

November LIFT 2018-19 Level 6-8 Framework

Theme: Salvation History is your story

- Objectives:**
1. Become familiar with the Apostle's Creed as we say it at every LIFT session
 2. Know where we are in the Liturgical Calendar and how we can know it
 3. Be able to retell what we have covered so far this year
 4. Define a covenant
 5. Know that there are 5 major covenants that God made with His Chosen People.
 6. Retell the story of one of the covenants and explain how it shows that God keeps His promises
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Activities

Liturgical Calendar Connection

1. Questions to consider:
 - What color did we see in church today and on the vestments (clothes) of the priest and deacon? (green)
 - What is the liturgical time of year we are in? (Ordinary Time)
 - What does Ordinary Time mean? (Ordinary usually means "regular" or "plain" but the way that we are using it here means "order" as in the order of counted weeks.)
 - What season is coming next? What color is associated with it? (Advent, dark blue or purple)
2. Have one of the kids put the green dated pie shape on the calendar.

Apostle's Creed Introduction

Last month we discussed that we are going to learn about a prayer that we say in church called the Apostle's Creed. It is what we believe as Catholic Christians.

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

During the September LIFT, we concentrated on the first line “I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.” We read a story about how God created everything...the earth the sky, all of the birds and animals and people too.

Last month we concentrated on who we are as human beings created in God’s image. To do this, we looked at a line from St. Augustine.

You have created us for Yourself O Lord – we are created in God’s likeness and image with the ability to reason, free will to make choices and the capacity to love. He created us to use these gifts and be in relationship with Him.

However...**Our hearts are restless** because we sin and we turn away from God.

Until they rest in you – God is love and when we love Him and one another, we are at peace inside. He is our eternal and ultimate rest.

Five Covenants in the Bible

When we ended last month at the doors of the Garden of Eden, we saw Adam and Eve sent out of the Garden because they did not obey God. They ate the forbidden fruit. However, God didn’t want to be separated from Adam and Eve and he doesn’t want to be separated from us either. God put together a rescue plan to save us. Throughout what we call Salvation History, God revealed Himself little by little to His Chosen People the Israelites. He did this through a series of covenants.

What is a covenant? A covenant is a solemn promise that creates a family bond. A covenant is unbreakable and there are consequences if you don’t live up to your end of the covenant.

- In your lives, can you think of a promise that creates a family bond? (Marriage covenant...in a marriage, two people, a man and a woman, state before their family and friends and God that they freely choose and promise to stay together and create a family. Also the adoption of a child. It is not just a legal bond but a familial bond to promise to be family to one another)
- Let’s dive deeper...can you think of a sacrament that creates a family bond with God? (Baptism...when you were brought to the waters of Baptism by your parents, they made a solemn promise to raise you as Catholic Christians and you became God’s adopted sons and daughters. We are all created by God but through Baptism we become a part of God’s family.)

There are five major covenants in the Old Testament:

- One Holy Couple: Adam and Eve
- One Holy Family: Noah
- One Holy Tribe: Abraham
- One Holy Nation: Moses
- A Holy Kingdom: David

Show this video about covenants.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ferLlsvlml> (approximately 5:30 minutes)

Called to be His People, Promised a Savior

Read the article “Called to be His People, Promised a Savior” to reinforce the video

Read about the covenant of Abraham (use a Bible or an online app like Bible Hub):
Genesis 12: 1-3, 15:1-21, 17:1-27

Reflection questions:

- What did you learn about God’s covenant with Abraham?
- What did the people agree to? What did God agree to?
- What would happen if the people didn’t hold up to the covenant?

Closing prayer “Our Father”