



Lesson Plan



Chapter 4

TORCH BEARERS

Grade 5 & 6

People of Israel in Egypt

Objective

At the end of the lesson the students should be able to

- Narrate the life of Joseph and the important phases of his life.
- Learn that Prophets and men of God always heed God's voice and plan.
- Know the significance of the role of patriarchs and prophets in salvation history.
- Understand the power of Faith especially during testing times
- Value the importance of living a life of holiness at all times and experiencing God's saving power.

Introduction

The teacher can share the story of Saint Gerard Majella or any story on similar lines.

St. Gerard Majella was an Italian lay brother of the Congregation of the Redeemer (Redemptorists).

He did not give up on God and lived a life filled with faith and determination. There was a woman who wanted to defame St Gerard. She falsely accused him of being her child's father. He remained silent to protect the father of the child.

The congregation he belonged to was in a state of shock. They did not allow him to receive communion. However, he was not expelled. He stood at the end of the Church and took part in the Holy Mass. Years later the woman revealed the truth, confessed that she had lied and asked pardon for her mistake. Many miracles were attributed to St. Gerard, with most of them being

related to childbirth. He is the patron saint of pregnant women and women praying to the saint for motherhood.

St. Gerard's life is an example of utmost faith in God during troubled times.

Presentation of the Topic

Teacher can narrate the story of Joseph who was hated by his brothers because his father favoured him over others, with emphasis on certain aspects as below

- Josephs Dream – His ability to dream and interpret the dreams added to the brothers' hatred of him
- Joseph in Egypt – The tumultuous turn of events in his life finally landing him in prison.
- Interpreting Dreams – The Lord was kind to him and gave him the ability to interpret dreams which was part of the Lord's plan to lead him to prosperity.
- Joseph, Governor of Egypt – Joseph's forewarning about the impending famine based on the dream and his elevation to the Governor's post was part of a greater plan of God for Joseph
- Israel to Egypt – The revelation of Joseph to his brothers, reconciliation with the family and being gifted the most fertile land was the culmination of the journey of Israel to reach Egypt through Joseph. The teacher can add how Joseph's life entailed the 3 P's – Life from pit to prison and from prison to palace. It was a journey of sacrifice, faith, love and surrender to God's will.
- Twelve Tribes of Joseph – The teacher can draw parallel between the 12 tribes in the Old Testament and the 12 apostles in the New Testament and explain the similarities.

Habit Formation

Students can be encouraged to adapt the following values in their day-to-day life to increase their faith and grow closer to God.

- Utilise talent for God's glory and the needs of others.
- Be faithful to your call in life wherever you are in life.
- Do hard work, be honest in life which will lead you to success.

Activity

Divide the students into groups of 4 or 5 each and ask each group to note down similarities in the life of Jesus and Joseph. They can be asked to compare the points with other groups to share and learn from each other.

Bible Verse

'And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life'

(Gen 45:5)

Conclusion

Conclude the lesson by sharing the key message – The New Testament is the fulfilment of the Old Testament. We understand God's plan of salvation. We the New Testament Israel must offer our lives to God for the fulfilment of his plan.