

Lesson 21: What do we mean by “love” in relation to our witness to the world and service to the Church?

Reformation Sunday

Tenth Sunday in Kingdomtide

October 25, 2020

General Concept: *Love means selfless giving of oneself to the task of witnessing to the world and service to the Church.*

Biblical References: Joshua 3:7-17 & Matthew 23:1-12; John 15:3

Age-Level Concepts

- Love means selfless giving of oneself to the task of witnessing to the world and service to the Church
- Our church expresses love selflessly through the life work and ministries of the church
- We demonstrate our love when we participate in the works of witnessing to the world and service to the Church (participate in witnessing and service to the world and the Church)

Learning Objectives

By the end of the sessions the learners are expected to

- Define and describe love in relation to our witness to the world and service to the church.
- Express any ways to express the value of selfless love in our Church’s life and work
- Appreciate and commit one’s self to live in love as we praxis our faith in God

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]), song chart/ Powerpoint, offering plate or basket, Used Calendar for Sunday’s Phrase and Memory, Manila Paper for Reporting)

Biblical Background

Joshua 3:7-17

Israel stands on the banks of the Jordan, ready to cross the Land of Promise overwhelmed with the realization of the fulfillment of the promises of God. The story of the crossing places the ark of the LORD decisively at the center of the narrative action. Like crossing the Red Sea or Sea of Reed, there is a threat here for the river is at flood stage. The ark goes before Israel into the waters of the Jordan, showing that "the living God" (verse 10), the "Lord of all the earth" (verse 13), is sovereign even in the most dangerous moments of Israel's journey. But with Joshua leading them, they did not resist as what their fore-parents did during the crossing of the Red Sea. Joshua the successor of Moses received assurance from God saying, “Be strong and take courage.” Joshua was the chosen one to lead the people to the land of promise and there is the assurance of God’s presence. “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” This is a promise that a future is made secure by God and God will be present with Joshua in all the places.

Love as defined in this passage is being faithful to one another. God is faithful from the beginning of establishing a covenant relationship with Abraham to the present people. God's love is evident to God's people and God's chosen leaders, "God never leaves them nor forsake them."

Matthew 23:1-12

Jesus' strong words against the Scribes and the Pharisees surely led to furious anger and uncalled plotting of killing Jesus. Follow what they teach but do not follow what they do for they do not practice what they teach. Pharisees are so-called experts of the Torah and with their expertise, they became arrogant that only they can interpret the law. Jesus added that they are good at putting a heavy burden on others but unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They imposed strong adherence to the Sabbath observance and purity codes which are impossible for poor peasants or the urban poor to follow. With such a burden they widen the gap between the rich and the poor, those who have's and those who have none. They do all their deeds to be seen by many and wanted to be honored especially during special occasions like banquets and in synagogues and be greeted respectfully in public. These acts are hypocrisy for no one is above the other. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

Love shows the truth and this is the point of Jesus. God's love embodies not on the strict observance of the law but one's compassion to those least, lost and last of the society to the point of giving oneself for the sake of others. To love is a sincere acknowledgment that we need God for help and for teaching us how to live in love and how to love others. Love sees every person as co-equal, co-partner, and co-entrusted with Jesus' mission and life-work.

Suggested Lesson Outline



Doing your class through

a. ZOOM Application.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOUwumKCW7M>

b. Messenger Room.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKEUTnprtK4>

C. Sunday School setting

Greeting Time

(Post in ZOOM Share a Document- Picture- "Greater Love has no one than this..")

Welcome each student as they participate in an online classroom through ZOOM or Messenger Room. After all

learners have accessed in, say this statement "Whoever you are and whatever you are on life's journey, all are welcome here. Our gathering even in an online venue evokes God's presence.

Ask the learners to share, "What have you done for the sake of love?"

Songs of Gathering

Love, Love, Love

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CEtDnBNGCQA>



Love, love, love Christians this is our call
Love our neighbor as ourselves for God loves all

“Beloved Let Us Love One Another”
Beloved let us love one another for God is of love 2x

“Steadfast Love”

As we gather may Your Spirit work within us
As we gather may we glorify Your name
Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship
We’ll be blessed because we came
We’ll be blessed because we came.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases
His mercy never comes to an end
They are new every morning, new every morning
Great is Thy faithfulness O Lord
Great is Thy faithfulness.

Opening Prayer

Learner: We come before your presence O God knowing that without you we are nothing. We entrust to you our burdens and worries and ready to encounter your loving presence. Here we are, be with us. In Christ’s Name, we pray, Amen.

Getting Ready



Let the class watch a short film Random Acts of Kindness - Restoring Faith in Humanity 2019 (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jad15ZYtcPI>) Let them share their thoughts about the film. Can they do a random act of kindness to a stranger?

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Group the class into two and assigned each class a passage to read and discuss.

Group 1- Joshua 3:7-17,

Group 2- Matthew 23:1-12, John 15:3



Discuss to the class the Biblical Background before letting them group themselves *and tell them to respond to the following questions during their groupings.*

1. What is the passage all about?
 2. What specific principle related to the value of love can you draw out from this passage.
 3. Do you have this kind of love practiced in your family, your church, and your community? How is this being shown?
 4. What programs/ministries of the church express the value of love?
 5. Cite some ways to live out and manifest selfless love to oneself, to your family, Church, and community.

Lessons Learned



Youth Speak!

Group Report. Allow each learner to freely ask questions.

Suggest ways how to how can our the CYF live out one's selfless love to these following situation:

- a. A young person who is thinking to end one's life because of one's sexuality
- b. A young person who has been bullied because of his/her physical appearance.
- c. CYF who is having an affair with her/his married pastor
- d. CYF who had an abortion.
- e. CYF is trapped in an abusive relationship.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Identify an individual or family that your group will extend selfless love to this week. Plan how to go about and realize this activity.

Closing Worship

Memory Verse: "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." John 15:13

Offertory

Leader: Selfless love that Jesus demonstrated on the cross moves us to give unselfishly than others may truly receive and know how to give back also. Let us now offer our gifts of love to God.

Giving of our Offerings

+Offering Response "O God Receive this Offering" Hymnal of Faith Journey, 91
 O God, receive this offering that we are bringing to you.
 This is the sign of our gratitude for your love for us all.

+Thanksgiving Prayer

Leader: We offer to you these gifts that you may bless these to be a gift to those who are needy. In Jesus' Mighty Name, we pray, Amen.



Closing Song “Only Selfless Love” by Jamie Rivera

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MLX14QLLzds>)

Today in the world where life is born There's a struggle that is fought

To be welcomed, to be cared for, to be at home

Today when all life seems bought and used There's a struggle to belong To be free and to be a gift
to everyone

Chorus

We call all families Rise up and raise your hands as one

Come show the world the love that binds all God's children into one

We call all families Share the treasure that's in your hands

What can save us now, what can lead us now, what can make us all be one

Only selfless love, Jesus show the world That only selfless love can bring a hundredfold Of
fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, homes

Where peace and mercy reign Where faith and hope remain

Where life begins and ends in God's embrace

Calling all families Let's make it happen Through only selfless love

(Coda)

Like the Holy Family With Jesus, Joseph and Mary Home is where true love begins

Love rejoices, love embraces (Chorus)

+Prayer of Dedication

All: We thank you God for giving us Jesus, our model of how to live unselfishly to
others. Continue to move us to share our love to others and be love to all creation.
Amen.

Response: “Those Who Love” Dance of Universal Peace

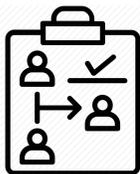
(Encourage everyone to Sing and Dance)

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGgCU5oZp1c>)

Those who love, loving God’s creations these are the sons and daughters of God 2x

In my life time, loving every heart. In my life time peace... peace on earth 2x

Assignment for Next Sunday



Post and share a picture of your Church or UCCP doing work related to its
call for justice and peace in your media account this week. (FB, IG, and
Tiktok)

Youth At Work. Monthly projects that involve the young people
of the church.

The month of October: Indigenous People’s Month

1. Make a promotional video of your online FB streaming



- concerning the flight and struggles of our Tribal Communities. (4mins video)
2. Make a project that encourages awareness of tribal communities. (Ethnic Design Necklace or bracelets)
 3. In cooperation with the Church Workers present an Interpretative Dance on the song “Bathala” by Joey Ayala (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x4QBsnSLTAU>)
 4. #CYFSSlessoninlife. Post in your Tweeter, FB, Instagram account the lessons you’ve learned from the session.

Lesson 22: What do we mean by “justice” concerning our witness to the world and service to the Church?

Church Workers Sunday/ All Saints Day

Eleventh Sunday in Kingdomtide

November 01, 2020

General Concept: *Justice means rendering to everyone what is due and what is right according to the righteousness of God*

Biblical References: *Joshua 24:1-3a; Amos 5:18-24; Matthew 20:1-16*

Age Level Concepts

- *Justice means rendering to everyone what is due and what is right according to the righteousness of God*
- We participate in the work for justice by taking the side of the powerless and victims of injustices

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to

- Define justice in relation to our witness to the world and service to the church.
- Express ways how our Church’s life and work lived out the value of justice
- Appreciate and commit one’s self to live justly and to seek justice for all.

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]), song chart/ Powerpoint, offering plate or basket, Used Calendar for Sunday’s Phrase and Memory, Video Presentation)

Biblical Background

Joshua 24: 1-3a, 14-25

At Shechem, Joshua invited the people to make a conscious choice to serve God and God alone. He never tried to compel them to choose God but led them to make a life-changing decision that they have to make concerning God’s faithfulness to them. He traced back to God the covenant relationship God established to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God became God to the people of

Israel and they became God's people. This means that they have to worship and serve God alone and no other more. In verses 17-18, the people recall what God has done for them in the past: bringing them and their ancestors up from Egypt out of slavery, doing great wonders in their sight, protecting and leading them to the promised land. They gained identity by having their own God, they became a people under God's rule, and they have land of their own where they can live harmoniously with each other and with their neighbors.

Justice is giving due respect to the dignity of each creature and the community of creatures. It renders to each creature or community of creatures what is one's due, rights, and respect for one's value and interest. Justice in this passage is about freedom for the Israelites and all the slaves captured by the Egyptians. It is by nature that human beings are free and have their liberty to live their lives without any control from other people.

Amos 5:18-24

People expect salvation, the day of the Lord which is a day of light and brightness. It would be the day that Yahweh would appear in salvific glory and might to destroy the nations on their behalf. But prophet Amos tried to demolish false expectations so that his audience can recognize the gifts God has already given them and thereby come to participate more fully in the means of their salvation. They will face the judgment of Yahweh as people and as a nation.

Amos pointed out that Yahweh hated and despised their festivals, their aromatic offerings, and the music of their assembly. This is because they were not attentive to matters of justice and righteousness as requisite for God's people. Religious activities without justice and righteousness are useless in the sight of Yahweh. Acts of righteousness and justice demand constant praxis that rolls down like waters and an overflowing stream. For doing justice and righteousness is our expression of obedience and recognition of who Yahweh is to us.

Justice in this passage is the faith praxis that we must live daily like flowing water of the stream. Faith in God demands seeking justice for all and siding with the oppressed, victims, poor, and the outcasts.

Matthew 20: 1-16

This text was preceded by Jesus's words in chapter 19:30; "*But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first*". Our text is about the parable of the workers in the vineyard. As we all know, parables discuss the values and principles of the Kingdom of God. God's kingdom conveys a reverse condition and system from that of the world. Chapter 20 gives light to what Jesus said in chapter 19:30. Indirectly, Jesus addresses a concern or issue regarding the Jews and the Gentiles, whether the Gentiles will become fellow-heirs of God's kingdom, just like the Jews. The Bible clearly describes how the Jews treated the Gentiles because of their culture and background and yet Jesus welcomed and extended to them the grace of salvation.

The parable of the workers in the vineyard serves as an example of how God treats and gives importance to everyone who would like to come and work for and with him. More importantly, the parable intends to remind us of his love, grace, and generosity not because of but despite of. In

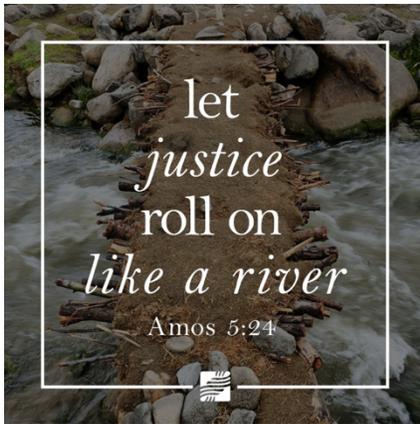
God's Kingdom, God is willing to accept people despite race, gender, and status in life, as long as they express willingness to work and serve God. God is not indebted to those who came earlier, for they were compensated accordingly. God is so merciful and generous since God knew each one's need and necessity. God treats all people equally, with no partiality, as long as they recognize God in their lives. The passage asserted God's nature as a just and kind master, who does not permit reasons for jealousy above the practice of justice and fairness.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Doing your class through:

a. **ZOOM Application.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOUwumKCW7M>

b. **Messenger Room.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lKEUTnprtK4>



Greeting Time

(Post in ZOOM /Share a Document- Picture- "Let Justice Roll on like River")

Welcome each student as they participate in an online classroom through ZOOM or Messenger Room. After all learners have accessed in, say this statement "Whoever you are and whatever you are on life's journey, all are welcome here. Our gathering even in an online venue evokes God's presence.

Ask the learners to share, "What is fair for you?"

Song of Gathering

Blowin' in the Wind"

by Bob Dylan, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers

How many roads must a man walk down
Before you call him a man?
How many seas must a white dove sail
Before she sleeps in the sand?
Yes, 'n' how many times must the cannon balls fly
Before they're forever banned?
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind
The answer is blowin' in the wind
Yes, 'n' how many years can a mountain exist
Before it is washed to the sea?
Yes, 'n' how many years can some people exist
Before they're allowed to be free?
Yes, 'n' how many times can a man turn his head
And pretend that he just doesn't see?
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind

The answer is blowin' in the wind
Yes, 'n' how many times must a man look up
Before he can see the sky?
Yes, 'n' how many ears must one man have
Before he can hear people cry?
Yes, 'n' how many deaths will it take 'til he knows
That too many people have died?
The answer, my friend, is blowin' in the wind
The answer is blowin' in the wind

Opening Prayer

Learner: O God of Justice, we come to be filled with your Holy Spirit. Direct us to a life of self-awareness so that we may be able to discern fully who we are to you and to others. Teach us now as we study your Word and as we share our experiences with others. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



Getting Ready

Let the class watch a short film *Isang Magsasaka Dalawang Panginoon* (Spoken Word) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8B94ra0XiI8>) Let them share their thoughts about the film. What is justice for you?

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Group the class into three and assign each group a passage to read and discuss.

Group 1 *Joshua 24:1-3a*;

Group 2- *Amos 5:18-24*;

Group 3- *Matthew 20:1-16*



Discuss to the class the Biblical Background before letting them group themselves. Let them answer *the following questions during their groupings*:

1. What is the passage all about?
2. What specific principle related to the value of justice can you draw out from this passage?
3. How does justice being expressed in your family, your church, and your community?
4. What programs/ministries of the church express the value of justice?
5. Cite some ways to live out and manifest justice to oneself, to your family, Church, and community.

Lessons Learned

Youth Speak!



Group Report. Allow learners to freely ask questions.

Short Film. Watch and Comment on EJK | CARLO BONN HORNILLA's

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aMGZxxUmkds&list=RDQMBH9axxnyjJA&start_radio=1)

Applying the lessons Learned

Divide the class into smaller groups (groups of 3). Tell each group to make a statement about:

- Their understanding of value of “justice” based on their experiences and learnings from the discussion.
- Why should the Church participate in the work for justice as part of its witness and service?

Closing Worship

Memory Verse:

“But let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

Amos 5:24



Offertory

Leader: We are called by God to act justly towards others. Let us give joyfully as a symbol of our thanksgiving to our God who is just. Let us bring our offerings before our God.

Giving of our Offerings

+Offering Response

“Grant Now Your Blessings” Hymnal of Faith Journey, 97

Grant now your blessing upon this offering,
That we are bringing with our thanksgiving.
May you bestow on us your children,
Your grace and mercy, Amen.

+Thanksgiving Prayer

Leader: We offer not just our money but our commitment to do justice and work to achieve it for your people. Accept our lives and may it be instruments of bringing justice to your people. In Jesus' Christ, we pray, Amen.

+Closing Song

“How Can Our Song This Time Be Chanted”

Hymnal of Faith Journey, 368

How can our song this time be chanted,
Living is yoked with heavy burdens
Some are not mindful of each other,
And life can be bought with money
How cheap it is! Can it be!

Chorus

Open wide, O God, the heavens and let our dreams come like the falling rain
Let our hopes be ever brighter, loving Savior, let not our faith forsake nor fail us

Many are hungry, all around us,
Thirsty as well for truth and justice,
While all the rich have more than plenty,
They wallow in pleasure always; Their lives are all so easy.

O Let our vision for tomorrow
Go forth beyond the fiery mountain
Up and above the dark clouds hanging and facing
the storm in battle O Lord, our Lord, O our God

+Prayer of Dedication

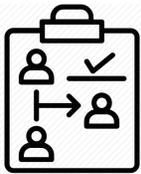
All: We received so much and thus commit much as we can, to do our part as we participate in the work for justice to those who are deprived of it. We are yours O God and let justice flows like a rolling river. Amen.

Response: "Those Who Love" Dance of Universal Peace
(Encourage everyone to Sing and Dance)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGgCU5oZp1c>

Those who love, loving God's creations these are the sons and daughters of God 2x
In my life time, loving every heart. In my life time peace... peace on earth 2x

Assignment for Next Sunday



Post and share a picture of your Church or UCCP participating in the work for justice to your media account this week. (FB, IG, and Tiktok)



Youth At Work. Monthly projects that involve the young people of the church.

The month of November: Stewardship Month

1. Ask your pastor to have a Youth Seminar on Stewardship. Invite the Deacons, Board of Trustees, and Church Treasurer.
2. Make a project to enhance the Church Tithe envelopes
3. Have each CYF to have an offering envelop like the adults do
4. In cooperation with the Church Workers, conduct the following; Tree Growing Project, Coastal Cleaning, Garbage Segregation, etc.)
5. #CYFSSlessoninlife. Post in your Tweeter, FB, Instagram account the lessons you've learned from the session.

Lesson 23: What do we mean by “truth” about our witness to the world and service to the Church?

Theological Education Sunday
Twelfth Sunday in Kingdomtide
November 08, 2020

General Concept:

Truth is the revealed will of God through Jesus Christ

Biblical References: Judges 4:1-7; Matthew 25: 14-30; John 8:32

Age Level Concepts

- Truth is the revealed will of God through Jesus Christ
- The UCCP strongly adheres and stands for the truth
- We speak and stand for the truth as we witness to the world and render service to the Church.

Learning Objectives:

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to

- Articulate their understanding of truth in relation to the church’s witness and service
- Cite examples of how UCCP strongly adheres and stands for the truth
- Suggest ways to speak and stand for the truth as we witness to the world and render service to the church.

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]), song chart/ Powerpoint, offering plate or basket, Used Calendar for Sunday’s Phrase and Memory, Video Presentation, and UCCP Statements Book

Biblical Background

Judges 4:1-7

Deborah is known as the only woman judge and is also a wife and poet. Unlike Samson and Gideon who have their flaws, Deborah is positively painted as a judge and even named as a “mother of Israel.” The passage stated that after the death of Ehud, the Israelites sinned against God, and as punishment, God sold them to King Jabin of the Canaanite city of Hazor. The Israelites cried for help and God responded and delivered them through a judge named Deborah.

Deborah brought a word from the Lord, summoning Barak to call out some 10,000 troops from Naphtali and Zebulun and bring them to Mount Tabor. Barak responded with a request that he will follow as long as Deborah will go with him. Deborah said that the Canaanite commander Sisera will be humiliated in this battle and he will die at the hands of a woman. And it was so.

God’s message is the truth that must be said. The truth may be impossible for others but with such word of truth that comes from God, all will come to pass. All will be realized. This was the reason why Deborah able to accompany Barak in the battle for she knew that God is telling the truth and this assured her that she is in the best hand.

Matthew 25: 14-30.

“For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.”v29 The parable of the talent brings the followers of Christ to a serious look on how they will take the message of God to the next level. Unlike our concept of “talents” as singing, drawing, and entrepreneurship being used for God’s kingdom's sake. It is God’s given message that we need to be of use, multiply, and should not be kept on our own.

The truth of God is not ours to keep but we have to share and be able to use this truth of widening the kingdom of God. Though harsh maybe the symbols used by Jesus, slave, and monster (master), the responsibility of the servant is to risk oneself to spread the truth.

Suggested Lesson Outline

Doing your class through

- a. **ZOOM Application.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOUwumKCW7M>
- b. **Messenger Room.** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKEUTnprtK4>
- c. Sunday School setting



Greeting Time

(Post in ZOOM/ Share a Document- Picture of the Truth will set you free”)

Welcome each student as they participate in an online classroom through ZOOM or Messenger Room. After all learners have accessed in, say this statement “ Whoever you are and whatever you are on life's journey, all are welcome here. Our gathering even in an online venue evokes God’s presence.

Ask the learners to share, “What truth have you learned so far that made you free?”

Songs of Gathering

“His Banner Over Me”

Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life; His banner over me is love 3x
His banner over me is love.

“ The Truth Shall Set You Free” (Tune: Higala mo Ako)

The truth will set you free 2x
To liberate ourselves from sin,
Let the truth be heard and be.

+Opening Prayer

Learner: O God of Truth and Love, we come before you today,



willing to know your truth that will free us from any form of bondage. Thank you for telling us the truth that we are Yours and You are our God. Amen.

Getting Ready



Let the class watch a short film “The Power of Speaking Your Truth? Lan Mercado / TEDxESADE (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5uxloGYDZfl>) Let the share their thoughts about the film.

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth.

Group the class into two and assign each group a passage to read and discuss.

Group 1-Judges 4:1-7

Group 2- Matthew 25: 14-30.

Discuss to the class first the Biblical Background before letting them group themselves.

Let them answer the following questions during their groupings:

1. What is the passage all about?
2. What specific principle related to the value of truth can you draw out from this passage?
3. How does truth being expressed in your family, your church, and your community?
6. What programs/ministries of the church express the value of truth?
7. Cite some ways to live out and manifest the value of truth to oneself, to your family, Church, and community.

Lessons Learned



Youth Speak!

Group Report. Allow the learners to freely ask questions.

Based on their group sharing, encourage the learners to fill the table

TRUTH means...	should be..	Implies that...

After filling in the table, encourage the learners to make a statement as to their understanding of the value of truth.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Suggest ways how can our CYF live out God's truth to these following issues;

- a. "War On Drugs" campaign of the Duterte Administration
- b. Extra-judicial Killings and red-tagging of community and religious leaders
- c. Pyramiding Scam
- d. Philhealth Scam and Corruption
- e. Covid19 Pandemic response of the government

Closing Worship

Memory Verse:

"and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." John 8:32

Offertory

Leader: The truth is that God is the source and fount of every blessing. We give because we first received God's bounty. Let us now offer our love gifts to God.

Giving of our Offerings

+Offering Response "O God Receive this Offering" Hymnal of Faith Journey, 91
O God, receive this offering that we are bringing to you.
This is the sign of our gratitude for your love for us all.

Thanksgiving Prayer

Leader: We offer to you these gifts that you may bless these to become gifts to those who are needy. In Jesus' Mighty Name, we pray, Amen.



+Closing Song "Tell the Truth" Hymnal of Faith Journey, 374

We have come to thank our God, For the things that our God has done,
For the glories in years that passed, For the hope in years to come,
Let us all be one in Christ, let us heed our God's command,

Chorus

We are called to live to tell the truth, that sets all people free

In a world of fame and might, where the wrong is considered right,
Where the evil is seen as good, Where the forces of death seem strong,
Wherein justice all abound, and the truth is compromised (Chorus)

They have eyes but cannot see, they have ears but cannot hear,
They have minds but cannot think, they have mouths but cannot speak,
When our people live such lives, and are held by sin of death. (Chorus)

We are called to live in truth, in our mission and ministry,
Genuine freedom will be the fruit if in truth we shall be one,
Let us then commit our lives, in the truth of Christ we stand (Chorus)

Tell the truth that sets all free, share the news over land and sea,
Though the bearers of truth may die, Yet the truth alone shall live,
When they are fed with lies, People then are cowed in fear. (Chorus)

+Prayer of Dedication

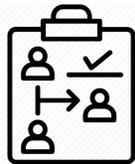
All: We thank you God for giving us Jesus, our model of how to live unselfishly to others. Continue to move us to share our love with others and be love to all creation. Amen.

Response: "Those Who Love" Dance of Universal Peace
(Encourage everyone to Sing and Dance)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGgCU5oZp1c>

Those who love, loving God's creations these are the sons and daughters of God 2x
In my life time, loving every heart. In my life time peace... peace on earth 2x

Assignment for Next Sunday



Post and share a picture or an image that depicts "compassion" to your media account this week. (FB, IG, and Tiktok)

Youth At Work. Monthly projects that involve the young people of the church.
The month of November: Stewardship Month



1. Ask your pastor to have a Youth Seminar on Stewardship. Invite the Deacons, Board of Trustees, and Church Treasurer.
2. Make a project to enhance the Church Tithe envelops
3. Have each CYF to have an Offering envelop like the adults do
4. In cooperation with the Church Workers, conduct the following; Tree Growing Project, Coastal Cleaning, Garbage Segregation, etc.)
5. #CYFSSlessoninlife. Post in your Tweeter, FB, Instagram account the lessons you've learned from the session.

Lesson 24: What do we mean by "compassion" about our witness to the world and service to the Church?

Ecumenical Witness Sunday

Thirteenth Sunday in Kingdomtide

November 15, 2020

General Concept: *Compassion means a deep sense of empathy and commitment to eradicate the causes of suffering to experience the fullness of life in Christ.*

Biblical References: Ezekiel 34:11-16 ,Matthew 9:36

Age Level Concepts

- *Compassion means a deep sense of empathy and commitment to eradicate the causes of suffering to experience the fullness of life in Christ*
- The UCCP demonstrates compassion to all people through its witness to the world and service to the Church
- We exemplify Christ's compassion to the world

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to

- Define and explain the meaning of compassion
- Enumerate ways how to respond to situations that exemplify the value of compassion
- Create venues on how to exemplify Christ's compassion to the world

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]), song chart/Powerpoint, offering plate or basket, Used Calendar for Sunday's Phrase and Memory, Video Presentation

Biblical Background

Ezekiel 34:11-16

Ezekiel holds justice and care together as he views God as our Good Shepherd. God cares about gathering, resettling, and feeding the flock in good pasture. God's care is both implicitly and explicitly associated with justice. As a good Shepherd, God assures to correct situations that might perpetuate injustice and abuse by strengthening the weak. God will feed them with justice. Justice and care are kept in balance, as they are two sides of the coin.

Another feature presented here is the care for the individual members of the flock by seeking the lost, tending to the injured, strengthening the weak, and presenting the deliverance from oppression and injustice which is the primary cause of the fragmentation of any community.

Compassion means not just to pity those who are victims of injustice and oppression but to empathize and to be involved in freeing and uplifting these victims and enable them to experience abundant life.

Matthew 25:31-46

The parable of the sheep and the goats is part of Matthew's judgment parables which include the "Faithful and Unfaithful Slaves". This corresponds with the eschatological reality where in the end, one will be eternally punished or one will have eternal life. All nations are gathered, this means that God will gather all God's people all over the world. The bases of one's circumstances will be on whether they have fed the hungry, provided drink for the thirsty, welcomed the stranger, clothe the naked, tended to the sick, and visited the prisoner. These are practical actions to be taken as part of life-living. The people who do these things never remembered that they have done it to the Lord.

The parable sets forth judgment according to works of compassion as evidence of one's faith in Christ Jesus. Good trees cannot bear bad fruit, nor can bad trees bear good fruit (7:17-18)

Suggested Lesson Outline



Doing your class through

a. ZOOM Application.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOUwumKCW7M>

b. Messenger Room.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lKEUTnprtK4>

C. Sunday School setting

Greeting Time

(Post in ZOOM/ Share a Document- Picture- "Compassion and Justice..")

Welcome each student as they participate in an online classroom through ZOOM or Messenger Room. After all, learners access in, say this statement " Whoever you are and whatever you are on life's journey, all are welcome here. Our gathering even in an online venue evokes God's presence.

Ask the learners to share their lowest point this week?"

Song of Gathering

"Steadfast Love"

As we gather may Your Spirit works within us
As we gather may we glorify Your name
Knowing well that as our hearts begin to worship
We'll be blessed because we came
We'll be blessed because we came.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases
His mercy never comes to an end
They are new every morning, new every morning
Great is Thy faithfulness O Lord
Great is Thy faithfulness.

Opening Prayer

Learner: God our Good Shepherd, we thank you for the care that you bestowed to us.
Guide us in the way that we may pasture in your green grass of nurturing
compassion and justice. In Christ's Name, We pray. Amen.



Getting Ready

Let the class watch a short film 6 Ways to Exercise Self-Compassion (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1g-SD3B1jB8>) Let them share their thoughts about the short film.

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth

Group the class into two and assign each group a passage to read and discuss.

Group 1- Ezekiel 34:11-16,

Group 2- Matthew 25:31-46

Discuss to the class the Biblical Background before letting them group themselves.

Tell them to answer *the following questions during their groupings.*

1. What is the passage all about?
2. Define what is compassion as expressed in the passage.
3. How does the value of compassion being expressed to one's self family, church, and community?
4. What are the programs/ministries of your local church that express the value of compassion or were initiated out of compassion for the weak and the needy?
5. Express some ways to live out and manifest compassion to oneself, to your family, Church, and community.



Lessons Learned

Youth Speak!

Group Report. Allow all learners to freely ask questions.

Suggest ways how the youth can live out or express compassion in the following situations:

- a. Islamophobia during COVID 19 pandemic
- b. Retrenchment in the working places that resulted in massive unemployment
- c. CYF who are experiencing depression
- d. CYFers who have COVID 19



Applying the Lessons Learned

Contextualizing: Identify an individual or family that your group will extend compassion this week. Plan how to go about and realize it.

Closing Worship

Memory Verse:

“ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family,[a] you did it to me.’ “ Matthew 25:40



Youth At Work. Monthly projects that involve the young people of the church.

The month of November: Stewardship Month

1. Ask your pastor to have a Youth Seminar on Stewardship. Invite the Deacons, Board of Trustees, and Church Treasurer.
2. Make a project to enhance the Church Tithe envelopes
3. Have each CYF to have an Offering envelop like the adults do
4. In cooperation with the Church Workers, conduct the following; Tree Growing Project, Coastal Cleaning, Garbage Segregation, etc.)
5. #CYFSSlessoninlife. Post in your Tweeter, FB, Instagram account the lessons you've learned from the session.

Lesson 25: Why is there a need for equitable presentation in the life and governance of the church?

Migrant Workers' Sunday

Fourteenth Sunday in Kingdomtide

November 22, 2020

General Concept: We need to have an equitable representation to the life and governance of the church to ensure everyone's involvement in the process of decision making and the implementation of programs and ministries

Biblical References: Galatians 3:28; Matthew 19:14

Age Level Concepts

- We seek to have equitable representation in the life and governance of the church.
- We need to ensure everyone's involvement in the process of decision making and the implementation of programs and ministries
- We commit to actively participate/involve in the life and governance of the church

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, the learners are expected to

- Articulate their understanding of "equality vis a vis equity"
- Discuss the need for equitable representation in the processes of decision making and the implementation of programs and ministries.
- Commit to actively participate and involve in the life and governance of the church

Materials: The Holy Bible (preferably the New Revised Standard Version [NRSV]), song chart/ Powerpoint, offering plate or basket, Used Calendar for Sunday's Phrase and Memory, Video Presentation)

Biblical Background

Galatians 3:28

The verse defines the new economy in God's household where there is neither Jew nor Greek; neither bond nor free. There is neither male nor female, young nor old for we are one in Christ Jesus our Lord. All are equal in the eyes of our God who saved us by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. This new setting describes the kingdom of God where everyone is accepted as God's children and all are made a new creation in Christ.

With this setting, equal representation is needed to affirm this kingdom principle of equality of worth and voice.

Matthew 19:14

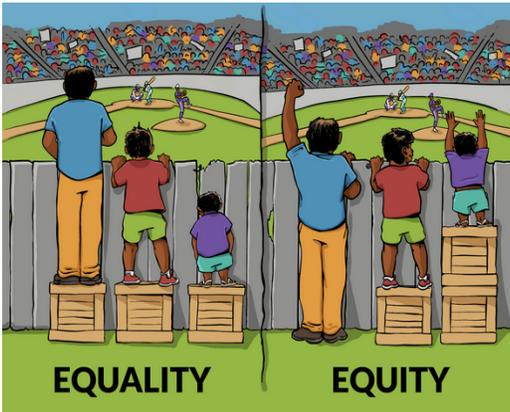
The disciples have been struggling with pride and pomposity. Jesus taught them not just once but several times about the importance of humility. The disciples sternly hindered the parents from bringing their children to be blessed by Jesus. The story presents two different realities. We have the pompous disciples on one hand and we have the innocent children who were deemed by the society as an important. The story is not limited to the welcoming attitude of Jesus who assured the children that the kingdom belongs to them. It goes beyond this. It was Jesus' way of challenging the disciples to change their perspective. They who are trained to continue the ministry must welcome people from all walks of life and most especially those who needs the kingdom of God the most.

Luke 8:1-3

The text speaks of women who were among those who followed Jesus and who supported the ministry of Jesus out of their own resources. Three of the women were named but the others were not. It could be noticed that the term disciple was never used to refer to women who were with Jesus. They were called followers but not disciples. The term disciple however also means follower. Discipleship is not limited to the men. Women too participated in the ministry of Jesus. However this text must be read carefully for it might lionize the traditional roles that women play like do the household chores that women do. Were they with the bond of those who followed Jesus to cook their meals, wash their clothes and do errands? Or were they treated as equals? The text is not very clear about this. One thing sure however is that they helped and did their best to contribute to the ministry of proclaiming the Kingdom of God and was even generous with their resources.

Note: The Constitution says equitable – it cannot be equal, plus it says as far as practicable. The ideal of course would be equality but because of the factors to consider (gender, age, sector, geography) striking an equal representation may be difficult, though not impossible, to achieve. What we must emphasize here probably is that our Church seeks to be democratic as far as possible.

Suggested Lesson Outline



Doing your class through

a. ZOOM Application.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOUwumKCW7M>

b. Messenger Room.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IKEUTnrptK4>

C. Sunday School Setting

Greeting Time

(Post in ZOOM Share a Document- Picture- "Equality and Equity.")

Welcome each student as they participate in an online classroom through ZOOM or Messenger Room. After all learners have accessed in, say this statement "Whoever you are and whatever you are on life's journey, all are welcome here. Our gathering even in an online venue evokes God's presence.

Ask the learners to share, "What makes them feel they belong to a group?"

Songs of Gathering "I'm Part of You, You're Part of Me"

I'm part of you and you're part of me together in God's family 3x
We're living together in God's household

"Beloved Let Us Love One Another"

Beloved let us love one another for God is of love 2x



Opening Prayer

Learner: God of Rainbow, we come before you with openness to learn and live anew by your teaching. We are here, indwelling in your mercy and nurturing embrace. Amen

Getting Ready



Let the class watch a short film, "Five things you can do to improve gender equality in leadership". (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QR3i-45F4NA>). Let them share their thoughts about the short film. What can they say about equal representation?

Learning Time

Discovering the Biblical Truth



Group the class into three and assign each group a passage to read and discuss.

Group 1- Galatians 3:28;
Group 2- Matt. 19:14,
Group 3 - Luke 8:1-3

Discuss to the class the Biblical Background before letting them group themselves. Tell them to answer *the following questions during their groupings:*

1. What is the passage all about?
2. How can you connect the principle of equitable representation to the assigned passage?
3. Does equitable representation being lived out within your family, your church, and your community? If yes, how? If no, why not? Share your experiences
4. Why do you it is the very important to have equitable representation in our church governance and life work? Do you agree to this?
5. Express some ways how to exercise equitable representation to your family, Church, and community.

Lessons Learned



Youth Speak!

Group Report. Allow each learner to freely ask questions.

ASSESSMENT. Let the learners

- Assess their organization and cite provisions from their Constitution and By-laws that express or encourage equitable representation in the life and work and governance of their organization.
- Elevate their assessment by looking into the policies of the Church (refer to UCCP Constitution and By-Laws) that encourage equitable representation in the conduct of its life, programs and ministries and governance.

Applying the Lessons Learned

Suggest ways how can your Local church implement the principle of equitable representation in the following areas:

- a. Church Council representation
- b. Organizational structure
- c. prioritization of programs
- d. Participation in planning

Closing Worship



Memory Verse:

"There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28

Offertory

Leader: We give because we are so blessed with God's loving grace and

love. Let us give not because we are a force to but because of our response to God's amazing love for all of us.

Giving of our Offerings

+Offering Response "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

Hymnal of Faith Journey, 94

Praise God the Source of life and birth,
Praise God the Son who came on earth,
Praise God the Spirit, Holy flame,
All glory, honor to God's name. Amen

+Thanksgiving Prayer

Leader: Accept O God our offerings and thanksgiving. May these bounties be used for your glory. In Christ's Name, Amen.

+Closing Song

"God is with Us"

(English Version of Ang Dios Kauban Ta)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyRwIKuA2Bo>

Chorus

Let's be victorious, for God is with us
Let's be courageous, for God is for us
Let's be steadfast, for God is with us
Let's keep on living, for God is with us.

Verse 1

Don't get worried of life's on going problem
for God is with us
God is all knowing and knows How we're doin
Trust God without a doubt (Chorus)

Verse 2

Lay aside our issues
get rid of our anger
God ease our longing, worries and our burdens
let's entrust our all to God (Chorus)

Verse 3

Let us continue to work for God's mission
Let us preach the good news
Love, peace and justice for God's creation
Let all experience that God is with and for us (Chorus to Coda)

Coda:

God is with us Ohhh

God is for us...
God is with us
God is for us

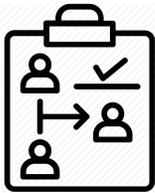
+Prayer of Dedication

All: May we live our learnings each day and may our living be pleasing to your sight
O God. Amen.

Response "Those Who Love" Dance of Universal Peace
(Encourage everyone to Sing and Dance)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGgCU5oZp1c>

Those who love, loving God's creations these are the sons and daughters of God 2x
In my life time, loving every heart. In my life time peace... peace on earth 2x



Assignment for Next Sunday

Post and share a 5-minute video about UCCP's involvement in Ecumenical work to your social media account this week. (FB, IG, and Tiktok)

Youth At Work. Monthly projects that involve the young people of the church.
The month of November: Stewardship Month



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2. Make a project to enhance the Church Tithe envelops
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