Gospel of Life Week

Everyone Deserves a Home - a Lesson on Adoption

GRADES 4-6 - Lesson I (Year III, Day 3)

Goal: Students will learn about the loving choice of adoption and explore stories of people who have been adopted. Activities will reinforce a thankfulness for family and home and a desire to pray for and support those children who do not have either.

Lesson: Today's lesson looks at the subject of adoption and foster care. Students will develop a deeper understanding of what adoption is and why, as Christians, we take very seriously the responsibility for every child born into the world.

Discussion:

Do you know anyone who has been adopted or who has adopted a child? (This would be a great time to share names of famous people who were adopted that the students are familiar with.)

Watch: "A Lott of Love" or Elijah's Adoption Day

Discussion:

Why do you think people desire to adopt children?

Is the choice for adoption, made by the birthparents—either at the time of birth or later in life—a loving choice? Why or why not?

Have you learned anything new about adoption today that you did not know before?

What other questions remain?

Activity: Have the students write acrostic poems describing adoption and what they think of it.

Prayer for Families

Heavenly Father, You created families as the center of life and love. Families raise children and build communities based on human dignity and unconditional love. Create in our hearts a deep love for our families and a desire to encourage the attributes in us that lead to happy, peaceful families. We pray for families that can't be together and children who do not grow up with their parents. We pray for children waiting for parents to adopt them. Send your peace and your love to these children, that they may experience hope even in their greatest doubt. Amen.

UP-HOLDING THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

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Lesson adapted from the plans on the Archdiocese of Los Angeles Office of Life, Justice and Peace website