

October LIFT 2018-19

Level 1-5 Home Assignment

Directions: Work with your child through the take home assignment. It isn't a writing assignment but an opportunity to experience together what we discussed at LIFT. Jot down notes about the things you talk about and email me a summary to dremaley@holyeucharist.org.

Theme: The "I" in I Believe

- 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. Know that we are created in God's image and that means that we are created with intellect, free will and the capacity to love
 4. Understand that when we do good in the world, we are reflecting God's image
 5. Be able to retell the story of Adam and Eve as a way to explain why we don't always make good choices
 6. Understand the Jesus was sent to help us make things right/reconcile with God

Activities

Liturgical Calendar Connection

Questions to consider: Explain that the church uses different colors to show what church (liturgical) time of year we are in.

What is the liturgical time of year we are in? (Ordinary Time) 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 color is associated with Ordinary Time? (green)

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.

Last month, 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.

This month we are going to concentrate on who we are as human beings created in God’s image. To do this, we are going to look at a line from St. Augustine. He was a sainted who lived a long time ago and thought a lot about how much God loved him. Here are the lines:

You have created us for Yourself O Lord
Our hearts are restless
Until they rest in you

We are going to look at each of these lines.

You have created us for Yourself O Lord

Last month, we read that God created Adam and Eve the first people. The story that we read said that, “God loved [Adam and Eve] with all of his heart. And they were lovely because he loved them. And Adam and Eve joined in the song of stars and the streams and the wind in the trees, the wonderful song of love to the one who made them. Their hearts were filled with happiness. And nothing ever mad them sad or lonely or sick or afraid.”

Human Beings have a unique place in creation. When God created human beings, he said that His creation was *very good*. The Catechism teaches that man is the “summit” of the Creator’s work. Man is the “only creature on earth that God has will for its own sake, and he alone is called to share, by knowledge and love, in God’s own life” (CCC 356).

“God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them” (Genesis1:27). We are created in the image of God, but what does that mean? It doesn’t mean that we look like him. Rather it means that human persons are created with intellect, free will and the capacity to love. This means that we can:

- Use our reason to know things
- Choose between right and wrong
- Love God and one another

These gifts that we have received from God allow us to enter into communion with other person and by grace to enter into a relationship with God Himself. Of all the creatures on earth, only man can share in the divine life of God. This capacity is why we say that human persons are created in the image and likeness of God.

Reflection questions:

- How are people different from all the other things God created? [examples: people can talk, build skyscrapers, ask questions, explore the universe etc.]
- Put the mirror in front of each child's face. Explain that what they see is a reflection. A reflection is called an image
- Lead the kids through a discussion around the following points:
 - Our image in the mirror tells something about us.
 - As images of God, we teach others about God and how He loves us
 - Since we are created in His image, we should try to be like God. When we choose to act like God, we are like mirrors we reflect God

I Reflect the Image of God

- Hand each child the sheet with the human figure on it.
- Around the figure, have them write ways in which they reflect God in how you think, what you say and what you do. Emphasize that God is love, and we reflect him best when we love others unselfishly.
- Let them decorate the body of the figure anyway that they like
- Glue a circle of tin foil over the face of the figure showing that we are reflecting the image of God

Our Hearts are Restless

Now I am going to read you a story from the Bible. Remember the Bible is a collection of stories about how God has loved his people from the beginning of time until today.

Questions to consider

- What stood out for you? What did you notice?
- Why didn't God want Adam and Eve to eat the fruit in the Garden?
- Why did Eve eat the fruit?
- What is the terrible lie?
- Remind the children that God did not give up on Adam and Eve. He promised to come to us and restore our relationship with Him. Who does he send?
- How does Jesus fix our relationship with God? [The cross]
- What are you tempted to do even though you know it is wrong? Why do we do this? Do these things make us happy? What truly makes us happy?

Until we rest in thee

"My Lighthouse"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9HsmnT_p7cw

Have all of the kids stand up, act out the motions and sing along with the video. They will follow what you do so if you allow yourself to be silly and sing along...they will too.

Perhaps play this a couple of times so that they can get to know the motions.

- Who is My Lighthouse? Who is carrying us safe to shore? 😊

Closing Prayer

Pray together the "Our Father"