

Lesson 14 – Respecting Life

Grade 7 - Chapter 14 and Lent Intro

MAIN OBJECTIVE

All human life is sacred and a gift from God

QUICK SESSION OVERVIEW

STEP 1 - WELCOME

STEP 2 - INVITE

STEP 3 - DISCOVER

STEP 4 - LIVE

STEP 5 - CLOSING

HELPFUL HINT OF THE DAY

Use Lent to Draw Deeper to the Lord

- Lent is a beautiful time to help us refocus on our relationship with Christ and what is truly important in our life
- Choose a fast to do during the time of Lent to help to sacrifice something for the Lord
- This should be something that you do regularly, brings you comfort, and is good!
- Offer this up to God to help you refocus on Him and not the things of this world that we get enjoyment from
- Also during this time, prayer for the children of our church. Make a commitment to say an extra prayer for them during this time!

STEP 1 - WELCOME

TIP

Community Activity

STEP 2 – INVITE

TIP

- **Recite the prayer and read the Scripture passage.**
 - **What does it mean to always choose life?**
 - **What does it mean to respect and value all human life?**

TIP

STEP 3 – DISCOVER

- **Read and discuss “Getting Started”**
 - **Use the activity to discuss about dignity and worth**
 - **Activity Master 14: Worst and Best Case Scenarios**
 - **Use “Consider” section to discuss practical examples**
 - **Can use information in the Teaching tip section on pg. 225 to give the students more to think about (you never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view)**
- **Read and discuss “A Sacred Gift from God”**
 - **Use “List” section**
 - **Watch CAFOD: GCSE Human Dignity Animation (3 min)**
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8zhtPDXRthM>
- **Read and discuss “Honoring Life”**
 - **Please stay on message here. I understand that kids might have already been exposed to a secular view but we need to show them the beauty of the Church and what that means for our lives**
 - **Use “Identify” section**
- **Read and discuss “Respecting the Human Person”**

Lent Insert:

Becoming Strong (pg. 35)

- **Read and discuss about Lent and temptations we face**

Focusing on Self-Control (pg. 36)

- **Read and discuss section**
- **Identify and Plan**

Lent Activity Master – A Person for Others

“Planning for Lent” Activity

- **Hand out the worksheet. Encourage them to take some time to consider what they would like to do during this time of Lent to help prepare for Easter**
- **Have them take home and keep it in a spot where they will be reminded about it**

STEP 4 – LIVE

TIP

Our Catholic Life

- **Read and discuss more about the right to life**

People of Faith

- **Read and discuss about Saint Marin de Tours**

“List” section

STEP 5 – CLOSING

TIP

Pray the Memorare together:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

Amen.

Name _____

Date _____

Worst and Best Case Scenarios

As much as we'd like to deny it, we've all experienced times when we acted at our worst. We've also made some pretty good choices and been at our best. Choose one of the situations listed below and describe both the worst and the best ways people could act in these circumstances. You may also make up a different situation.

Join the small group to which you have been assigned. Compare ideas, and select one of the situations to role-play. Present both worst and best case scenes in a way that shows you understand how people can get drawn into acting at their worst. Use the scenarios to illustrate how we can overcome the temptation to act contrary to Jesus' teachings and how we can behave in ways that show respect for all life.

SITUATION #1 The smartest person in your class, whom everyone expected to win the school spelling bee, just lost in the fourth round.

The worst you and your friends could do: _____

The best you and your friends could do: _____

SITUATION #2 A new student registered in your school this morning and will be in your homeroom. The student is blind and has a seeing-eye dog as a constant companion.

The worst you and your friends could do: _____

The best you and your friends could do: _____

SITUATION #3 On a class field trip, everyone wanted to make an extra stop to buy lunch at a fast-food restaurant. Pat, however, did not get off the bus with everyone else to buy lunch. You wonder if this is from lack of appetite or lack of money.

The worst you and your friends could do: _____

The best you and your friends could do: _____

SITUATION #4 _____

The worst you and your friends could do: _____

The best you and your friends could do: _____

Name _____

Date _____

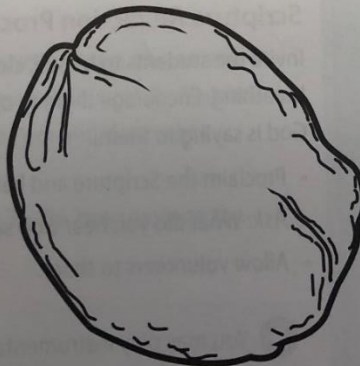
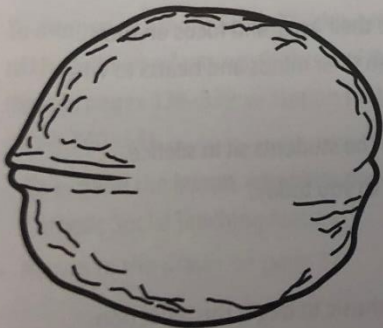
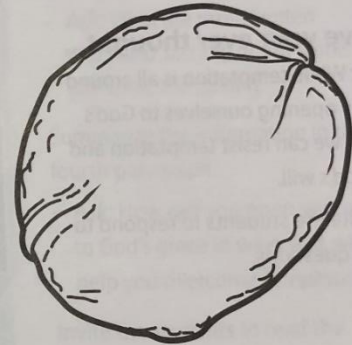
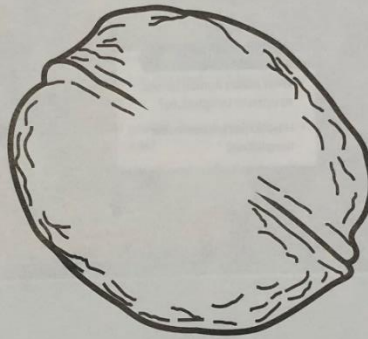
A Person for Others

When we see a small child in a store throwing a temper tantrum because the child is not getting what he or she wants, we understand that part of being a child is thinking that "it's all about me."

Lent is the season that helps us to remember that we must die to that kind of thinking so that we can rise to becoming a person who cares for others. Think of it like a walnut. The hard shell on the outside has to be crushed in order to get to the nut, or good stuff, inside. Scripture says it this way:

"From their bodies I will remove the hearts of stone, and give them hearts of flesh..."
—Ezekiel 11:19

On the shells of the nuts below, write some of the "it's all about me" thinking that has to diminish in you. For example, you might write "My brother should give me the video game right now" or "I don't care how much it costs, everyone else has one." During Lent, become aware of all the ways you act like the child in the store and ask God to help you as you begin to concern yourself more with the needs of others.



Planning for Lent

Lent is a time where we are called to refocus and live more simply while striving to be closer to God, and to live more like Jesus taught us to live our lives. Lent includes a focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving/service.

Make a plan for one thing you will do during Lent this year for each focus area of the Lenten season.

Prayer:

Ideas: read from the Bible each day, quiet and prayer every day, pray for someone new from church/school/work each day, attend one weekday Mass each week, go to Adoration each week, pray a decade of the Rosary every day

Fasting:

Ideas: give up a certain food/drink/candy that you love, give up the computer or TV one day per week, stop eating meals from out, give up an activity that wastes your time, focus on having simple meals during Lent, fast one day per week.

Almsgiving / Service:

Ideas: volunteer for a local organization, give up some of your normal spending and donate the money to those in need, help a friend or neighbor in need, visit an elderly friend or relative who doesn't get many visitors.