# CLE 2ND YEAR GROUND PLAN: CHRISTOLOGY AND MORALITY

**Topic: Stages in the Formation of the Gospels**

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| **DOCTRINE:** The formation of the Gospels is the expression of the people's experience of Jesus - their response and interpretation of that experience. Through these Gospels, God continues to reveal Himself to His people, offering them the fullness of life. | Jn 20:31  
"These have been recorded to help you believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, so that through this faith you may have life in his name. “  
1 Jn 1:3-4  
“What we have seen and heard we proclaim to you… “ | The lesson is ordered to enable students to:  
**DOCTRINE:** Understand how the inspired Gospels came to be as a result of the people's experience of Jesus in order to appreciate Jesus' life and His offer of salvation. |
| **MORALS:** Our encounter with Jesus must make a difference in our lives. It must accompany loving service of others in living the faith. | | **MORALS:** Cite concrete ways of making the Gospel alive in their life. |
| **WORSHIP:** The Gospels take the center of the liturgy of the Word in the Eucharistic celebration. We can enrich our own personal prayer life by reflecting on the Gospels. | DV 7 Apostles faithfully handed on the Gospel as the source of all saving truths and moral discipline  
CFC 82 & DV 19 Stages of Gospel Formation( Stage 1- Life and Teachings of Jesus, Stage 2- Oral Tradition and Stage 3- Written Gospels) | **WORSHIP:** Sing the song, Magnificat (based on Luke 1:46-55) as an act of praise to God for His constant love and fidelity in revealing Himself to humanity through Jesus in the Gospel. |
| **CHURCH TEACHINGS:** | Called to Meet Christ in Scripture, Church and Sacraments by Ester V. Frago and Josephine C. Dango  
| **RESOURCES:** | MEANS:  
- Throw Me A Story  
- Scripture Reading  
- Class Discussion  
- PPT Presentation  
- Sentence Completion  
- Journal Writing  
- Formative Assessment (Two Minute Pause) | |
<p>| <strong>SACRED SCRIPTURE:</strong> | | |</p>
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<th>HUMAN EXPERIENCE (Before)</th>
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| • Students previously discussed the Overview of the New Testament. | **Motivation: Throw Me A Story (10 min)**  
Ask for 4 volunteers. Three of them will be asked to stay outside for ten minutes.  
1. Arrange the class in a circle.  
2. The one volunteer will start the story.  
3. She holds the object (a soft ball) while saying the first line of a story, for instance, “It was a dark and stormy night. I was sitting on the edge of my bed when a shadow in the shape of a …”  
4. Then that person tosses the object to another person, who has to pick up the story right where the last person left off. The second person adds a few lines before passing the object to someone else. You can add as many details so that it becomes complicated.  
5. At this point, the story could become weirder and weirder but that’s all right. The goal is to keep the story going no matter how quickly the object is being tossed around. Remember that we only have ten minutes to finish the story.  

When the time is up, we will call back our three volunteers to listen to the story to be recounted by our first volunteer.  
Together with everyone else they will write the story that they heard in a half sheet of paper.  
Ask the volunteers to read the story they wrote.  
What can we say about the story they just read to us?  
(Ask the class to take note of commonalities, differences.)  
**Instructional/Learning Activities:** Does it amaze you when you see a cartographic sketch of a criminal on the loose, knowing that the one who sketched it never saw the person and the features were only described by a witness? The Gospel, more or less was formed that way. | • Students will be able to realize the important role of the Holy Spirit and the faith testimonies of the people in the formation of the Gospels  
• Students are led to a greater appreciation and love of the study of the Gospels and the importance of participating in the Eucharistic celebration  
• Students will be able to appreciate the Gospel as a Living Word of God that will inspire and empower them to give witness to their faith through words and deeds. |
| • Students were introduced to the habit of reading and interpreting the Sacred Scripture especially the Gospels because of the school’s tradition of beginning the day with Morning Talk reflections and sharing that are based on the days’ Gospel. | | |

Group Members:  
Bayaton, Amor  
Caberio, Roldan  
Estrada, Haidee  
Leviste, Jeremy  
Salvana, Donaray
Processing:
- Review the process of asking some volunteers to step-out, a person relayed to them what she heard, then all of you wrote about the same story.

Diagram:

Let us discover how the life and teachings of Jesus were handed down to us.

**Knowing How the Gospels Were Formed**

What happened in each stage?

**Stage 1: Jesus’ Life in Palestine**

- God revealed himself and his love for us in a total and an unconditional way by sending His only son, Jesus Christ.
- The Gospels present the works and words of Jesus of Nazareth
- Jesus proclaimed and lived out the Good news of our salvation-freed people from all injustice, forms of oppression and made an impact in the lives of many most especially the poor

**Stage 2: Oral Tradition**

The Good News was spread only by word of mouth and the original proclamation of the apostles after Pentecost is called the *kerygma*.

- Emerged after the Resurrection as the disciples proclaimed and celebrated their faith in early community settings fearlessly and joyfully. They left no one in doubt.
- The apostles did not only preach but they gave witness with their lives: they were prepared to suffer and die so that the Good news could be proclaimed. Their deaths are a powerful testimony to their faith.
How about you, what Good news of Christ have you boldly proclaimed and lived?

What were your struggles and joys in proclaiming the Good News of Christ?

(Trivia: The Gospel is primarily a matter of preaching and hearing, and not of writing and reading. In the NT the word “gospel” refers to the activity of the preacher, that is, the evangelist is understood to be a preacher and not a writer. Thus, the Gospel needs to be proclaimed with clarity and conviction because it is meant to be heard and lived)

Let’s make inferences! Why did the early followers of Jesus feel the need to pin down in writing the stories about Him?

Sentence Completion:

(1) The apostles and the original witnesses were (dying or being martyred).

(2) The Good News was preached to peoples (farther and farther away) from Christian communities and from the Jewish culture and religion.

(3) When the first Christians gradually realized that Jesus would not be (coming back) soon as they had originally expected, they realized the need for a more permanent record of Jesus’ message for the future generations of Christians.

Stage 3: Written Gospels

- Written over a period of 30 to 40 years, from about A.D.65 -100
- Were not written to serve as biographies of Jesus-They are faith testimonies to the life, death and resurrection of Jesus
- The evangelists drew their materials from the oral preaching of the apostles and earliest disciples of Jesus, as well as from partial written compilations of Jesus’ teachings and sayings and of accounts of Jesus’ miracles. The evangelists organized the materials according to their own particular sources and purpose. They were able to do so only because of the special grace of the Holy Spirit, called biblical/ Divine inspiration.
What’s the point of learning the stages of the Gospel formation? What is it for?

- The process indicates the nature of the Bible as a cooperative effort – God working through human authors, editors through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. *(Note: The Holy Spirit is at work in all the stages)* The Gospels were formed so that we can proclaim the Good News to all people so that they may come to believe in Jesus. This mission of proclaiming the Good News is the mission of all followers of Christ.

What or where in your life do you see the dynamics of the 3 stages: (life, the story telling and the writing)

Journal Writing: (2 min)

- If there is anything that you want to put in writing at this point because it is indeed “good news” what will it be?

**Synthesis:** Like the process of throwing a story, let us capture today’s lesson by highlighting important lessons we learned today. Let us start with one student and she throws the object to someone to continue until we have captured a bigger and more complete picture of today’s lesson.

**Two Minute Pause(FA)**

Complete the line. In today’s lesson, I find meaning in learning that

________________________________________________________

The Gospel is the Living Word of God, how can you make it alive in your life given your own concern/situation?

The writing of the Gospel accounts went through 3 stages: life of Jesus, the story telling and the writing. It is important that we know this so that we won’t think that it just fell on the lap of the apostles but a fruit of a community effort through divine/ biblical inspiration.

(The lesson will end with the song, *Magnificat* which will serve as a closing prayer of the class)