

**Religious Education & Positive Mental Health and Wellness:** end of September to Thanksgiving

May also be used during Advent or Lent as a Gratitude project.

## Grade 11 - Lesson 1

### Grade 11 Who I AM ... Lesson 1 – PRAYER SERVICE

**World Religion** - “gratitude is contagious”

Who I AM Makes A Difference Because Jesus Loves Me!

#### Background

*God promised Moses, “I will be with you.” God has made the same promise to each of us because He considers us His children. He loves YOU without conditions. His presence in YOUR life is constant. He shapes your resiliency and your positive mental health attitude by loving you without conditions and forgiving you freely. Celebrate life!*

#### Curriculum Expectation – Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations, Overall and Specific Expectations from related Subjects

##### Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations

**CGE1c** - Actively reflects on God's Word as communicated through the Hebrew and Christian scriptures

**CGE2a** - Listens actively and critically to understand and learn in light of gospel values

**CGE3d** - Makes decisions in light of gospel values with an informed moral conscience

##### Religion Overall Expectation

Explain the importance of prayer in a religious worldview (Prayer – 1<sup>st</sup> nugget)

##### Religion Specific Expectation

Demonstrate a knowledge of religious worship as a response to sacred reality (Prayer – 1<sup>st</sup> nugget)

##### Learning Goals

- Students will explain the importance of prayer in a religious worldview (Prayer – 1<sup>st</sup> nugget)

Success Criteria (possible suggestion)

*I will achieve success by taking an active role in Who I AM prayer service through reading, reflecting, listening attentively and responding with appropriate words or gestures.*



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Instructional Components		
<b>Prior Knowledge and/or Skills</b> Moses – Burning Bush God – I AM WHO I AM  <u><b>Suggested Teacher Daily Reflection</b></u> Gus Lloyd 60 Second Reflection <a href="http://guslloyd.com">http://guslloyd.com</a>	<b>Terminology</b> Unconditional Love  <b>Names of God:</b> The Great I AM Most High Almighty I AM WHO I AM I AM	<b>Resources/Materials</b> Who <u><b>I AM</b></u> prayer service Grade 11 Dear Friend, Forever Creator
Prayer/Scripture Focus		
Who <u><b>I AM</b></u> prayer service offers an active focus on Exodus 3:14 that is unique to this grade.		
Minds On	Approximately 10 Minutes	Assessment
<p>“The phrase Who <u><b>I AM</b></u> originated in a conversation between God and Moses...on a Mount...through a Burning Bush. The value of Who <u><b>I AM</b></u> has two meanings. The first meaning speaks to the importance of God as being the center of our life. I AM = value of God. The second meaning speaks to the priceless gift we are to self and others. I AM = value of Me.</p> <p>God makes a difference to us. Through His Son Jesus, unconditional love was offered to all. Who you are makes a difference to others because God blessed you with talents and gifts. The Who <u><b>I AM</b></u> project is a Golden opportunity to express the combination of a Religion project with a Mental Health and Wellness project.”</p> <p>Begin Who <u><b>I AM</b></u> prayer service with above welcoming message, opening prayer and first reading.</p> <p>Encourage student participation by inviting students to take an active role</p>		<p>A brief introduction to a prayer service intended to bring students to a new form of learning.</p> <p><u><b>Anecdotal /observations</b></u></p>
Action	Approximately 45 Minutes	Assessment
<p>Continue with prayer service.</p> <p>Distribute a copy of Dear Friend letter to students at the appropriate time as indicated on the Prayer Service. Please fold letter prior to lesson and place into an envelope that is personalized with each student’s name on the outside. Allow students quiet time to read the letter.</p> <p>As a large group, choral read the letter.</p> <p>What is the significance of the signature? Does this surprise you?</p> <p>Encourage student voice to participate in reading Who <u><b>I AM</b></u> prayer service.</p>		<p>The main portion of the prayer service will probe students’ thinking through a purposeful activity.</p>

[See: <b>Who I AM Prayer Service</b> grade 11]	<u><b>Anecdotal / observations</b></u>
<b>Consolidation</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
<p><b>Teacher Voice</b>            “One of the learning goals for the Who <b>I AM</b> prayer service was to help you recognize the importance of prayer and worship for a religious worldview. Share with your elbow partner, how you (we) have achieved success. (Allow a few minutes for conversation)</p> <p>Now I am going to call upon you to share what YOUR PARTNER’S response was to the reflective question.”</p> <p>(Be inclusive of all students. Some students will have ‘forgotten’ what their partner said – allow the whole class 2 minutes to ‘listen’ again to their partner).</p> <p><b>Prayer Journal</b>            Write a letter of response addressed Dear Creator. Share with the Creator how you live unconditional love, forgiveness and celebrate life.</p> <p><b>Exit Card</b>            What do the letters NRSV and NIV stand for?</p> <p>Close with: <a href="http://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=7PKZG7NX">http://www.godtube.com/watch/?v=7PKZG7NX</a>            Names of God video</p> <p>Thank students for their participation and respect toward the service.</p>	<p>Teachers support students with making connections to the learning goal.</p> <p><u><b>Anecdotal / observations</b></u></p> <p><b>Prayer Journal</b></p> <p><b>Exit Card</b></p>
<b>Final Notes</b>	
<p>The more students who actively participate in the Prayer Service, the more valuable the learning experience. Enjoy the moment.</p> <p>Text Extension:  <b>Moses The Long Road to Freedom</b> by Ann Keay Beneduce</p> <p><i>“Teachers are like gardeners. They provide the things needed for growth: knowledge, wisdom, advice, comfort, support, and love, enabling students to develop to their full potential. In and through this delicate act of gardening, of caring and giving, the teacher facilitates the beautiful development of the life within the seed.”</i>            (from: Filomena Tassi &amp; Peter Tassi, 500 Prayers for Catholic Schools &amp; Parish Youth Groups, Twenty-third Publications, 2004.)</p>	

## Who I AM Prayer for Senior Division (Grade 11)

*Note: Give each student a copy of the prayer services.*

### Welcome and Introduction:

#### Opening Prayer:

Let us pray, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Loving God, the Great I AM, we thank you for all of the good things that you have given us; for the beauty of your creation, for our school community, our teachers and for the love of our family, friends and for the gift of our own resilience. Thank you for loving us all unconditionally and for making each one of us the special gift that we are, Amen.

Reading: A reading from the book of Exodus [adapted and selected versed from Exodus 3.15 NRSV] God called to Moses out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." Then God said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "Come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" God said, "I will be with you". But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you', and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations."

Reflection: *Pause for a moment for silent reflection.*

Reading: A reading from Psalm 91 (Psalm 91.1-4, 9-11 NIV)

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Surely he will save you from the fowler's snare and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with his feathers, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day. ...If you say, "The Lord is my refuge," and you make the Most High your dwelling, no harm will overtake you, no disaster will come near your tent. For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways;

Reflection: *Pause for a moment for silent reflection.*

NRSV New Revised Standard Version of the Bible and NIV New International Version of the Bible

Reflection Questions: Write your answers on the back of this sheet. Be prepared to share your answers with a small group (2-3 students).

Whose voice was heard from the burning bush and what was it that God first asked of Moses?

What was the name that Moses was given to identify the voice within the burning bush?

Compare the messages between the two scriptures? Think about the story of what God did through Moses to free the Israelites.

Intentions: *Note: prepare them to think about one or two people who are special to them for the fourth intercession*

The response to the prayer is; Lord, hear our prayer

For the Pope, our church and all Christians; that they know that God, the Great I AM, loves them unconditionally, we pray Lord, hear our prayer

For our school principal, teachers, EAs, secretaries and custodians; that they know that God, the Great I AM, loves them unconditionally, we pray Lord, hear our prayer

For our families and our friends; that they know that God, the Great I AM, loves them unconditionally, we pray Lord, hear our prayer

For the special people that we now pause to think of [pause].....; that they know that God, the Great I AM, loves them unconditionally, we pray Lord, hear our prayer

- **Present letter to students**

Closing Prayer:

Loving God, the Great I AM, we thank you that you are always with us, helping us, guiding us, leading us, keeping us safe, and providing us with resilience to bounce back when we encounter difficulties or adversities . We also thank you for the unconditional love that you give to us. We ask you to show us the special people in our lives to whom we should show our gratitude with our words and actions. Help us to be the best person we can be and to remember that, who we are makes a difference to others and to you, we pray, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen

On the following days: *[pronouns change to reflect the more personal nature of the WHO I AM]*

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Loving God, the Great I AM, I thank you that you are always with me, helping me, guiding me, leading me, and keeping me safe. I also thank you for the unconditional love that you give to me. Bring to my mind two people in my life who I am grateful for, people who have helped me, guided me or loved me in a special way. I pray now for those two special people. Help me to remember that, **who I am** makes a difference to others and to you, I pray, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen

On the day of presentation of the Gift of Words project:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Loving God, the Great I AM, I thank you that you are always with me, helping me, guiding me, leading me and keeping me safe. I also thank you for the unconditional love that you give to me. I pray now for the two special people in my life to whom I can say thank you with my **Gift of Words**. Please give me the courage to speak to them and tell them what they mean to me. Help me to remember that, **who I am** makes a difference to others and to you, I pray, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen

## Dear Friend Letter

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*Dear Friend,*

*Peace to you!*

*For you the world was created. For you the world was formed.*

*Just for you I carved the mountains. Just for you I painted the sky.*

*With you in mind I let the leaves dance. With you in mind the sun shines.*

*As you sleep the breeze blows. As you wake the birds sing.*

*Forever you are on My mind. Forever you are in My thoughts.*

*I talk to you in your dreams. I whisper to you in your thoughts.*

*I smile when you pray. I laugh out loud when you smile.*

*I comfort you when you cry. I care when you accomplish your goal.*

*I AM Your Creator.*

*I AM who I AM.*

*I AM.*

*Forever your friend,*

# *Creator*

Exit Card

What do the letters NRSV and NIV stand for?  
Three ways to forgive....

**Who I AM...** Exit Card

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