






FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

| Age | Term | Mod. | Module Theme | Module Title | Lesson Number and Title |
|-----|------|------|---------------|---------------------------------|---|
| 13 | 2 | 4 | Greek Fathers | Saint Symeon the New Theologian | 54: The Life and Teachings of Saint Symeon the New Theologian |

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)

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| Verbal V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Logical L | Spatial S | Kinaesthetic K <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Musical M <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 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: I give You thanks, to me You are a light that knows no evening, a sun that never sets. Pitch Your tent within me, gracious Master; Take up Your dwelling in me now and remain in Your servant unceasingly, inseparably, to the end. For You are every blessing and all splendour and joy, and to You is due glory, to the Holy, Consubstantial and Life-giving Trinity, worshipped and confessed by all the faithful and adored in Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen. (a prayer of Saint Symeon the New Theologian)

Starter: Play: give every student two differently coloured balls of play-doh and ask them to make two objects of their choice. Then ask them to make a single object by moulding the two objects together. What happens? What do you need to do for the two objects to become one?

Learning objectives: learning about the life and teachings of Saint Symeon the New Theologian

Core Activities and Learning

- Poem analysis: Ask each students to read out loud a stanza or a couple of verses from 'We awaken in Christ's body' (Resource Sheet 54).

Clarify the meaning of the poem and any unknown words or phrases.

Give each student a post-it note with a question and ask them to reflect on it quietly, then share the answer with their discussion partner(s) or with the group, if they would like to do so (potential questions on RS 54).
- Fill in the gaps exercise: Play the recording about the life of Saint Symeon the New Theologian (link on RS 54) and ask the students to complete the sentences (RS 54).
- Discussion: Saint Symeon the New Theologian taught that we can experience Christ's love directly. This may not come in a straightforward form. Can you think of any ways in which God manifests His love? (eg. friends, family, pets, etc.)
- Alternative activity: drawing. 'Christ is joy, everything that seemed to us dark is transformed in Him' – Ask students to draw this phrase the way they see it. It can be an abstract painting, a situation or a portrait. Discuss the drawings.

Resources: Resource Sheet 54, play-doh, printer, pencils, paper, art materials.

Review: Saint Symeon the New Theologian came to faith as a teenager, spent years studying the Scriptures before becoming a monk, and taught that everyone can feel the presence of Christ if they love Him.

Follow Up: Ask students to listen to hymns written by Saint Symeon. Which one did they like most and why?