Lesson 22

Welcome Everyone

Lesson Objectives

- Affirm that Jesus calls us to love everyone, including people of other nations and races.
- Realize that our faith in Jesus makes us one with others.
- Choose to receive Holy Communion frequently as a sign of our oneness with God and other Church members.

Lesson Summary

In this lesson, we will learn to open our arms like Jesus did and be welcoming to everyone.

Lesson Plan

Introduction (Minutes 1-10)

- Pray the Opening Prayer together.
- Review the introduction.
- Show a video or song.

Review Point 1: Jesus Welcomed Everyone (Minutes 10-15)

For reflection: Think about what it means to love all people, no matter who they are.

Review Point 2: Living in God's Kingdom

- Ask the students: What did it mean when the apostles began to speak in different languages?

Review Point 3: The Early Church and Hospitality (Minutes 15-20)

- Ask the students: Do you have friends who are not Maronite Catholics? How do you show them hospitality?

Activities: Choose 1 or 2. (Minutes 25-30)

Activity 1:

List where your ancestors came from. Then compare your list with those of your classmates.

Answer key:

- Answers will vary.

Activity 2:

Draw your own welcoming symbol that your parish priest could put outside the Church.

Answer key:

- Answers will vary.

Prayer and Role Model (Minutes 30-35)

- Pray From the Maronite Tradition (Together)

Complete Recall Section (Minutes 35-40)

True or false

Answer key:

1. Jesus only worked miracles for the Jewish people in his own country. **F**
2. The word apostolic means “universal, open to all.” **T**
3. God likes some nations better than others. **F**
4. In Antioch, the followers of Jesus were first called “Christians.” **T**
5. In the days of Jesus, a Gentile was anyone who was not Jewish. **T**
6. In Holy Communion, we show that we are brothers and sisters of one another in Christ. **T**

7. Saint Peter is known as the “Apostle of the Gentiles.” **F**
8. One way we welcome newcomers to our Church is through the ministry of hospitality. **T**

Review Weekly Journal (Minutes 40-44)

For Additional Reflection:

Try to show hospitality to someone at school or church.

Closing (Minutes 45)

- Pray the Concluding Prayer together.

Optional

- Use the Climbing Mountain Section and Reaching the Summit Section.