

Intermediate Lesson 2

Objectives:

- Students will apply the concept of using gifts to help the whole community to identifying service professions and the gifts necessary to those professions
- Students will integrate the concept of priesthood and religious life as service “careers” with previous conversations about using gifts to help.

Materials:

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| chalk or dry-erase board | Bibles |
| photos of people in professions (optional) | worksheet D |
| | markers, pencils, crayons |

1. Review the concepts of the previous lesson.
2. Ask the students to name the various professions or ministries which are service oriented. List these professions on the board. If available, use images of these professions to make the discussion more concrete.
3. Discuss these various professions, highlighting the following concepts:
 - The ways in which this profession helps others.
 - What special preparation is needed to enable someone to carry out the demands of that particular profession?
 - What are the special gifts or talents which a person must have to enable them to perform this service or carry out this work?
 - How do they share this special talent?
4. After the students have discussed the above, ask them to name men and women who have shared their gifts and talents in certain professions and services.
5. When the naming of famous people has been completed present the following concept to the students:
 - Jesus was a man who was very gifted from God and, recognizing that giftedness, He shared those gifts with others.
6. Using their New Testament ask the students to find and read the following passages which speak of Jesus sharing His gifts with others:
 - Feeding the hungry: Mark 8:1-10, Matthew 15:32-39, Luke 9:10-17
 - Curing the sick: Mark 8:22-26, Luke 5:12-16
 - Teaching: Matthew 11:1
7. After reading the above, discuss the following concepts with the students:
 - In the person of Jesus we see that we are all called to use our gifts and talents for the building up of God’s Kingdom.

- As Christians and through our Baptism Jesus calls us to service and to love of the Creator. In every profession, because we are followers of Christ, we are called to reflect Christ to others.
- In the Church today there are some men and women who live their Baptismal call to follow Jesus in very special ways.
- These men and women make special promises, called vows, which remind us that we are all called to love God and serve our brothers and sisters in whatever work we do. By living a life that is different from ours, they remind us that we, too, must place our talents and gifts at the disposal of the Kingdom of God. They pray for us and remind us of what it means to follow Jesus and build the kind of world that God the Creator wants us to build.

ACTIVITY:

Hand out Worksheet D to the students. On one side of the paper, they are to illustrate Jesus using His gifts to help and serve others. On the other side they are to draw themselves using their gifts and talents helping others.

FOLLOW-UP

1. The students might be invited to make a special effort to speak to a priest, telling them about what they have learned about them. They could do the same with the sisters who live or work in their parish.
2. They could also share their illustration with their parents, explaining to them what they have drawn and why. Invite them to ask their parents about priests and religious, whom they may know and respect.

How Jesus Helped Others

How I Can Help Others Too