

Lesson 6--Level 1 Revelation

Purpose: Revelation in the life of Christ:
Jesus' baptism and mission
Discipleship/Beatitudes

Session at a Glance

7:00 p.m. Welcome
7:15 p.m. Suggested Opening Prayer: Teaching Activities Manual for the Catholic Youth Bible: Be Still and Know that I am God, p.367
7:30 p.m. Jesus' Baptism and the beginning of his Public Ministry
Discipleship
8:15 p.m. Beatitudes
8:30 p.m. Closing Prayer: Beatitudes: Matthew 5: 3-11. See Closing Prayer in this Lesson for directions.

I. Jesus' Baptism and Public Ministry

Catechist: Jesus began his public ministry by being baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River. Refer to Map 6: The Ministry of Jesus, *Catholic Youth Bible* p.1803 NAB (same in all editions), NRSV p.1539 (2005 edition p. 1575).

Discuss: Catholic Connections: Baptism, *Catholic Youth Bible* p.1217 NAB (same in all editions), NRSV p. 1125 (2005 edition p. 1105).

Ask four youth to read the account of Jesus' baptism from the four Gospels:

Matthew 3:13-17

Mark 1: 9-11

Luke 3: 21-22

John 1:29-34

Discuss the words of God the Father and the descent of the Holy Spirit at the Baptism of Jesus in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke.

Ask: What do these words and the descent of the Holy Spirit reveal about Jesus?

Assist the youth in understanding the following:

The words of God the Father and the descent of the Holy Spirit reveal:

- **Jesus as Messiah of Israel and Son of God;**
- **The delight of God in his beloved Son who accepts his mission on earth even his suffering and death on the cross;**
- **The Spirit that comes to rest on Jesus reveals that Jesus will be the source of the Spirit for all humanity. Remember, Jesus promises to send the Holy Spirit, at Pentecost and continues to this day to send the Holy Spirit.**
(Catechist: cf. CCC 536.)

II. Discipleship

Jesus calls the First Disciples: Read and discuss the following texts.

Matthew 4: 18-22

Mark 1:16-20

Luke 5: 1-11

Catechist: Tell the youth that today, Jesus calls us to be his disciples and through our lives to be a witness to the Gospels. Discuss the word *witness* as it pertains to a court of law and ask the youth what they think being a witness for the Gospels means.

Next, in the *Catholic Youth Bible*: read/discuss: Follow Me (p.1218 NAB (same in all edition), NRSV p.1126 (2005 edition p. 1106).

Catechist: Guide the youth in realizing that in the gospels we find what Jesus asks of his disciples. Select one Scripture text from each category and discuss the implications of these expectations on the lives of all who follow Jesus as his disciples: (CCC 520)

- do the will of the Father, Matthew 12:50; Mark 3:35; John 9:31**
- be childlike, Mark 10:15; Matthew 18:2-5**
- serve others, Luke 10:37; John 13:12-15**
- take up your cross, Matthew 10:38; Matthew 16:24**
- love one another, Luke 10: 25-28; John 13:34-35**
- give up your possessions, Matthew 16: 25-26, Luke 12:15**

III. Beatitudes

Catechist: Identify the Beatitudes, given to us by Jesus, as Christian ways of living; Matthew 5:3-12; Luke 6: 20-22 (CCC 1716-1717). Lead the youth to understand that the Beatitudes are a guide to the values of God's Kingdom and the way that leads to eternal happiness. Read and discuss: *Catholic Youth Bible: An Upside-Down Kingdom* (p.1219 NAB (same in all editions), NRSV p.1127 (2005 edition p. 1107).

IV. Revelation from the life of Christ presented above:

- God's words at Jesus' Baptism proclaim Jesus as his Son and the descent of the Holy Spirit shows Jesus as the source of the Holy Spirit then and now.**
- Jesus revealed the qualities of a disciple: do the will of the Father, etc.**
- Through the Beatitudes, Jesus announced the Kingdom of God and showed the way all God's sons and daughters should live.**

V. Closing Prayer: Using Matthew 5:3-11, have the youth read the Beatitudes silently. Then ask each youth to select a Beatitude that speaks to them. Have each youth read prayerfully their Beatitude. Ask them to remember their Beatitude during the week.

OUTCOMES

Outcome statements denote what the youth will be able to understand and communicate upon completion of Lesson 6.

- At the Baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist in the Jordan River, God the Father and the Holy Spirit revealed that they were one with Jesus and his mission on earth.
- As Jesus called the first disciples, so through our baptism, he calls us to discipleship and to spread the Good News of the Gospels through Christian witness.
- The Beatitudes, that Jesus gave us, reveal the way of life for all the faithful.