









FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
18	2	3	HOLINESS	Desert Fathers and Mothers	79: St Pachomius the Great

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	Musical M	Intra - personal P1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inter - personal P2	Natural N

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

Prayer: Trisagion Prayers

Starter: Which is better for a monk? Living on one's own as a hermit and then later moving into a community of monks or the other way round and why? (Answer: Community first and only later on perhaps the solitary life. Reason: You can only learn the obedience which is vital to salvation in a network of relationships with your brother or sister monks. St Pachomius was the founder of communal monasticism (coenobitism).

Learning objectives:

- To appreciate from the life and work of St Pachomius how monastic obedience is always forged by the life in common with other monks.
- Applying this to life in the world ... the Church is the school of love. One cannot be a Christian in isolation from one's brothers and sisters in Christ.

Core Activities and Learning

Leader's Research: The Life of St Pachomius

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pachomius_the_Great

https://orthodoxwiki.org/Pachomius_the_Great

<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2017/05/15/101384-venerable-pachomius-the-great-founder-of-coenobitic-monasticism>

<http://www.omhkse.org/2013/05/saint-pachomios-the-great-and-founder-of-cenobitic-monasticism/> (this site particularly for his teaching and sayings)

icon: https://commons.orthodoxwiki.org/images/a/a5/Pachomius_the_Great.jpg

- The Leader reads edited selections of the Life of St Pachomius from the above sources.
- Copies of the Pachomian Monastery Plan are circulated, (pachomian-monastery.jpg). The synaxis is the communal gathering places for worship and other purposes.
- Using the plan to assist show how the eremitical life was transformed by St Pachomius into a monastic village. The functioning of the community required that senior monastic be in charge, the abbot, (from "abba" father). All the major contemporary monastic traditions can trace their origins in the communal monastic rule to St Pachomis.
- Questions: why might some of the early hermits have been suspicious or resented this move into communal life?
- What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of being in monastic obedience in a community?
- What can we learn from the Pachomian model for the renewal of Orthodox parish life?

Resources: pachomian-monastery.jpg

Review: St Pachomius showed how Christian communities provide the remedy against pride and delusion in the spiritual life.

Follow Up: Research the role of St John Cassian in spreading monasticism from Egypt to the Orthodox Christian west.