Tuesday of Respect Life Week
Life is a Gift
Grades PK and Kindergarten

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 happens when we give what we have to Jesus?
What does this story teach us about sharing with others?
Why did he share his food?
Did he do a good thing when he shared his food? Why?
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?
Who was the happiest one in the story, the tree that gave and gave or the boy who took and took?
Do you think the boy was selfish?
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.