A LESSON ON THE UNIQUENESS OF EVERY PERSON

GRADES PK-K - Lesson II (Year III, Day 1)

Goal: To introduce children to the concept of personhood beginning with conception and the unique gift of each human life created intentionally by God.

Materials:
The week before, ask each student to bring in a baby picture of him or herself in a sealed envelope. Don't let anyone see the pictures until the day of the activity.

- large roll of craft paper
- crayons and markers
- scissors, yarn, buttons, pipe cleaners, fabric, glitter, etc.

(or Self-Portrait printable-see link below)

Lesson: Have the children gather in a circle on the floor. Play and sing "This Little Light of Mine" Explain that God loves each one of us. Jesus has created each one of us special from everyone else. We have been unique from the time before we were born and we will be unique for our whole life, even when we grow to be very old.

Use examples to explain each person’s uniqueness. You can use the examples of how everyone has different looks/everyone has different fingerprints, or use the example of a snowflake and how every snowflake is unique or when Jesus looks down at the earth, He sees all of the people like a huge field of beautiful flowers.

Take out the baby pictures for each student and ask students to guess who the baby is in the picture. (Make sure the child whose photo it is doesn't give away the answer!) Use this activity to talk about when life first begins. When did each of us become different from every other person in the world, past and present? (When we were created inside our mothers’ wombs.)

Discussion:

- Do you know of anyone who is expecting a baby now?
- What can you do to help the mom and dad get ready for the baby?
- What can you do to make a new baby feel welcome?
Activity: Make a life-size you! Tear off a piece of craft paper for each child, large enough for him or her to be traced on it lying down. Help the children to trace each other on the paper. Provide crayons, markers, and crafting materials to decorate their images. At the bottom of the paper, write “God made _____” so they can write their names. Hang them up in the classroom when finished.

(If this is too much, the children can simply color a self-portrait of themselves: Self-Portrait Printable.)

Prayer:

God made the sun,
And God made the trees,
God made the mountains,
And God made me.
Thank you O God,
For the sun and the trees,
For making the mountains,
And for making me. Amen.

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