



CALLED TO ACTION

Session 4: Rights and Responsibilities

living the Faith
celebrating Prayer
promoting Justice
ready to Serve

Song – Here I am Lord – Dan Shutte

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save. I who
made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

*Here I am Lord, Is it I Lord? I have heard You calling in
the night. I will go Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your
people in my heart.*

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have born my peoples
pain. I have wept for love of them, They turn away. I will
break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love
alone. I will speak My word to them, Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and
lame. I will set a feast for them, My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide, Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them, Whom shall I send?

Video Link: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h82lkLrFKxc>

Prayer for Basic Rights

*From Being Neighbor: The Catechism and
Social Justice, USCCB, April, 1998*

Lord of Wisdom,
awaken us to our duty
to care for the basic needs
of all people.
Strengthen with hope
people denied
their human rights and freedoms.
Provide us all with the voice
to cry out for justice
for the poor and the oppressed.
Amen

Scripture – Faith without Works is Dead (James 2:14-18)

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say
you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save
you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily
food, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace;
keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not
supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that?
So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

But someone will say, “You have faith and I have
works.” Show me your faith apart from your works,
and I by my works will show you my faith.

Church Teaching: Pope John XXIII’s Encyclical, Pacem in Teris

Paragraph 11: But first we must speak of the rights of all people. A person has the right to live. He or she has the right to bodily integrity and to the means necessary for the proper development of life, particularly food, clothing, shelter, medical care, rest, and, finally, the necessary social services. In consequence, all people has the right to be looked after in the event of ill health; disability stemming from his work; widowhood; old age; enforced unemployment; or whenever through no fault of their own they are deprived of the means of livelihood.



Called to Action: Written by The Logos Project on behalf of Auckland Catholic Youth Ministry enabling young people to live their faith.



Ice-Breaker - Line Up 2.0:

Exactly like line up 1.0, just adding part two to the lining up. Instruct participants to line up shoulder to shoulder. With masking tape make a rectangle (with the lines as close to their feet as possible) on the ground around the participant's feet. Now instruct participants to reverse the order without stepping or going outside of the rectangle. If putting masking tape on the floor is not possible, use A3 papers for participants to step in. Example: Get everyone to line up, shoulder to shoulder according to their birthday month (January to December). Once they are all lined up, ask them to change their order to the date of their birthday (1 to 31). They are only allowed to step inside the rectangle or the A3 sheets.

Debrief: Ask who is responsible for ensuring a task is done? What are the responsibilities of each individual? As a community or a group, we all have live in ways that will not only benefit us as individuals but as a collective.

Activity - Inclusion/Exclusion

Background:

Human dignity will be promoted and communities will be strengthened if human rights are protected and everyone shares responsibilities. The Catholic Church teaches that every person who is alive has fundamental rights to live with decency as well as the duty and responsibility to protect those same rights—to one another, to our family, and to the larger society. Through our baptism we are incorporated in the Catholic Church and by being citizens and residents we are part of the society that we live in. We have every right to contribute to the life of the Church and society and have the duty to do what is right for the benefit of such communities.

Task: Inclusion/Exclusion

Split the group into small groups of 5-6 participants. Ask each group to choose one volunteer for a special role (do not indicate if the role is easy or hard). Gather all the chosen volunteers and take them to a room or a place separate from the rest. For the rest, each group will be ask to talk amongst each other and plan an activity like a youth group meeting or a holiday. While the volunteers are out of the room explain to them that they need to participate fully in the activity when they re-enter the room. Suggest that they ask leading questions, be proactive and try to influence what has happened while they are out of the room. Ask them to note how receptive the others are to this.

After about 10 minutes the volunteers re-join their group. Ask them to join the discussion of their group. Observe how the group reacts to the volunteer as the volunteers try to influence decisions being made.

Debrief Questions:

For the volunteer: How did you feel when you re-joined the group? What were the challenges?

For the rest of the group: What kind of effort did you do to make the volunteer feel welcome?

For everyone: Have you ever seen a similar situation elsewhere? Like school, parish youth group or camp?

Final Comments:

It is no coincidence that the Church asks every person to protect the rights and meet responsibilities after she emphasised the value of human life and importance of family and community. The Church wants to teach us that in order for life and community to be protected, we should look after ourselves and each other. An important area of protecting life and community is the promotion of rights and responsibilities. Everyone has the right to belong and be heard and we have the responsibility to listen to their voices in order to build a better society.

