



Pop goes CATHOLICISM Resource Sheet

"Front Man" White Collar

Media Information

Season: 1
Episode: 13
Year Aired: 2010

Description

Clip Timing: 4:40-7:10
DVD Note: clip is Chapter 2 of episode

White Collar tells the story of reformed forger and con artist Neal Caffrey and FBI Agent Peter Burke, in whose custody Caffrey has been released to help solve white collar crimes.

In this episode, Caffrey is assigned to another FBI agent, Agent Rice, who in this clip derides Neal for questioning 'her' witness, calling him nothing more than "a tool in my belt." She takes that attitude so far as to offer Caffrey as trade for the kidnap victim, without his knowledge.

Faith Connection

Agent Rice using Neal as a "tool in her belt" and subsequently as bait without his knowledge violates the first principle of Catholic Social Justice, the core of our understanding of humanity: respect for human dignity. The result is always evil and in this case was as well: kidnapping, extortion, threat of murder, etc. While that sounds rather grandiose (violating human dignity damaging social justice) it really boils down to something simple: treating people like people and *not* like a tool in a belt, or a cog in the machine, or something to be used. And how many of us are guilty of that? Treating an employee like no more than a means to an end. Not paying any attention to a teammate except how well she plays. Ignoring someone else's feelings when they're not convenient for us. We can all relate to those. And we're all called to do better, to respect every child of God made in His image.

Related

Scripture:

Genesis 1:26-27
Mark 12:28-34

Catechism:

#1931
#357

Discussion Questions

1. How does it feel when you're treated without respect, like 'a tool in someone's belt'?
2. What helps you avoid treating others that way?
3. How much do you involve God in your relationships with others?
4. How could you increase that involvement?
5. Who are you most likely to disrespect? Why?

