

THOUGH MANY, WE ARE ONE

UNIT 1

Building Community

Lesson 5

Listen to the Call of God

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Lesson Overview

Through scripture and discussion, students will understand God's calling to Samuel and develop an appreciation of vocations.

Duration: 40 minutes

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

Religious Education:

Gr 4 – ML2.4: Identify times when we might hear God speaking to us; giving us instructions (moral truth) to help us “do what is good and avoid what is evil”; and link this to the work of our conscience through which God/the Holy Spirit inspires us to do the good. [CCC nos. 1776-1788]

Gr 6 – LS1.2: Describe the call of Christian ‘vocation’ received in baptism (i.e. everyone is called to serve society, to discern their gifts and talents and to be united in making a contribution in the world) and determine ways we can respond to this call as young people. [CCC nos. 12-62-1284; 1897-1927]

Arts Connections: Musical reflection (continued learning opportunities)

ONTARIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS & CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS

The Catholic Social Teachings evident in this lesson include:

The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers Rights and Responsibilities

The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations evident in this lesson include:

A Collaborative Contributor who:

CGE4c: develops one's God-given potential and makes a meaningful contribution to society

GUIDING QUESTIONS (coming out of the Big Idea)

Big Idea:

- God's call for us is called our vocation. In baptism we received the call to live our vocation, as lay people, priests, or religious, by serving the community.

Scripture Passages:

- 1 Samuel 3: 1-11 Samuel's Calling

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LEARNING GOALS

At the end of this lesson, students will know, understand and/or be able to:

- Describe a vocation
- Explain Samuel's Call
- Understand how to listen to God's call

Success Criteria, based on the Learning Goals, can be co-constructed as a class in language meaningful to students. The success criteria help students understand what to look for during the learning and what it looks like once they have learned. They identify the significant aspects of student performance that are assessed and/or evaluated (i.e., the "look-fors") in relation to curriculum expectations.

INSTRUCTIONAL COMPONENTS AND CONTEXT

Terminology:

Vocation

- What God desires each of us to do with our life – when we follow this path, we will find true happiness.

Materials:

- Religion notebooks/duotang/scrap book
- Pencils, Coloured pencils
- A video version of the story of Samuel, available in the NEST series *The Animated Stories from the Bible*, may be shown.

NOTE:

Please see below for *Continued Learning Opportunities*

MINDS ON

- Establishing a positive learning environment
- Connecting to prior learning and/or experiences
- Setting the context for learning

Move desks and chairs into the Community Circle Format

What are your plans?

What will you do tonight after school? What do you want to do this weekend? What about next summer? Do you have plans to go to a camp? Go on a vacation? Spend time at the pool?

Think-pair-share

Share one of your partner's plans out loud with the group.

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ACTION

- Introducing new learning or extending/reinforcing prior learning
- Providing opportunities for practice and application of learning (guided → independent)

Share the story of Samuel. (1 Samuel 3:1-11)

1. Alternately, show the video of the story, available in the NEST series *The Animated Stories from the Bible*.
2. Through discussion, help students to identify the key concept, which is listening to the call of God. Students will realize that this is not easy to do; often we are so busy in our lives that we do not truly listen:
 - We have our own plans as discussed in "Minds On", but God also has plans for us and we need to listen to those plans. God is calling us to live in our "vocation"
 - Eli explains to Samuel how to listen to God's Call- "Speak Lord for your servant is listening"
3. Students should recognize that they need to listen- "My heart is open to Your call."
4. Discerning our vocations means listening to God for our purpose. How can we listen to God?
 - *Be attentive during Mass and group prayer; be faithful to personal prayer, including contemplative practices such as body prayer and Christian meditation; listen to the silence at night; look and listen for God in creation; look and listen for God in those around us, particularly in those who are models of Christian faith*

CONSOLIDATION

- Providing opportunities for consolidation and reflection
- Helping students demonstrate what they have learned

Move desks/chairs out of the Community Circle to regular classroom plan

- In Religion notebooks/duotangs/scrap books students complete a t-chart "My Plans/ Discerning My Vocation"
- Write and draw their plans on one side of the chart
- How to listen for God's plans/call on the other side

CONTINUED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Further extensions to this lesson might include:

- Musical Reflection - play instrumental music and set the environment for peaceful reflection.
- *Can you hear God speaking to you? Think of your gifts and how they can be used to make the world a better place.*