

LESSON -12

SALT OF THE EARTH AND LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Objective (Learning Outcomes)

Make the students

- To understand God's purpose for them in this world
- To lead a life aligned to that purpose and grow as mature Christians
- To make a positive change on the larger society they can impact

Starter:

Ask the children to think about what they want to become in the next ten years.

Presentation:

Everyday, we are impacting people, organizations and the environment around us with our choices and decisions. Introduce children to the concept of living as salt of the earth and light of the world.

Elucidate the three qualities of salt namely:

1. Adding taste
2. Purifying
3. Protecting

Explain the qualities of being the light, namely:

1. Show the way
2. Dispelling darkness
3. Imparting courage
4. Life giving nature–Salvation

Give examples of people from your church community whom you think are living as salt and light.

Group Activity:

Think of a Christian who has inspired you. Say, a teacher or an influencer or popular personality. Share a few words about how being a Christian made that person stand out to you in your secular circle.

Alternatively, share a video about Justice Kurian Joseph with the children (given below is a URL to a 25 min video).

<https://youtu.be/mgV18jORoDg?si=xI13vHaP0wFmn7vU>

Bible verse:

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16

Habit Formation :

1. Add goodness: Speak and act to bring joy and meaning to others.
2. Shine for truth: Stand firm in faith and guide others by your example.

Homework:

Give the personal reflection sheet to every child entrusted to you by God. Once every child fills it up, arrange for a Eucharistic adoration followed by Holy Qurbana and offer every child on the Altar of God.

The personal reflection is private and personal to every child. Their filled in paper can be symbolically kept at the altar for the prayer and returned back without losing confidentiality if the child so desires.

Personal Reflection sheet :

(To be filled by every student personally and need not be shared with the teacher, if the student so desires)

Have you ever thought of what your purpose is for this life? God, in His sovereign wisdom, has an intended purpose for each and every human life. Our lives never find complete satisfaction until we are aligned to this purpose.

Now, maybe you are thinking that you are not so gifted/talented like the many others around you or maybe you are racing fast and focused towards the well-defined goal that you know you are meant to achieve or you are just thinking it's too early to even think of such questions.. (Guess it's enough ORs for now)! Well, whichever place you are at.. it is good enough to start. Please fill this up. Before you start, a small prayer could be of help. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you write.

God's general will for all

1. **Personal Holiness (A thriving relationship with Christ and His Church)**
2. **Being a witness for Jesus to all the people around you**
3. **Social Justice**
4. **Working with your local Church for the extension of God's Kingdom**

Your Talents & Skill-set

List down talents you are trained in and talents that you think you have. Eg. Singing, dancing, speaking, coordinating, arranging, teaching, praying, persevering at any work, athletics, sports, handling kids well etc. and skills like Coding, arithmetic, video editing, public speaking, make-up and beauty, physical training etc.

Your Personality and Desires

Write about your personality. Are you an introvert or an extrovert, creative thinker or more into analysis and systematic thinking? Write down any aspect of what you know about yourself. It could be things/ situations which excite you and things/situations which unsettle you.

Also, your desires matter to God. Write down your desires.

Your life circumstances

What are your experiences in life so far? Are you already working at something? Have you had to face tragic interruptions like illness, loss? Were there doors opened for you (opportunities)? What are your constraints? These could be divine interventions!

Each one of you has a very unique set of talents, personality, skills and life experiences. May be there is already a career plan you have, may be it is circumstances that is driving you to a certain course for now, or maybe you are confused. But know that in every sphere that God places us, we can excel, we can leave a mark and bring about a positive impact for many others if we align our lives to the purpose of our creator. The only thing you cannot be is to be indifferent to God's call! Keep doing this introspection, every time you feel like recalibrating your life. God Bless!