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# ETERNAL KINGDOM

An Edge Issue Night on the Second Coming and Last Judgement

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## EDGE NIGHT OUTLINE

### GATHER

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#### Edge Night Introduction (5 min)

Welcome the youth, introduce any new youth, and begin in prayer. Give a brief overview of the topic of the Edge Night using the following as an example:

*Jesus is with us always, in the Church and through the power and the mystery of the Church, but His reign is not yet complete. At the end of time Jesus will come again. Right now, we are all in a time of waiting and watching for Jesus to come again. It is a time of struggle and persecution, but God will have a final and complete victory over evil. We do not know the hour or the day that He will come again, so it is important for us to live in preparation and anticipation. (CCC 668-673)*

#### Anticipation (5 min)

Create a setup that will have all the youth anxiously awaiting someone to come to the Edge Night. For example, tell them that they are just waiting on a Core Member to come with pizza or cookies for everyone or that they are waiting for someone they would all be really excited to see, etc. Explain that while they are waiting, you will play a game but that your expected guess should be there any minute.

#### Sheep and Goats (15 min)

This game is played as a large group.

1. Break the youth into two teams — the sheep and the goats.
2. Have all the sheep line up along one wall and all the goats scatter around the room.
3. The goal of the game is for the sheep to run to the other side of the room without getting tagged by a goat.
4. If they get tagged by a goat, they have to sit down where they are tagged and become an obstacle to the other sheep.
5. Any sheep who makes it to the other side without getting tagged gets a prize.
6. Play again, switching which team are the sheep and which team are the goats.

## **PROCLAIM**

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### **“Eternal Kingdom” Teaching (10 min)**

This teaching can be found on pages 106 to 108.

## **BREAK**

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### **Small Group Questions (15 min)**

Break the youth into their small groups and use the following questions for discussion:

- Why do you think there are so many movies that show an end of the world type scenario (e.g: Hunger Games, The Maze Runner, Divergent, The 5th Wave, etc.)?
- How is the Christian idea of how the world will end different from what these movies depict?
- What do you think glorified bodies will look like?
- Does the idea of Jesus coming again excite you? Scare you? Both? Why?
- If Jesus were to come today, how do you think you would react?
- What are some things you can do in your day to day life to help you be more prepared for Jesus to come again?

### **8th Grade Adaptation (15 min)**

Break the youth into their small groups and use the following questions for discussion:

- Why do you think there are so many movies that show an end of the world type scenario (e.g: Hunger Games, The Maze Runner, Divergent, The 5th Wave, etc.)?
- How is our idea of the end of the world different?
- Does the idea of Jesus coming again excite you? Scare you? Both? Why?
- Does what we do in our daily lives really make a difference for our eternal destination? How?
- Why is it important to always be ready for Jesus to come again and to live a life that reflects that?
- If Jesus were to come today how do you think you would react? Why?
- Take some time to reflect: if Jesus did come today, how do you think you would be judged? Why?

**Help From Heaven (20 min)**

Gather the youth back to the large group and use the following to introduce the time of prayer:

*While it can be scary to think of the Second Coming or what it will look like, it is important that we are always evaluating our lives to see if we are truly following Christ or not. For us, the thought of Christ coming again should also bring us hope for that is what we were destined for – to live in the eternal Kingdom of heaven with God. We are also fortunate to have so much help here in our life through the Church and also through the gift of Jesus Christ Himself.*

*When we pray, Jesus prays in us and with us and for us. He prays in our place, on our behalf, and He never ceases to intercede for us. When we pray, we will find God’s will for our lives and know His love. We need not be afraid, for if our prayers are united with Jesus, in trust as children of God, He will hear our prayers and answer us. (CCC 2738-2741)*

*After Jesus’ death, He ascended into heaven and is seated there with God, forever interceding for us and helping us to follow God’s loving plan until He comes again.*

Pass out a rosary to each youth and use the “Jesus’ Ascension” handout found on the *August 2017 Edge USB* or online at [lifeteen.com](http://lifeteen.com) under Edge Support: *August 2017* to lead the youth in a scriptural decade of the rosary.

**What We Were Waiting For (5 min)**

After the youth have finished praying, have the Core Member they have been waiting for all night finally walk in with a treat and make a really big deal about it. If possible, have the Core Member come in blowing a trumpet and have the other Core Members create a tunnel for him or her and throw glitter or confetti all around the room. End the Edge Night with upbeat music while the youth eat the treat and socialize.

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# ETERNAL KINGDOM

An Edge Issue Night on the Second Coming and Last Judgment

## TEACHING GUIDE

### GETTING STARTED

To cover the basic information follow along and craft the talk based off of the bullet points. If your youth are ready to take it deeper, start incorporating a few of the Going Deeper call out boxes (like the one below) by picking the ones your youth would relate to the most.



#### GOING DEEPER

Check inside these boxes for tips and ideas on how to take your youth a little deeper with the Proclaim.

### JESUS WILL COME AGAIN

- Ask the youth to respond: according to popular media and movies, what will the end of the world as we know it be like? (i.e.: *Hunger Games*, *Maze Runner*, *Divergent*, *Interstellar*, *The Host*, *5th Wave*, *Planet of the Apes*, etc.)
- So many popular movies depict what it will be like at the end of the world or life after the world itself has died or stopped being habitable.
- But, as Christians, we hold a very different view of the end of the world.
- Read *Luke 21:25-28* aloud.
- What a lot of these movies do get right are the wars, famines, and destruction that will occur. We are in a time of waiting and will go through a period of suffering and persecution, but that is not the end of the story. (CCC 668-673)
- Jesus dwells always with us through the Church, but He will come again at the end of time and overcome suffering and evil once and for all. We do not know the hour that He will come — but when He does we will know that it is Him. (CCC 673)
- Read *Matthew 24:6-8, 29-31* aloud.

### THE LAST JUDGMENT

- A lot of things will happen at the end of the world when Jesus comes again. To begin, the dead will rise.
- This is not some sort of zombie apocalypse type rising, but rather the bodies of all those who have died will rise and rejoin their souls and all will proceed to the Last Judgment. (CCC 988-1001)
- Project an image Jesus after the Resurrection.
- Our bodies will also be glorified just as Jesus Christ's body was glorified after His death. When our bodies are reunited with our souls, they will be glorious like Jesus' body. (CCC 999)

- At the Last Judgment, the truth of every single human's relationship will be made known to everyone as well as all the consequences of his or her good and bad actions. That means that all of us will know everything about every single person who has ever lived. (CCC 1038-1039)
- At the Last Judgment, we will also know the ultimate meaning of the creation of the world and all of history; all of our questions about anything that has ever happened will be answered. (CCC 1040)
- *Share about something funny you would love to have explained. For example, why God made cockroaches, or why the sky is blue, or why armpits smell when we get sweaty, etc.*
- It is also at this time that the body and soul of all the righteous will enter into the eternal happiness of heaven, and all the wicked will go to the eternal punishment of hell. (CCC 1028)



### GOING DEEPER

Explain to the youth that the Last Judgment is different from the Particular Judgment. All those who have died already will not be judged again, but their relationship with God and the consequences will be laid bare and they will join those going either to heaven or hell.

- We should not have fear about the end of the world for Christ tells us, “I am the Resurrection and the life.’ It is Jesus himself who on the last day will raise up those who have believed in him, who have eaten his body and drunk his blood” (CCC 994).

## THE ETERNAL KINGDOM

- After all of this has taken place, the Kingdom of God will come in its fullness. (CCC 1042-1047)
- After all humanity has been judged, the righteous will reign forever with Christ in their glorified body and soul in the new and eternal Kingdom of God.
- *Read Revelations 21:1-4 aloud.*
- The universe will be redeemed, and God will dwell with humanity and there will be complete unity of the human race with God. They will all live with Christ in a holy city where there is no longer division or suffering, and all will experience complete and utter happiness, peace, and love with everyone. (CCC 1045)
- The hope for this new heaven and earth should inspire us to continue to do good work now and to build up the Kingdom of God as it is present here and now through the Church. (CCC 1048-1050)
- Not only should we be keeping our own lives in check to ensure that one day we will reign in glory with God, but we should also help those around us come to know Christ and the hope you have in Him.
- *Ask the youth to respond: what are things you can do now to prepare yourself for the coming of Jesus Christ?*



## JESUS' ASCENSION SCRIPTURAL ROSARY

*Use the following guide to lead the youth in a scriptural rosary reflection on the Ascension of Jesus.*

### **Our Father**

1. Then He led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his Hands He blessed them. (Luke 24:50)

### **Hail Mary**

2. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." (Matthew 28:18)

### **Hail Mary**

3. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations. (Matthew 28:19)

### **Hail Mary**

4. Baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19)

### **Hail Mary**

5. Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. (Matthew 28:20)

### **Hail Mary**

6. He who believes and is baptized will be saved. (Mark 16:16)

### **Hail Mary**

7. But he who does not believe will be condemned. (Mark 16:16)

### **Hail Mary**

8. I am with you always, to the close of the age. (Matthew 28:20)

### **Hail Mary**

9. And when He had said this, as they were looking on, He was lifted up, and a cloud took Him out of their sight. (Acts 1:9)

### **Hail Mary**

10. So then the Lord Jesus, after He had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. (Mark 16:19)

### **Hail Mary**

### **Glory Be**

### **Fatima prayer**

EDGE

Middle School Ministry by Life Teen

## JESUS' ASCENSION SCRIPTURAL ROSARY HANDOUT

Use this handout during the Send to lead the youth in praying a decade of the rosary following the scriptural account of the Ascension. The full printable version of this handout can be found on the *August 2017 Edge USB* or online at [lifeteen.com](http://lifeteen.com) under Edge Support: *August 2017*.