

SOLT for Kids! Ready, Set, Live!

IMITATE MARY BECOME LIKE JESUS LIVE FOR THE TRIUNE GOD

Purpose & Meaning of Life – Facilitation #2

Note to Facilitators: Please make a habit of beginning each class time with the Our Father and then reviewing the song and the memory verse from the previous week. This is a good way to get everyone's heart in the same place as you begin the facilitation. Children love to know what is going to happen next (don't we all?), and this will give them something tangible as far as what to expect.

Please, in all of these facilitations, remember Our Lady is there to help you. If you have had a challenging week, but you are here and giving it your very best, rest assured that she is beseeching the Lord on your behalf. Pray hard, and leave the rest to Mary. You are her dear child, and she is always there to help you as you lead the little ones to her Son, Jesus.

Prayer:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name; Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Our Lady of the Most Holy Trinity, pray for us.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Who remembers what we talked about last week?

Yes, we talked about the fact that God thought of us before time ever began and made a plan just for us, just like He did for Mary! Who remembers the song we sang? Let's sing it now.

I'm a Plan of God

Way back yonder in eternity,
at the Counsel of the Most Holy Trinity,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit made a plan for
me,
I'm a child, I'm a plan of God!

*****REFRAIN*****

I'm a child, I'm a child, I'm a plan of God.
I'm a child, I'm a child, I'm a plan of God.
***Father, Son and Holy Spirit made a plan for
me,***
I'm a child, I'm a plan of God.

*There's never-ever been another one like
me,
And there won't be for all of eternity,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit said that I would
be,
I'm a child, I'm a plan of God!*

*****REFRAIN*****

I'm a child, I'm a child, I'm a plan of God.
I'm a child, I'm a child, I'm a plan of God.
***Father, Son and Holy Spirit made a plan for
me,***
I'm a child, I'm a plan of God.

*Every person needs to know that this is true,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit have a plan for
you!
You can know and believe that this is true,
You're a child, you're a plan of God!*

*****REFRAIN*****

***You're a child, You're a child, You're a plan
of God.***
***You're a child You're a child, You're a plan
of God.***
***Father, Son and Holy Spirit made a plan for
you,***
You're a child, You're a plan of God.

Great! Now let's see who can tell us one of the memory verses from last week.

Note to Facilitator: Try to allow all the children that volunteer to recite the memory verses. If some do not know them, this will help cement them in their minds. If you lack a volunteer, recite it yourself and have them repeat after you. This will show them that you took the time to learn it.

Verses from Last Week:

“So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.” [Matthew5:48]

“For human beings it is impossible, but not for God. All things are possible for God.” [Mark 10:27]

Excellent! Now let’s pick up from where we left off last week...

Transforming

In the past week we were supposed to do some things:

- Remember that we are loved by God
- Remember that God has a plan and purpose for our lives
- Imitate Our Blessed Mother and Pray
- Ask Jesus to give us a heart like His

What was the prayer we were supposed to pray? [The Our Father and “O Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine.”]

We also talked about how the Blessed Trinity—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—want us to live in perfect love for one another. Does anyone remember what that perfect love is called? [Communion]

We need to begin today to understand that all the things we do while we are on earth will affect our eternal lives in heaven.

Who knows what the Catechism is? [TRY TO HAVE A COPY TO SHOW THE CHILDREN.]

It’s a book that explains what we believe as Catholics. Is it another Bible? NO! There is only one Bible. For instance, if we wanted to know WHY God made us, we could go look in the Catechism. Some of you probably know the answer to this question.

“Why did God make you? God made me to know him, to love Him, and to serve Him in this world and be happy with him forever in the next”¹ [in heaven] .

¹ Baltimore Catechism, 6Q

God knows everything, and He knew that this work of getting to know, love and serve Him could be hard for us sometimes. So He sent His Son Jesus to earth to show us how to do all of these things, and Jesus gave us His Mother, the Blessed Virgin Mary to be our example too. God the Father wanted to show us how much He loved us and so He sent us Jesus, and He wanted to give us a human example to follow, so He gave us the Blessed Mother.

We have already learned how the Trinity lives in perfect love all of the time, and we call that what? [Communion]

God wanted to give us a human example of communion too. Can anyone guess what that was?

[The Holy Family—Jesus, Mary & Joseph]

Each day this week, you will pray 2 prayers. You already know the first one, it's from last week. Let's pray together now. We always begin with the sign of our Faith.

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

“Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine.”

“Please help my family live in communion like the Holy Family of Nazareth.”

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

So the prayer we add this week is:

“Please help my family live in communion like the Holy Family of Nazareth.”

This is a prayer that is very dear to the heart of God the Father. You can be sure He loves this prayer. God wants us to live in His love, His Communion all of the time, just like the Holy Family. Can you imagine how beautiful it was to be a part of the Holy Family? They were always loving one another and helping each other. We can begin to live in this way by doing our very best to be cheerful to our brothers and sisters and promptly obedient to our parents. Don't you think Jesus was always cheerful and obedient? I am sure He was, and we want to become just like Him.

One of our memory verses is what Jesus says about staying in the love of Trinity always:

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.” [John 15:9]

I'll say that again, and you repeat it after me.

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.” [John 15:9]

What does it mean to “abide”? One definition of “abide” is to live or reside in a place. So Jesus is telling us to live in His love. That is what He wants for all of us. He doesn't just want us to go to Mass on Sunday and then forget that he is around the rest of the week, does He? He wants us to live every moment of every day in His love.

Jesus cares about everything we do. He cares when we are happy, sad, grumpy, tired, excited and everything in between. If we are going to really imitate Our Blessed Mother, we need to begin to practice this virtue of love, which the Bible frequently calls “Charity”. When we say Charity, we mean God's way of perfect love. Mary practiced it so well that we say she had the virtue (holy habit) of Ardent Charity.

Who knows what ‘Ardent’ means?

Ardent means that you feel very strongly about something and you show it by your great enthusiasm. So Our Lady loved perfectly and with great enthusiasm—she practiced Ardent Charity, and so should we. So let's all do our best to imitate Our Lady this week so we can become more like Jesus and start to learn in perfect love like the Blessed Trinity.

Remember to keep singing the song we learned last week to remind us of how God has always loved us and He always will! God loves to hear His children sing to Him. In fact, let's sing it one more time before we go on to our activity.

HANDOUT – DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Living – Assignment for the Week

This week we will work to know, love and serve God because we want to be happy with him forever in heaven. We will try to “abide” in His love by:

- Being cheerful with brothers, sisters and friends
- Being promptly obedient to parents
- Memorizing our memory verses and claiming the truth for our lives

Now we will make a chart to put up at home to show other things you will do to cooperate with God in His work of Perfect Love which we call “Communion”. Remember that we should always try to imitate Our Lady in her Ardent Charity when we are trying to become more like Jesus. 😊

Activity: Living in Communion – A Holy Family Chart

SEE LAST PAGE OF HANDOUT.

Scripture to Claim

**“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.”
[John 15:9]**

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Closing Prayer

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

“Jesus, meek and humble of heart, make my heart like unto Thine.”

“Please help my family live in communion like the Holy Family of Nazareth.”

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

Living in Communion

A Holy Family Chart

I will try to live in communion with my Mom & Dad by:

I will try to live in communion with my brothers & sisters by:

I will try to live in communion with my friends & neighbors by:

I will try to live in communion with the Trinity by:

I know God wants me to cooperate with him to live in His perfect love. Here are some of the ways I will try to grow in my relationships this week so I can learn to love like God loves and live in Communion.

Signed _____

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PURPOSE & MEANING OF LIFE - 2

Living – Assignment for the Week

This week we will work to know, love and serve God because we want to be happy with him forever in heaven. We will try to “abide” in His love by:

- Being cheerful with brothers, sisters and friends
- Being promptly obedient to parents
- Memorizing our memory verses and claiming the truth for our lives
- Look at our Chart each day to make sure we are doing our part to live in communion

Remember that we should always try to imitate Our Lady in her Ardent Charity when we are trying to become more like Jesus. ☺

Scripture to Claim

“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you; abide in my love.” [John 15:9]

What does it mean to “abide”? One definition of “abide” is to live or reside in a place. So Jesus is telling us to live in His love. That is what He wants for all of us. He doesn’t just want us to go to Mass on Sunday and then forget that he is around the rest of the week, does He? He wants us to live every moment of every day in His love.

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