

A LESSON ON MARRIAGE AND FAMILY

GRADES 4-6 – Marriage - Lesson II (Year I, Day 4)

Goal: Students will be introduced to the topic of marriage and family as a good for individuals and society. Through stories and activities, they will look at the effects of marriage on adults, children, and the entire culture.

Materials: paper, crayons/markers

Watch: [Theology of the Body for Teens: What is Love](#)

Discussion:

- How would you describe love?
- How would you describe marriage?
- Why do you think marriage is important?
- Would you like to get married when you grow up?
- Why or why not?

Lesson:

In marriage, God calls a man and woman to make a complete gift of themselves in way that is meant to be

- free - chosen with generosity and joy
- total - a gift of my whole life and heart
- faithful - through all the ups and downs of life
- fruitful - bringing new life to the world through children and family

Watch: [Fatherhood - What's it like Being a Dad?](#) from The Skit Guys

Discussion:

- What makes the dad in the video so great?
- Who is the best example of a dad you know of? Why?
- How do husbands and fathers contribute to families?
- How does the dad live his vocation as a husband and father in a way that is free, total, faithful and fruitful?

Watch: [Motherhood](#) from The Skit Guys

Discussion:

- How does this video make you appreciate your mother more?
- What strikes you about the way this mom loves her children?
- What is the greatest attribute of your own mom?
- How does the mom live her vocation as a wife and mother in a way that is free, total, faithful and fruitful?

Activity: Have students make a greeting card for a couple they think of as a great example of married love—their parents or grandparents, an aunt and uncle, a couple from the neighborhood, or the parents of a close friend. After their cards are decorated, encourage students to write in each a brief note expressing why they admire the couple's relationship.

Activity: Invite students to research married individuals or couples who have been beatified or canonized as saints. Provide them with a list of names to research, including: St. Margaret of Scotland and King Malcolm; St. Isidore the Farmer and St. Maria de la Cabeza; St. Gianna Beretta Molla and Pietro Molla; St. Louis and St. Zelig Martin; and Blessed Luigi Quattrocchi and Blessed Maria Corsini.

Prayer:

*God of us all,
You have made us Your sons and daughters in the family of the Church.*

*May Your grace and love help our families
in every part of the world be united to one another in fidelity to the Gospel.*

*May the example of the Holy Family, with the help of Your Holy Spirit,
guide all families to be homes of communion and prayer.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, pray for us!

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

Gospel of Life Week

UP-HOLDING THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON
