

Servant Leadership.

A Life Lived, Not An Example Given

4

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

REMEMBER

Each reflection point must cover at least one key text from 'The Good News' as well as allowing participants time to consider their own experience, so the reflection points have the following sections:

- The Good News (Sacred Scripture)
- Personal Story (The personal reflection of the participants based upon their experience)
- Each Reflection Point must conclude with a liturgy

This session should be a minimum of 60 minutes, but no more than 90 minutes.

An example on how you may want to lead the day as a leader is set out below, identifying the key objectives of the session, Explore, Understand and Reflect.

Time Sample Session Layout

0.00	Group Arrives and Settle Down Icebreaker <i>A quick game that will allow the young people to get aware of their surroundings and the individuals who they are going to be spending the next hour in session with. Try http://www.thesource4ym.com/ or http://youthgroupgames.com.au/</i>
0.10	Introduction of the theme (EXPLORE) <i>As a leader it's important to introduce the theme 'Servant Leadership. A life lived, not an example given'. During this time it would be ideal to introduce 'The Good News' to explain in a more defined way of what the first reflection point means. The young people can add input on thoughts about the scripture and theme, exploring who is our neighbour and how are we loving them.</i>
0.20	Activity <i>An activity to allow the young people to come to recognise we are asked to be servants to God .This could be delivered in any way you feel fitting as the leader. It might be ideal to allow the young people to move/ interact and have an input in this activity.</i>
0.35	Feedback and Explanation (UNDERSTAND) <i>As a leader the activity you pick the young people to take part in should have a link into the session's theme. This time now allows the young people to gain an understanding on why they have done the activity and arises an opportunity of discussion on the work the young people are doing or could do to live out this theme. It is vital that the young people reflect on the work they have done in the last few weeks. How have they been servants to others in the world? What more can I do for others? For example; <i>A young person may have participated in serving food for the homeless, this example shows compassion and love to others, but secondly placing ourselves second and others first.</i></i>
0.40	Liturgy (REFLECT) <i>A time for the young people to welcome God into the session. You may feel the need to do a meditation, prayer stations or creative activity to invite the young people to think more on a personal reflection about the scripture and theme.</i>
0.55	Closing Prayer : Faith in Action Prayer <i>Invite the young people to participate in saying the prayer.</i>
0.60	Session Ends

Below is a sample session which can be used with the young people presenting the 4th Reflection Point, A life lived, not an example given.

Time Sample Session Layout

0.00	<p>Group Arrives and Settle Down</p> <p>Icebreaker</p> <p><i>Two truths and one lie.</i></p> <p><i>The young people have to come up with three facts about themselves, two that are real and one that is false.</i></p> <p><i>The others in the group must try and work out which fact is a lie.</i></p> <p><i>This game can be delivered in various ways, for example you could split up the group in smaller groups and allow the young people to compete against other groups to create an overall winner.</i></p>
0.10	<p>Introduction of the theme (EXPLORE)</p> <p><i>Introduce the John 13: 4-10, Jesus washes the disciples' feet. You can do this perhaps by reading out the story and the young people acting it out or you can simply read the story to them. Or use this video to allow the young people to imagine the story more clearly.</i></p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wYAVu4MR7rc</p> <p><i>Why was Jesus washing the disciples' feet? It's a good question. We can look at this story and think that God was just taking care of his friends, yet there is much more to this story.</i></p> <p><i>First of all, back in Jesus' time many people didn't wear shoes, and if they did then it was sandals. So if you imagine a very dirty, sandy road and your clean feet it's not going to go well because ultimately your feet are going to pick up the dirt off the floor and become very dirty.</i></p> <p><i>Secondly, there was no transport back in those days; so many people would walk miles every day to get to their destination. Understandably your feet would be dirty but also battered and bruised from no protection. The whole experience of Jesus washing his disciples' feet mustn't have been pleasant. So why did he do it?</i></p> <p><i>Well it all comes down to this word, SERVANT. Back in those days it would have been the lowest of the low that would have been servants and done this job. He wanted to teach us something, a valuable lesson. He wanted the disciples to recognise that anyone is able to serve someone or something; anyone is able to show love and humility to someone else. So God wants us to be a servant, but not a servant who washes feet. He wants us to be a servant to God; ultimately that's what we are. As the video said, we are Jesus' present disciples and we must serve him and others with love and compassion. But how?</i></p>
0.20	<p>Activity</p> <p><i>Bridge Building. (Add the CAR)</i></p> <p><i>Split the young people into smaller groups, the group has 10 minutes to buy resources and create a free standing bridge.</i></p> <p><i>Each group is given £100. This money allows them to buy resources to create a free standing bridge. 1 sheet of Newspaper £10, 2 Paper Clips are £3, 30cm of String is £2 and 30cm of cellotape is £6.</i></p>

	<p><i>The group needs to decide which resources they want to invest in with their £100, no refund is given once a decision has been made! The best bridge created is declared the winner.</i></p>
0.35	<p>Feedback and Explanation (UNDERSTAND) <i>How was that activity? Did you spend your money wisely? What did you struggle with? It's an interesting activity to do as it challenges the young people to work together but to also make the most out of the money which they were given. Some groups may have struggled because one person did everything, or perhaps you rushed quickly and didn't use your money wisely. It reminds us of this theme of Servant Leadership because we have been given things in our lives to help us on our journey and we may sometimes not recognise or use what we have in the correct ways. But we also have others around us to help us, guide us and support us to remember that we have a job to complete in our own lives, to be a servant of God.</i></p> <p><i>I know that some of us have challenged ourselves already to live out this message in the work which you do to complete your FIA award... Have a think of what work you have done to serve others in need... Have you helped others within school? Within the community? Across the world from you? Although we may have done a lot of things already to live out this reflection point and that is brilliant, we are challenged to keep living this out in our day to day lives... so, what else could you do to serve others and to serve God?</i></p>
0.40	<p>Liturgy (REFLECT) Prayer Tree <i>For the family tree, you will need a large branch or few branches arranged in a big vase. Give each group member a leaf shape and ask them to write or draw their prayer. It can be personal or they can write or draw something in God's creation for which they would like to say thank you. Pierce a hole with a hole puncher and hang them on using wool or thread, or with a spot of glue on one end of each leaf, stick the prayers to the branches of the tree. Some of the prayers (leaves) can be read out loud to help the children to focus.</i></p> <p><i>I am the vine, you are the branches. Without me you can do nothing. If you love me and follow my teachings you can ask for anything and it will be given to you. Remain in my love. (John 15)</i></p>
0.55	<p>Closing Prayer : Faith in Action Prayer <i>Conclude with the Faith in action prayer.</i></p>
0.60	<p>Session Ends</p>

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