



Tuesday of Respect Life Week
Life is a Gift
Grades 1-3

Theme: Do Unto Others/ Putting the Needs of Others First

Goal: To introduce children to the concepts of generosity and selflessness. It is natural to want the very best thing for ourselves. However, the Gospel calls us to follow the example of Jesus who laid down his very life for the sake of each person in the world.

Materials: A Little Boy Shares ([video link](#))
The Giving Tree ([video link](#))
Playdough

Scripture: Watch the video story of John 6: 1-14, A Little Boy Shares ([video link](#))

This video depicts the story of Jesus' miracle of the Loaves and Fishes. A large crowd followed Jesus to hear his words, but at the end of the day they did not have any food to eat. A boy in the crowd had with him 5 barley loaves and 2 small fish. Jesus multiplied this small offering into enough food to feed the entire crowd with 12 baskets left over.

Questions for Discussion

What does this story teach us about sharing/generosity?

What did the boy do to show generosity?

Why did he share his food?

Wasn't he hungry himself?

How did Jesus show appreciation for his generosity?

What happens when we give what we have to Jesus?

What would have happened if the boy wasn't there that day?

Watch: The Giving Tree ([video link](#))

Questions for Discussion

Do you think the tree loved the boy?

Do you think the boy loved the tree?

Do you think the boy was selfish?

Who was the happiest one in the story, the tree that gave and gave or the boy who took and took?

How can you show someone that you love them?

Activity: Your Love is Special!

Have each student make fingerprints (with playdough). Discuss how every single person has a unique fingerprint. Have them compare fingerprints with other classmates. Discuss how God made each of them totally unique and how their fingerprints aren't the only thing about them that is special. Their heart and their love

are also completely unique! No one else can love like they can. The world needs their love! Have the students draw on the page (around their fingerprint) special ways they can love.

Prayer:

Jesus, teach me to share and be generous to
people I see every day.

Help me to think of others before myself,
and to happily give what I have to help others.

Thank you for all you have given me.

Amen.

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