
Theme: Service

4. Servant Leadership

Objectives:

- Explore the joys and sorrows of living a life of service
- Understand that Jesus challenges us to change
- Reflect upon how service transforms not only us, but those whom we serve in the wider community

0.00	Faith in Action Prayer <i>Say together the Faith in Action Prayer</i>
0.05	The Good News https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q-5T30up3pw – What happened on Maundy Thursday?
0.10	Activity Leadership Game – young people stand in a circle with one member of the group outside. Young people in the circle decide who will be the leader. Leader is to do actions (clap, stamp their feet, dance) and everyone else copies. Invite person outside into the center of the circle – it is their job to identify the leader. Explanation – Leader sets an example for others to follow. What example are you setting in your life for others to follow?
0.20	The Church Story St. Francis of Assisi <i>Print of the St. Francis of Assisi powerpoint and stick the slides up around the room. Each young person gets a fact sheet that they need to complete.</i> To find out about the example St. Francis sets for us, complete the fact hunt. St. Francis turned his back on his wealth as he realised that there was more to life than money and wealth and devoted the rest of his life to spreading the Gospel. Many people since St. Francis have followed his example and many orders have been set up following his simple way. This includes our own Pope, Pope Francis. When he was elected, he chose the name Francis in honour of Francis of Assisi. He said ‘Then, right away, thinking of the poor, I thought of Francis of Assisi. Then I thought of all the wars, as the votes were still being counted, till the end. Francis is also the man of peace. That is how the name came into my heart: Francis of Assisi. For me, he is the man of poverty, the man of peace, the man who loves and protects creation; these days we do not have a very good relationship with creation, do we? He is the man who gives us this spirit of peace, the poor man ... How I would like a Church which is poor and for the poor!’
0.30	Personal Story This time can either be a discussion time, or simply some time of personal reflection when young people can make notes in their journal. Some prompts for any discussion or notes could be: What are the qualities needed for a good leader? Do I value the contributions I make and the work I do? Why would someone want to follow me? Am I inspiring to others? Is it a sign of weakness to show love? Whose feet would you wash? Can you only be a leader if people follow?
0.50	Liturgy <i>You will need a bowl of water and a towel.</i> Invite young people forward in pairs to wash one another’s hands. As they are doing so, reflect on the ways in which they have been called to serve others by God. End with Leader’s Prayer:

Leadership is hard to define.
Lord, let us be the ones to define it with justice.
Leadership is like a handful of water.
Lord, let us be the people to share it with those who thirst.
Leadership is not about watching and correcting.
Lord, let us remember it is about listening and connecting.
Leadership is not about telling people what to do.
Lord, let us find out what people want.
Leadership is less about the love of power
and more about the power of love.
Lord, as we continue to undertake the role of leader let us be
affirmed by the servant leadership we witness in your son Jesus. Let
us walk in the path He has set and let those who will, follow.
Let our greatest passion be compassion.
Our greatest strength love.
Our greatest victory the reward of peace.
In leading let us never fail to follow.
In loving let us never fail.
Amen