

# A LESSON ON THE GIFT OF LIFE

## GRADES 7-9 – Life is a Gift - Lesson II (Year I, Day 2)

**Goal:** Human life is a gift from God. Even when a person is small and vulnerable in the womb, life is sacred and needs to be protected. Students will learn that all human life begins at conception and is made in the image of God.

**Materials:** Bible

**Lesson:** The resources for this lesson involve the announcement and discovery of pregnancy. The resources together teach that while discovering a pregnancy can be frightening, it should be a cause of great joy and excitement (as shown in the video of the young boy!). New life should inspire a sense of wonder and awe and a renew our beliefs in the Creator of all things.

**Watch:** [This boy has the best reaction to the news he's going to be a big brother](#) from Now to Love

### Discussion:

- What is the natural response to the news of a new baby?
- Why is the little boy's reaction so precious?
- Why do you think that video has gone viral?
- How does this video capture the truth that every human life is a gift?

**Read:** The Annunciation (Luke 1:26-38)

### Discussion:

- How do you think Mary felt the day after the Annunciation?
- What might have been some of Mary's fears?
- What are some of the fears a woman who is pregnant might face today?

**Watch:** [Raquel's Story](#) from the Sisters of Life

### Discussion:

- What are some of the pressures that Raquel felt when she found out she was pregnant?
- Where did Raquel find support during her pregnancy?

**Watch:**      [In Her Shoes](#) from the Sisters of Life

### Discussion:

- How did Carol's friends respond to her pregnancy?
- How can we help support a woman who is pregnant and scared?
- Once we recognize that the image of God is present in every human person, how does that change how we treat others?

**Activity:**      The purpose of this activity is for the students to reflect on a time in their life where they felt how Mary might have felt when the angel appeared to her. This activity can encourage students to face new changes in their life with joy and acceptance. It can also help students to empathize with women who face unplanned pregnancy.

Have the students write a short essay about a time in their life when they received news of a big change in their life. Ask them to include how they felt when they received the news, were they excited? scared? both? They should include how their faith played a role in processing this change. How did their fear transform into a joyful acceptance?

### Prayer:

*Heavenly Father, I thank you today for the gift of my life,  
and for the lives of all of my friends and classmates.*

*I ask your blessing on all women who are expecting babies.*

*May they see the beauty and joy of the life of their  
unborn son or daughter.*

*Help them to know they are heroes to their sons and daughters.*

*And, give me commitment to be a fearless leader for life in my school, my family, and my community.*

*Amen.*

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