

PMR First Third Ministry
Youth Group Program Outline

Week of May 17-23, 2020

Theme: “Who is Your Neighbour?”

Purpose of this Outline:

- This resource is for your use with the Youth in your Community of Faith as we continue to meet online and to help inspire conversations of action and social justice with the Youth
 - You are more than welcome to see this outline as a jumping off point, for inspiration, don't feel the need that you need to follow it exactly! Each Youth Group is different, so you can tailor it to your context

Preparation:

- It is important to send an email to all of your Youth Group families (if you send it to your youth or their parents/guardians email addresses) that includes the Zoom meeting link and any materials that the Youth might need for your online gathering
 - I like to send the emails to both the Youth and their Parents/Guardians email addresses because it gives both parties an opportunity to discuss the theme of the Youth Group as a family and how it might apply to them
 - Let the Youth know that they should think of some instances where either they were treated unfairly, or they witnessed someone being treated unfairly
- Security Measures for Zoom
 - Enable the “waiting room’ function when scheduling your Zoom meeting because it allows you to monitor who is coming into the meeting and decline those who you do not know
 - It is key to always use a Meeting password when scheduling a Zoom meeting because it makes it more difficult for hackers to get into your online gathering
 - Only send your Zoom meeting link and details to your participants and their families because if you happen to post the meeting details on any social media platform (even if it might be a ‘private group’) it makes it easier for hackers to infiltrate your meeting
- Gathering of any supplies needed for Online gathering: Christ Candle, Lighter/Matches,

Program Outline (60 minutes of total programming)

- **Opening** (2-3 Minutes)
 - Greet each Youth by name as they log on to the Zoom Meeting
 - Remind Youth that it is important for safety that they keep their Video function on and so that they can fully engage in the online gathering
 - Lighting of the Christ Candle

- Feel free to say whatever words you like to say as you light the Christ Candle to start the gathering (I tend to use the words from Godly Play by saying “There was once someone who said and did amazing things that people started to follow him, and as they followed him they just had to ask him who he was, and one time when they asked him he said, I am the Light of the World”)
- **Check-in** (5 minutes)
 - Check-in Question
 - “Rock, Stick, and a Leaf”
 - You can share something that ‘rocked’ for them in the past week, something that will ‘stick’ with them, and something that they will ‘leaf’ behind.
- **Devotional/Bible Study** (6-8 minutes)
 - If anyone is willing, invite them to read the Bible passage John 14: 15-21 (The Good Samaritan)
 - Luke 10:25-37 (NRSV): The Parable of the Good Samaritan
 - “Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.” But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”
 - If your youth would rather a video telling of the Parable of the Good Samaritan, here is a link to the Godly Play telling of this story on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuBNEQq8zOk>
 - Reflection Questions (to ask the Youth)

- What does it mean to be a neighbour according to this parable?
 - How can we help each other be neighbors like Jesus calls us to be?
 - What is a way in which you need to be a neighbour?
 - Is there any instance in the world right now where you see people not being good neighbours or being a good neighbour?
- **Action** (13-15 minutes)
 - Let Youth watch this video about having Compassion for others:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyQpe7i5GAs>
 - Open up the Whiteboard function on your Zoom Screen and ask the Youth to think of ways that they can practice compassion in their own lives right now (Have them either draw on the whiteboard or type out answers on the whiteboard or chat box)
- **Closing**
 - Closing Prayer
 - “Dear God, thank you for letting us gather here today, we are grateful for each person in this gathering and what they bring to the group. We ask for strength to be compassionate in this confusing world, though we know that you are there for us, always. In Jesus’ name, Amen