

5<sup>th</sup> Grade Religious Ed      Wednesday, March 21, 2012

Theme: Making Choices

Sarah Reinhard, Jessi Hannig, Ali Arend

- I.      6:15-6:30      Welcome      Sarah, Jessi, Ali
- Attendance
  - Cell Phones
  - Copies to make:
    - Handout: Moral Choices Handout
    - Scenarios (Only 1 copy of entire thing...will pass out different scenario to each group during activity)
- II.      6:30 – 6:40      Opening Prayer      Sarah
- Moment of silence to prepare our thoughts and minds for God.
  - Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be
- III.      6:40 – 6:45      Trivia Answers/Questions      Sarah
- This week's trivia:
    - What are the Holy Days of Obligation in our Church year?
  - Next week's trivia:
    - What are the Stations of the Cross?
- IV.      6:45-7:00      Making Choices Activity      Sarah
- Place tables in center of room or around edge of room.
  - Read scenarios below. If students choose A, go to one side of room; if B, go to opposite side. Stress to students to be honest with their decisions.
    - It's the Christmas season and you pick a family from the Giving Tree at church. Your parents give you \$50 when you go shopping to buy gifts. While shipping, you find a game that you want. It's only \$14. You could still buy some nice gifts for the Giving Tree family with the remaining money. Do you...
      - A - Spend the whole \$50 on the family and keep saving your money for the game
      - B - Use some of the money for the game and bargain shop for the Giving Tree gifts

- Your little brother has been getting in trouble lately for what seems like every little thing. Your mom has told him that if he keeps it up, he'll get punished. One day, he comes home feeling bad because he's had a terrible day at school. The two of you are in the kitchen and he flings his backpack onto the counter and a drinking glass gets broken. Do you...
  - A - Tell your mom your brother broke the glass.
  - B - Tell your mom your brother broke the glass but emphasize it was an accident.
- You are in the school cafeteria at an after-school activity. You're sitting with a group of friends when you see a new student sitting alone. Do you...
  - A - Leave your friends, go to the new student, and invite her to join you.
  - B - Ignore the new student and just be thankful you have friends to sit with.
- Tables back or sit on floor.
- Discussion:
  - Have you been in similar situations?
  - How do you decide what's the right thing to do?
  - Who decides these things? Is it the people around you or is it you?
  - How do you KNOW what's right and what's wrong?
  - What is your basis for deciding?
- It's often painful to choose the right thing.
- Sometimes, you don't get anything out of it, not even a good feeling.

V. 7:00 - 7:15 Moral Choices Role Play Sarah

- Pass out Moral Choices Handout
  - Cover each section, especially steps for making good moral choices
- Divide into partners
- You'll be given a description of a situation where you'll need to make a moral choice. For each case, you'll need to:
  - Agree on what you would say or do in that situation
  - Decide how to role-play the situation for everyone else
  - Tell what information from the Ten Commandments and Church teachings was helpful in making your decision
- Pass out scenarios (different one to each group)
- Give all the groups 5 minutes to plan their role-play
- Allow each group one or two minutes to role-play their dilemmas and share how they arrived at their decisions

VI. 7:20 - 7:25 Closing Prayer

Sarah

- Decade of the rosary, reflecting on the Second Sorrowful Mystery, the Scourging at the Pillar

- Jesus stood there, taking abuse that wasn't his fault
- There was blood dripping down his back, incredible pain throughout his body
- Think of each stripe as a choice we each failed to make well, as an opportunity missed
- And yet we stand here now, with the opportunity to try again, to keep striving for heaven
- Turn to this mystery when you feel like you need help making decisions. It's often not easy to make the right choice. Everyone's telling you to take the easy way, to avoid the pain and trial, to do what feels right.

VII. 7:25 - 7:30 Clean-up & Dismissal

Sarah, Jessi, Ali

- Return Phones!!

## Scenarios (cut into strips)

1. One of your good friends at school just lost her dad to a heart attack. She seems to be avoiding you and is doing poorly in school. What do you do or say?
2. You go with a friend to the mall and stop in a music store. As you are looking through the CDs, your friend finds a new release by his or her favorite rock group. Before you can even say anything, your friend quickly hides the CD in a jacket pocket. What do you say or do?
3. You make the team! But then you discover that one of your practice times is at the same time as your weekly religious education sessions. What do you do or say?
4. Lately you've begun to notice that Josh, a quiet kid in your math class, gets picked on by other kids. Two of your best friends pick on Josh fairly often. You like hanging around with them, but you feel uncomfortable by some of the things they do to Josh. What do you do or say?
5. Last Saturday you spent the night at your friend's house and had a really good time, except that when it was time to go to Mass on Sunday morning, no one else got up to go to church. Your parents thought that your friend's family would be going to Mass on Sunday when they agreed to let you stay overnight. What do you do or say?
6. You and your mom just got back from a trip to the store where you bought a few new things for school, including some notebooks and pens. As you took them out of the bag, you realized that you have three notebooks, but only remember paying for two of them. You check the receipt and, sure enough, the store clerk didn't charge you for the third notebook. What do you do or say?