


FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
8	2	3	HOLINESS	HELPING	26: Helping others by listening.

Use the syllabus framework to complete above. Infants: 20 minutes; Juniors: 30 minutes; Middles & Seniors: 45 minutes
(Mod. = Module Number, Module Theme - in the heading, Module Title - uppercase in the cell, Lesson Num [NO. column] and Title)

							
Verbal V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Logical L <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Spatial S <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kinaesthetic K <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Musical M	Intra - personal P1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inter - personal P2 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natural N

Tick the appropriate box(es) above [copy this: ☒] for the modes of learning being used in this session.

Prayer: The Lord's Prayer.

(This is for later >>>) Mention a saint commemorated today. Don't say anything more about this.

Starter: Chinese whisper game: Get at least five people, preferable 10 plus people. Write a few messages down on paper that consist of at least ten words. The message can be serious or downright silly. Be sure it is legible. Sit the players down on the floor in a circle or a line. Give the first player the message note. Have that person explain the message to the next person by whispering it in their ear. They cannot pass on or show the message; that must go back to the person organising or monitoring the game. Request that the next person say whatever they heard, also quickly in the same manner, to the next person. The game goes on until the last person says whatever they heard aloud and the first person reveals the real message. Have them repeat the message very quickly in a whisper to the person sitting next to them. No one else must hear.

Core Activities and Learning

What did we learn from the Chinese whisper game?

Ask the children in what ways can we help a person by listening? How do we learn to listen?

Share examples of good listeners ... eg, a priest in confession, a counsellor, a friend who cares about what we think and feel.

Ask ... who is the most willing to listen and support them in their family?

Explain that people can get similar support in the Church family. As Christians, we should always be willing to support and strengthen one other and listening is a vital part of that.

Read 1 Samuel 3:7-11 - the story of the boy Samuel listening to the Lord.

What can we learn about listening from this story?

Refer to the example of our Lord Jesus Christ who was always willing to listen, help and comfort other people.

Activities: What we need to practice to be a good listener.

1. **CONCENTRATE TO REMEMBER:** What saint was mentioned at the beginning of the lesson? Can any students remember? Why does the deacon / priest say "Wisdom, Attend!" in the services?
2. **SHOW YOUR INTEREST AND CARE:** Explore body language: Show the children different postures (seated). Ask them to identify which show best that you are listening.
3. **HAVE THE RIGHT ATTITUDES:** Ask the children what these might be ... eg: fellow feeling (empathy), patience, courage, warmth, openness, non-judging, don't rush to give advice, avoid "I know how you feel," – you may not!
4. **AFFIRM AND CHECK UNDERSTANDING** – summarise and repeat back what you have heard.
5. **DON'T BE AFRAID OF SILENCES** – these are necessary to thoughtfulness and good listening. Communication is still going on even if you or the other person is silent. Finish the lesson with a shared silence to recall what has been learnt.

Resources: 1 Samuel 3:7-11

Review: Good listening always helps people to feel better about life and helps them to resolve difficulties. It takes a lot of practice and great effort to be a good listener.

Follow Up: Be a good listener for someone next week. What did you learn?