








FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
17	2	3	HOLINESS	Holiness in the Church	72: Love, Joy and Peace

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	Kinaesthetic K	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: Trisagion Prayers

Starter: Read Galatians 5:22-23. Leaders explains that the seed is the gift of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of holiness, in baptism. The fruit of the Spirit ripen through repentance (metanoia).

Learning objectives: To explore the depth and range of love, joy and peace as the crown of the fruits of the Holy Spirit in Christian living.

Core Activities and Learning

1. Love ("agape") LEADER EXPLAINS

There is only one word for love in English but 4 in Greek. "Eros" refers to the affection, intimacy and erotic desire which characterise unitive love. "Philia" is the affectionate regard between equals, usually friends. "Storge" usually applies to the love of parents for children and vice versa. "Agape" – which is the characteristically Christian designation applies to God's unconditional love for His creation which includes a creative "will to good" for all creatures, and a willingness to sacrifice oneself for others. Additionally the Orthodox use agape to describe love within the Body of Christ and the meal that is both the context for the Eucharist and the messianic banquet / table fellowship that Christ maintained with sinners.

ACTIVITY: Discuss – what is the relationship between the love of God manifest in the death and resurrection of Christ and the calling of all Christians to love God and their neighbours as themselves?

2. Joy ("chara") LEADER EXPLAINS

Joy is not mere happiness which is a fleeting condition. Christian joy is deep and permanent and is a blessedness that arises from knowing God personally and His abiding love (Psalm 143 [144]:15). "Chara" proceeds from "agape."

ACTIVITY: Discuss – How is it possible for a Christian to experience unalloyed joy at the same time as suffering in either adversity or in martyrdom for the truth? Use the witness of the early Christian martyrs as an example.

3. Peace ("eirene") LEADER EXPLAINS

Peace is much richer in meaning than the mere absence of conflict. In the soul it is a state of harmony, stability and calmness that comes from a centring of one's life in Christ, the King of Peace and Reconciler of all. Peace is also a social reality in that it transforms relationships, and even the affairs of nations through mutual respect and understanding. Once again, "eirene" proceeds from "agape".

ACTIVITY: Discuss – Jesus said: "Blessed are the peacemakers." (Matthew 5:9). Take a current example of conflict from the news and work out how Christians could serve as peacemakers in that situation.

Resources: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fruit_of_the_Holy_Spirit for etymology of the fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)

Review: Love, joy and peace are the fruits of the Holy Spirit working in Christian lives.

Follow Up: Resolve to deepen one's response to the Love of God in weeks and months to come by asking the Holy Spirit to refine your loving, joyfulness and peace-making of all unworthy and sinful elements.