

Sixth Grade: Lesson 20

What Vocation is God Calling You To?

Lesson Objective:

This lesson explores vocations and how they build up the community. Catechists are encouraged to invite the youth to pray about God's call on their lives.

Learning Outcomes: Students will ...

- Be a disciple of Christ as a steward of the Church, one who works to spread the Catholic faith throughout their community and the world (CCC 2226).
- Explain vocations as a call to the single, married, consecrated, or ordained life (CCC 871-873; CCC Glossary: Vocation).
- Describe how each vocation builds up the community (CCC 871-873; CCC Glossary: Vocation).
- Demonstrate the skill of listening - to hear others respectfully and to be open to the voice of God.
- Pray for openness and generous response to God's call in each of their lives.

Materials Needed:

- Prayer space items, Bibles, pencils or pens
- Copies: Career vs. Vocation word sort; Vocations Reflection Activity

As Students Enter Class:

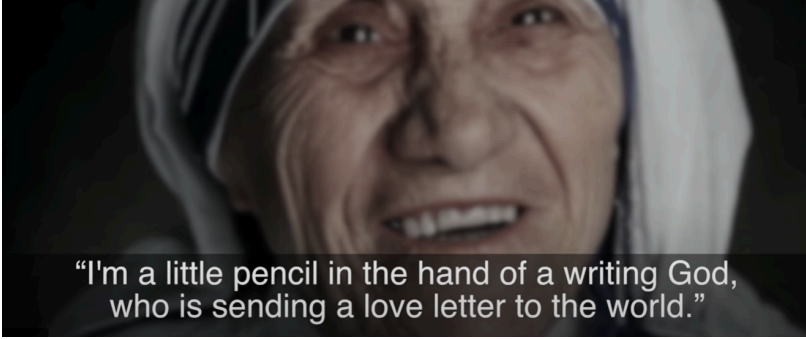
- Consider posing the following question: What is a vocation? What is God calling you to do when you are an adult?

Beginning of Class:

- Gather around your prayer space and select a traditional Catholic prayer.
- Offer time for students to share their thoughts on the above question.

Lesson Order	Implementation Ideas
Lesson 20 Video	<p data-bbox="613 243 1040 279">This video is .55 in length.</p> <p data-bbox="613 317 1414 548">Highlights: We have learned how God wants us to live by following His Commandments and by learning how to control our emotions and feelings. We have also looked at roles and gifts God gives each of us to be lived out in our vocations.</p> <p data-bbox="613 590 781 625">Vocations:</p> <ul data-bbox="662 632 1390 831" style="list-style-type: none"> • To be single • Married • Consecrated (to live as a religious person, such as a nun) • Ordained (priest) <p data-bbox="613 894 1349 1010">Perhaps one of the most difficult things is to know what vocation God is calling you to live. Today we will explore vocations!</p>
What is a Vocation?	<p data-bbox="613 1056 992 1092">This video is 1:32 in length</p> <p data-bbox="613 1134 1398 1249">Highlights: What is vocation... to discuss after watching and talk with the students about what they have considered about a vocation in the past.</p> <ol data-bbox="662 1291 1390 1459" style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A particular occupation, business, or profession; calling 2) A divine call to God's service or to the Christian life <p data-bbox="613 1522 1390 1638">Everything is a type of vocation: working, getting married, having a family, staying single. Everything is a way to serve God.</p> <p data-bbox="613 1690 1406 1764">How do you know what to do with your gifts, talents, and passion?</p>

	<p>Vocation happens when you take what you love to the world's needs, and when you listen to what the world needs of you.</p> <p>Your life has purpose; but your life doesn't just belong to you. It also belongs to your family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, ... everyone you know. You belong to them, and they belong to you.</p> <p>Jesus said come follow me. That is your vocation.</p> <p>Encourage students to share their thoughts about the information presented in the video. Using the bolded sentence above, ask students what this means to them?</p>
Put God First	<p>This video is 4:13 in length but ends at 3:36.</p> <p>Highlights: This is another great video! Putting things in the right order is important if we are to make sense of them. The speaker uses reading the Hobbit to connect with our lives. If we read the Hobbit in a random order, we won't understand it or its message. When we don't place our priorities in their proper place, life starts to lose its meaning and is no longer enjoyable to live.</p> <p>When our life is in God's order, it is a joyous adventure. So, what is the proper order of things? Jesus said: But strive first for the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.</p> <p>God should be the first thing in our lives. Second, is everything else. It's important not to confuse the two. For when God becomes second, we lose Him, then our meaning, then joy. Then our God-given story, why we are created, the eternal adventure, gets lost in meaningless living.</p>

	<p>When Jesus takes first place in our hearts, He authors a story with our life that is meaningful. Mother Theresa said:</p>  <p>"I'm a little pencil in the hand of a writing God, who is sending a love letter to the world."</p>
<p>Decisions that Lead to Heaven</p>	<p>This video is 6:31 in length. It ends at 6:19. It is another great video by Ken Yasinski, who narrated the previous video.</p> <p>Highlights: What is the universal call to holiness> It means we can all become great saints. We can all become holy and grow in deep union with Jesus.</p> <p>This looks good in theory, doesn't it? However, when it comes to our lived experiences, it seems so far from our reality. It seems impossible. So, what can we do?</p> <p>We look to the lives of saints and ask ourselves: What worked for them? What are the decisions they made in their lives that caused them to grow in deep union with Jesus? Can we apply those decisions to our own life?</p> <p>Holiness leaves clues. We study the lives of saints and think, what are the clues they left us that led them to Heaven?</p> <p>Saints pray every day. Sometimes we think of prayer as something we do when we are in crises mode. However, saints pray daily.</p> <p>Go to Mass every Sunday and receive Christ in Holy Communion.</p>

	<div data-bbox="615 231 1295 968"> <p>St Faustina</p> <p>All the good that is in me is due to Holy Communion. I owe everything to it. I feel this holy fire has transformed me completely.</p> </div> <p>It worked for them; it's going to work for us. God's word can transform our lives.</p> <p>Saints also read scripture. St. Jerome said: Ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ.</p> <p>You will never find a Saint who rejected the teaching authority of the Church. If you are struggling with a particular teaching of the Church, pray, study, look for answers. Don't just throw it out.</p> <p>It makes eternal common sense to follow the example of holy men and women.</p>
2 Priests Journey to Their Vocations	This video is 10:41. It is engaging and a great testament to God's love and His call to vocations.
Vocations with Fr. Mike Schmitz	<p>This video is 6:10 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: Fr. Mike Schmitz explains vocations as only he can 😊</p>

	<p>3 Senses of Vocation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Sense of Call: Primary Vocation that never, ever changes. It's the universal call to holiness that stemmed out of Vatican II. Every person is called to be a saint. God's destination for you is a life with Him forever in Heaven. 2) Sense of Call: Vocations as most of us think about: Marriage and family, consecrated single life, religious life, priesthood. 3) What is the immediate mission that God is calling me to do right now? This one changes regularly, since it is God's call in your daily life. <p>Fr. Mike continues to explain these three in more detail. The reality is that God has made you with a purpose to become a saint. What is the primary relationship by which God will make you that saint? Then, what is the task at hand? Right now, what is it that you need to be doing?</p> <p>DISCUSS: Right now, what is it that you need to be doing? What is God calling you to do as a child of God?</p>
Career vs. Vocation Sorting Activity	Using the word bank, students place the words in the appropriate column.
Vocations Reflection	Students are encouraged to think about the different vocations in life and what it will take to live out the vocation they choose.
Closing Prayer	Gather around your prayer space and model a Prayer of Thanksgiving, thanking God for the year you spent together and for the learning and growth you all experienced. Encourage students to share their own prayer of Thanksgiving.

DEAR 6TH GRADE CATECHIST AND AIDE:

Thank you for sharing your time and talents with your students. You are truly stewards of Christ. May God bless you and your families. Thank you.