

Generation to Generation: Year 1

Begin with introductions while taking attendance.

- Use an ice breaker question to be answered after they've introduced themselves.
 - Favorite holiday / book / movie / song / etc...and why?
 - To make it more fun, have the teen and parent answer this question for the other.
- End with yourself, give a brief bio and why you're here.

Opening prayer

- Thank the Lord for these committed parents, who are the first catechists in these teens' lives.
- Invite the Holy Spirit to open hearts and minds and to guide the discussion.

Things to cover:

- How the Chosen program is different from regular PSR - because Confirmation is different.
- What is Confirmation? (ask and then expand upon)
 - It is not graduation, but a sacrament that completes their initiation into the Catholic Church, and one that will hopefully change the course of their lives, if taken seriously.
- Ask the parents to think back to their own Confirmation. What do they remember?
Who were their Confirmation saints and why? Why are they Catholic still today?
Why are they wanting their teen to be Confirmed?
 - Share what you remember also, and about your saint.
 - Mention that those who did not have memorable experiences, or who don't seem too excited/convicted when talking about their faith - that this is why we want things to be different for their teen.
- You're here to journey with their teens all year, and to help them develop a closer relationship with Jesus Christ and to have a deeper appreciation and love for our faith. To know this is reinforced at home is so important, and parents should be journeying with their teens as well. You would like to be a support for their family.
- Support what was mentioned at the parent meeting with Elizabeth.
 - Precepts of the Catholic Church, etc
- Acknowledge any discomfort in the room. This isn't to make anyone feel bad, but can hopefully put some positive changes into motion. The past doesn't matter - they can make a commitment to this together.
 - Practice your faith together (going to Mass together, Confession, praying together)
 - Begin new family traditions
 - If you don't pray as a family, at least before meals, start now!
 - Spend time in front of the Blessed Sacrament together
 - Pray the rosary together
 - Carve time out of your day to discuss what your teen is learning in class
 - What are their current family traditions, if any, relating to our Catholic faith?
 - Advent / Christmas / Lent / Easter?
- Go over the Student/Parent Commitment Form and have them sign it.
- Go over the Make-up Class forms.
- If time allows, ask if there are any questions anyone has about our faith that they may not necessarily understand. If you don't know the answer, tell them so, but that you will get back to them.

Close in prayer (feel free to ask for a volunteer, but be prepared to do it yourself if not)

*Hopefully, if anything, this will at least get the conversation started between the teens and their parents.
Again, you are only planting seeds, God will do the rest!*