

Material: Model Syllabus

Level: Grade Six students

Setting: All-boys, Catholic School, urban area

Members: (Grade School Group)

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Tentative Topic/Theme: “Following Jesus”

CONTEXT:

This course is designed for grade six pupils of Ateneo de Manila Grade School who are 12 or 13 years old. Accordingly, students are undergoing various developments and discoveries in their personal and social life. Questions and choices related to morality begin to emerge. Students are exposed to different forms of media and other factors that affect the formation of values and the integral development of the students. Academically, the students already have prior knowledge of the historical Jesus as recorded in the Gospels and the 7 Sacraments which were their courses in Grades 4 and 5 respectively. The sacraments draw one closer to the Risen Christ thereby leading the person to act and behave as true followers of Jesus. Consequently, the focus of the 6th grade course will be on following Jesus Christ.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The course intends to instil among the students values that are central in the Jesuit thrust of forming Ateneo graduates who are person-for-others characterized by faith, charity, justice and service.

The course is entitled “Following Jesus.” It follows the paradigm of following the one (Jesus) who showed us the perfect way of becoming a person-for-others, i.e. by lovingly giving of oneself for others. This love is rooted in the experience of God’s profound and unconditional love for all which is then translated to loving one’s neighbour especially those who are in most need.

Hence, the course primarily tries to establish a correct and better understanding of God’s love. It then leads the students to the commandments of loving God and one’s neighbour. It illustrates how the commandments are concretely fulfilled in the Beatitudes Jesus gave us. Furthermore, it stretches the loving capacity of the students by leading them to follow the self-emptying love of Jesus and his preferential choice for the poor. Subsequently, the discussions of pertinent topics on morality such as Freedom, Conscience, Sin, Grace, and the Ten Commandments follow.

The students are then expected to develop a deeper sense of loving God and neighbour exhibited by their concrete moral choices and actions as they continue to follow the example and teachings of Jesus Christ.

FAITH MESSAGE:

- D:** “This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another” (1 Jn 4:10-11).
- M:** “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. Love your neighbour as yourself” (Mark 12:30-31).
- W:** “And he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.’” (Luke 22:19-20).

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course leads the students to:

- D:** realize the unconditional love of God;
relate the love of God and one’s neighbour as inseparable;
- M:** concretize love of God and love of one’s neighbour by making moral choices and decisions;
- W:** develop an intimate relationship with God and others through personal and communal prayers particularly in the Eucharist.

COURSE CONTENT

Unit 1 To Follow Jesus is to Love

Lesson 1 The Great Commandments: Love God and Neighbor

God is love, we ought to love one another (1 John 4: 7-21)

Parable of the Good Samaritan (Matt 22:34-40 Luke 10:25-37)

The Great Commandments (CFC 812-818)

Love of God and Love of Neighbor (CFC 940-945)

Lesson 2 The New Commandment of Love

Washing of the Disciples' Feet John 13:1-20

Love One Another as I have Loved You John 13:34-35

The Example and Teaching of Jesus (CFC 958-962)

Lesson 3 Jesus Teaches Us to Love and Be Truly Happy

The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12) (CFC 822-823)

Lesson 4 Jesus Calls Us to Love the Poor: The Church of the Poor

The Judgment of the Nations (Matthew 25:31-46)

Preferential option for the poor (CFC 954)

Unit 2 Free from Sin, Free to Love

Lesson 6 Jesus Wants Us to Be Truly Free: Authentic Freedom

The Healing of the Gerasene Demoniac (Mark 5:1-20)

Authentic Freedom (CFC 693-697)

Lesson 7 Jesus Guides Our Conscience through His Holy Spirit

The Man Born Blind (John 9:1-39)

Conscience-Formation of, Levels, Types, Work (CFC 701-711)

Lesson 8 Sin is A Refusal to Love: Jesus Shows Us the Value of Forgiveness

The Fall of Man (Gen 3)

Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-31)

Original Sin (CFC 396-375)

Mystery of Wickedness: Sin (CFC 760-775)

Lesson 9 God Calls Us to a Life of Grace: Jesus Teaches Us the Value of Holiness

The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Me (Luke 4:16-21)

Love is the Center of Holiness (CFC 1400)

Unit 3 Love the Lord Your God

Lesson 10 Jesus Teaches us the Value of Laws: The Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments (Exodus 19-20:23)

Ten Commandments- signposts to authentic freedom (CFC 873)

Lesson 11 I am the Lord Your God, You Shall Not Have Other Gods Besides Me: Jesus

Commands Us to Love the One Living God

The First Commandment (CFC 878-884) (Exodus 20: 1-6)

Temptations of Jesus (Matthew 4:1-11)

Lesson 12 You Shall Not Take the Name of the Lord Your God in Vain: Jesus Teaches Us to Love

God's Name (Exodus 20:7)

I am who I am (Exodus 3:1-17)

The Second Commandment (CFC 893-898)

Lesson 13 Remember to Keep Holy the Lord's Day: We Love and Worship the Father through

the Son in the Holy Spirit (Exodus 20: 8-11)

Jesus cures on a Sabbath (Luke 13:10-17)

Remember to keep holy the Lord's day (CFC 903)

Unit 4 Love your Neighbor as Yourself

Lesson 14 Honor Your Father and Your Mother: Jesus Teaches Us to Love our Parents and those

in Authority (Exodus 20: 12)

Finding Jesus at the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)

Honoring Parents (Sirach 3:2-8) (CFC 1003-1005)

Lesson 15 You Shall Not Kill: Jesus Teaches Us to Value Human Life (Exodus 20: 13)

Cain and Abel Story (Genesis 4:1-15)

Protection of Life (CFC 1028-1029, 1032)

Lesson 16 You Shall Not Commit Adultery and You Shall Not Covet Your Neighbor's Wife: Jesus

Teaches Us to Respect Our Sexuality (Exodus 20: 14; 17)

Woman caught in Adultery (John 8:2-11)

Jesus Teaching on Marriage and Divorce (Matthew 19:3-6)

The Virtue of Chastity (CFC 1093-1098)

Sexuality and Marriage (CFC 1084))

Lesson 17 You Shall Not Steal and You Shall Not Covet Your Neighbor's Things: Jesus Teaches Us to be Generous (Exodus 20: 15; 17)

Zacchaeus, The Tax Collector (Luke 19:1-10)

Parable of the Rich Fool (Luke 12:16-21)

Respecting the Properties of Others (CFC 1143-1144)

Total Commitment to God (CFC 1151)

Lesson 18 You Shall Not Bear False Witness Against Your Neighbor: Jesus Teaches Us to be Truthful (Exodus 20: 16)

Peter's Denial (Matthew 26: 69-75)

Respecting Truth (CFC 1217-1218)