

FOLLOWERS – LESSON PLAN

Age	Term	Mod.	Module Theme	Module Title	Lesson Number and Title
12	2	4	CELEBRATIONS	SAINTS OF ANTIOCH AND ALL THE EAST	49: Simeon the Stylite

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 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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: Lord's Prayer

Starter: Ask students to name one thing that impressed them from St Ephraim's life. Why?

Learning objectives: To have a general biographical knowledge of St. Simeon the Stylite; how he became a saint; his writings and theology

Core Activities and Learning

1. Read the life of St. Simeon the Stylite here: https://orthodoxwiki.org/Symeon_the_Stylite
Discuss the life and ministry of St Simeon the Stylite in small groups and record findings, presenting them to the class. Discuss why he was glorified as a saint. What were his gifts?

Activity 1: Leader ask the students to listen carefully while one of them says/reads the Beatitudes in Resource Sheet 49 (Matthew 5:1-12). Discuss these briefly. What do they teach us? Ask the students to share practical examples of living by this teaching.

(Here the leader can talk about how the saint was impacted by the Beatitudes. (see Resource Sheet 49)

2. Ask the students if they know why the saint was called the Stylite? Tell them the story and show them the icon of the saint. Why do they think he decided to stand on a pillar? What is important for an ascetic life? (solitude, prayer, obedience etc). Can we apply some of these to our daily life?

Activity 2: Leader ask the students to listen carefully while she/he reads HYMN OF PRAISE for Saint Simeon the Stylite (by St. Nikolai Velimirovich) on Resource Sheet 49. Ask them for their reactions. He devoted himself to intense prayer and fasting. He relied not on his own weak powers, but on the Lord Himself. God granted him to accomplish an astounding apostolic service. Many pagans accepted Baptism, struck by the moral staunchness and bodily strength which the Lord bestowed upon St. Simeon.

3. Read or preferably sing together:

Apolytikion (First Tone):

Thou became a pillar of patience and didst emulate the Forefathers, O righteous one: Job in his sufferings, Joseph in temptations, and the life of the bodiless while in the body, O Symeon, our righteous Father, intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

Kontakion (Second Tone):

Thou sought the heights, though parted not from things below; thy pillar became a chariot of fire for thee. Thou became thereby a true companion of the angelic host; and together with them, O Saint, thou ceaselessly dost pray to Christ God for us all.

Resources: paper and pens, note paper

Review: We pray to Saint Simeon for the return to the Church of those who have forsaken Her, or have been separated from Her.

Follow Up: Research for others saints who lived on a pillar (St. Daniel the Stylite, St. Luke the Stylite)