us, is one of love (charity). God so loved us that he allowed the Passion of Christ. He allowed the Crucifixion of Christ. But....He gives us the Resurrection. This is the highest sacrifice. This is the highest calling for service. How will we respond?

Assignment: None this week.

Announcements: None this week.

Closing Prayer: Pray 1 Act of Contrition, 1 Our Father, and 1 Glory Be–
Amen

Evaluation: Start time:_____ End time:_____

Were there any environmental issues at class today?

Was the chosen learning method effective in conveying the lesson?

Were the students attentive?

What percentage of the class was active during the class?

Where questions ask by the students?

Were question used by the teacher that enhanced student understanding?

Were questions used to gauge comprehension of the student?

Was there an “a-ha” moment?

What could be done better?

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.