

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Faith Formation Resources for Use at Home

Advanced Middle School and High School

Learning Targets:

- Create a prayerful atmosphere of learning.
- Listen to the Word of God and reflect on the emotional life of Jesus and his companions.
- Explore the Word of God and generate questions that will help with understanding.
- Identify a weekly activity based on this week's learning.

Resources:

- Bible, or weekly readings found at <http://usccb.org/bible/readings/032220.cfm>
- Notebooks or loose leaf paper
- Markers, colored pencils, or digital art app
- Pens or pencils
- Glue or tape
- Old magazines
- Scissors

The lesson plan continues on the next page. Please also refer to this week's "Liturgy of the Word for Celebration at Home," which you will find at the diocesan webpage:

<http://dioceseofcheyenne.org/covid19/>

| Time (Total)  | Activity with Explanation  | Learning Targets  |
|---------------|--|---|
| 20-60 Minutes | Celebration of the Liturgy of the Word   |   |
| 5 (5)         | <p>Opening Prayer:</p> <p><i>Lord God,<br/>We thank you for this time and for sharing your Word with us.<br/>We ask you to guide our hearts and minds so that we might know you better and follow you more closely.<br/>Remembering how you taught us to pray, we pray together, Our Father...</i></p>   |   |
| 10 (15)       | <p><b>Review of Last Session</b>   <i>To be done with younger grades. If not present, also suitable for older youth.</i></p> <p>Using the items produced last week (rules for learning, thanks and praise, weekly activities) ask all of the youth – and the adults, too – to remind everyone what they learned about and how they achieved their weekly activity. Ask everyone what the experience was like and how it helped them.</p>   | <p><i>Repetition reinforces learning, as does a youth's ability to present her/his own work</i></p>   |
| 10 (25)       | <p><b>Thanks and Praise</b>   <i>To be done with younger grades. If not present, also suitable for older youth.</i></p> <p>Invite everyone gathered to remember three things from the past week for which they are grateful and to name them for the group. After posing the question, give everyone 2-3 minutes to write or draw the three things they think of, then go around the group and invite all to share each of what they called to mind.</p> <p>Then, using magazines, coloring materials, paper, and pens, invite everyone to create something that reflects their gratitude to God. It could be an image they create, a collection of pictures from old magazines, a poem they write, or a song they know or make up.</p> <p>After everyone has created this symbol of gratitude, they have a chance to share it. Post the symbols of gratitude somewhere in the learning space for the next week so people are reminded of this time.</p> | <p><i>God communicates to us through the experiences of our days. Remembering God's goodness to us helps us see God at work in the scriptures and other moments of our lives.</i></p> |

**The Word of God**

Explain that we as a Church often do not spend time reflecting on the humanity and emotions of Jesus. Ask everyone why they think we neglect this part of Jesus; keep a list of how everyone responds, and be sure to give everyone a few moments to think before answering. Next, ask why it is helpful to focus on the humanity of Jesus; again, keep a list of responses, and give everyone a few moments to think before answering. After all have spoken, read back what they shared.

We have a very long Gospel passage. Ask everyone to track the emotions they hear expressed (anger, sadness, joy, fear, etc.). They can make a table and put tally marks for each one they hear, or they can write or draw the emotions as they hear them. Once all have confirmed that they understand directions and understand what the exercise has to do with their learning, re-read the Gospel of the day.

At the end of the Gospel, ask everyone to create something that summarizes what they heard and ask them, **“do you think God understands your emotions?”** It could be a drawing, collage, song, poem, or written description. After 5-10 minutes, ask everyone to explain what they have created. Collect their creations and post them in the learning space; you will use them next week.

The Gospels show a wide range of emotions in Jesus’ ministry and relationships. For this week’s activity, ask everyone how they will pay attention to the emotions of their family and friends in the house, and what Jesus would ask them to do if they saw someone was sad, angry, or happy. Have them draw or write their answers, and keep them posted where the learning happens.

Keep the weekly activities posted next to the symbols of gratitude. Both will be used at the beginning of next week’s lesson.

*Reflecting on the Word of God in this way allows us to participate in the story of salvation. It also allows us to set goals for ourselves to model the behavior of Christ that we witness in the Gospel.*

*The goal is to help youth connect the emotions in the Gospel to their own, so that they know God understands what they feel.*

5 (45)

**Closing Prayer**

*Lord God,*

*We thank you for this opportunity to learn more about you and how you help us.*

*We ask that we be able to remember what we have learned about you and live more like you this week.*

*Since all that is good comes from you, we pray,*

*Glory be to the Father...*