

October LIFT 2018-19

Level 6-8 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

5:00 Liturgical Calendar Connection

Questions to consider: Remind them 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? (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 connected to the season? (green)

5:00 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 saint who lived a long time ago and thought a lot about how much God loved him. Here is the line:

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

God created the human person. How have we been created?

Last month, we read from the first book of Genesis that God everything, the heavens, the land, the sea, the sky, plants and animals, the first people.

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.

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

Reflection questions:

- In what ways do you reflect God in your life? In what things you say? In what things you do?

- God is calling us back to himself over and over again. Where do you see God at work in your life? In your family's life?

Our Hearts are Restless

Why are we “restless?” Why do we make bad choices?

This is a second creation story; this is the story of Adam and Eve. The stories are similar except in this second story...God creates Adam first and then the rest of the animals. [Story of the sundae with the cherry on top.] When God created Adam and then Eve, we learn that God loved them with all of his heart. And they were lovely because he loved them. They enjoyed an original holiness and Adam and Eve were in harmony with God, each other, themselves and the natural world around them. Their hearts were filled with happiness. And nothing ever made them sad or lonely or sick or afraid. God gave them one command: Adam and Eve (the first man and woman) are told not to eat of the fruit of the Tree of Knowledge. So let's read this story and see what happens. Then we will look at it through the eyes of the Catholic faith. [Use a Bible that you have at home or look it up online at www.biblehub.com (I like the Revised New American Bible Edition) and read Genesis 3:1-24]

Reflection questions:

- What did Adam and Eve do to disobey God? What happened? Who is responsible? How did Adam and Eve reject God's grace?
- Why did they eat the fruit? What did they think they would gain by eating the fruit?

Watch Father Mike Schmitz's video: <https://media.ascensionpress.com/video/what-is-sin/> What is sin? This is a great video explaining sin from the perspective of the breaking of a relationship and the absence of goodness.

Until we Rest in Thee

How can we find rest in God?

God sent Jesus to redeem us and restore our relationship with God. The Holy Spirit gives us the grace to respond to this.

Listen to “By name I have called you” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSYE5a2nyWI>

What can we do to grow in our relationship with this God who loved us into being...who loved us first?

Closing prayer “Our Father”
