

Session 4 - Power Plant

Aim :Exploring the implications of relativism, and the call to have our faith rooted and built up in Jesus Christ.



Scripture: *“Planted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the Faith”–Col 2:7*

Tools of the Journey: Scripture

PowerPoint slideshow for reflection on the importance of being *‘Planted and built up in Jesus Christ’* through sacraments, adoration, holy mass, example of saints etc. There is an emphasis on how to be rooted in the God through scripture.

Big Group Activity: Take Your Stand

1. Video – Exploring the question and issue of relativism, based on Pope Benedict’s letter to the youth regarding World Youth Day Madrid. Posing the question *‘What is Truth?’*

2. Game - Relativism Questions

Part 1: Participants are to close their eyes, and express their stance of yes/no/I don’t know on the follow questions by putting their hands on either their head/hip/cross arms. They then will move to either side of the room according to their choice. The leader will then chose participants from each side randomly to explain their stance.

1. Do you think it’s alright to secretly do Church related work while you still have an unfinished project for your paid job?
2. Is it an issue for you to download pirated games, music, movies and programs?
3. Should any government have a right to define and restrict what it deems to be inappropriate content on the internet? (e.g. pornography, extreme violence, political secrets otherwise unknown to the general public)

Part 2: Same as part 1, except participants stay in their position to explain their stance. After listening to the different opinions, participants will close their eyes again and are given the opportunity to change their stance. Leaders will then count the percentage of participants who changed their stance after listening to the opinions and report it back to the group after the game.

1. A certain cancer research currently involves testing on many baby embryos, many of which will die. Finding a cure however means the curing of breast cancer. Would you support this research?
2. Is it okay to steal food if your family is starving?
3. Should artificial contraception be taught in Africa to stem the flow of AIDS?
4. Should Australia accept illegal migrants/asylum seekers into our borders?

Purpose: This game is not aimed to obtain the correct answer, but to explore the diversity of opinions the world holds and the effects they have on how we make decisions. In a world of conflicting opinions, everything seems to be relative, there is no one absolute truth or value, and this poses a question on what we as Christians can base on, to make decisions in this ever changing world. Highlighting the greater importance for Christians to be ‘Planted and rooted in Jesus Christ, firm in the Faith.’

Session 4 - Power Plant

Aim: Exploring the implications of relativism, and the call to have our faith rooted and built up in Jesus Christ.

Song: Firmes en la fe (WYD official theme song)

Chorus:

Firmes en la fe, firmes en la fe!
We go forward in Christ, he's our companion
and he is Lord! Glory be to him! Glory be to him!
We go forward in Christ, made stronger in our
faith.

Refer to attachment 1 for full lyrics, MP3 song
can be downloaded from WYD Madrid official
website: www.madrid11.com/en

Prayer: Friends and Lord Jesus Christ (WYD official prayer)

Friend and Lord Jesus Christ,
How great You are!
With Your words and Works You have revealed to
us Who God is, Your Father and our Father,
and Who You are: our Savior.
You call us to be with You.

Grant us Your Holy Spirit, to enlighten and
strengthen us. The Virgin Mary, the Mother You
gave us on the cross, always encourages us to do
what You say.

You are our Life. May our thoughts,
our love and our actions always be rooted in You!
You are our Rock. May our faith in You
always be the solid foundation of our life!

We pray for Pope Benedict XVI,
for the Bishops and for all those who
are preparing the next World Youth Day
in Madrid. We pray for our family and friends
and especially for all the young people who will
get to know you in this encounter, thanks to the
firm and joyful testimony of the faith.

Small Group Activity:

1. Warm up activity - 1 Minute Stardom

Each person in the group is given a minute to talk, other members must keep quiet and cannot interrupt. The person may share about anything happening in their life or any random thoughts for 1 minute.

2. Discussion questions:

- **Is there such thing as absolute right or wrong? What is the truth?**
- What do you trust in the world?
- Why did the pope choose this theme, "Planted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the Faith"?
- Is it alright to sit on the fence-line and not take a stance on anything?
- Should religion mix with politics? Why / why not?
- How do you judge if you have made the correct stance e.g. on politics, on ethics/morality?



Session 4: "Power Plant"

Aim: Exploring the implications of relativism, and the call to have our faith rooted and built up in Jesus Christ.

Scripture: 'Planted and built up in Jesus Christ, rooted in the Faith.' – col 2: 7

Introduction:

1. Theme Song: *Firmes en la fe* – WYD official theme song
2. Introduction (to course, and today's theme) and welcome. Recognise and greet new faces

Big Group activity:

Video– Exploring the question and issue of relativism, based on Pope Benedict's Letter to the youth regarding World Youth Day Madrid. Ends with the question: "What is Truth?"

Take your stand - relativism questions

Pre-brief: this game is not on finding out the right opinions, but to explore the diversity of possible opinions the world may hold and the effects they have on how we make decisions.

Part 1: Participants are to close their eyes, and express their stance of yes/no/I don't know on the follow questions by putting their hands on either their head/hip/cross arms. They then will move to either side of the room according to their choice. The leader will then chose participants from each side randomly to explain their stance.

1. Do you think it's alright to secretly do Church related work while you still have an unfinished project for your paid job?
2. Is it an issue for you to download pirated games, music, movies and programs?
3. Is it okay to steal food if your family is starving?

Part 2: Participants are to close their eyes, and express their stance of yes/no/I doesn't know by putting their hands on either their head/hip/cross arms. They then stay in their position, and the leader will chose participants of different opinions randomly to explain their stance. After listening to the different opinions, participants will close their eyes again and are given the opportunity to change their stance. Leaders will then count the percentage of participants who changed their stance after listening to the opinions and report it back to the group after the game.

1. A certain cancer research currently involves testing on many baby embryos, many of which will die. Finding a cure however means the curing of breast cancer. Would you support this research?
2. Should any government have a right to define and restrict what it deems to be inappropriate content on the internet? (e.g. pornography, extreme violence, political secrets otherwise unknown to the general public)
3. Should artificial contraception be taught in Africa to stem the flow of AIDS?
4. Should Australia accept illegal migrants/asylum seekers into our borders?

De-brief: There are so many different opinions in the world, that it seems everything is relative, there is no one absolute truth or value, and this poses a question and confuses us, on what we as Christians can base on, to make decisions in this every changing world. Highlighting the greater importance for Christians to be 'Planted and rooted in Jesus Christ, firm in the Faith.'

PowerPoint Slide – for reflection on the importance of being ‘rooted and built up in Jesus Christ’ through sacraments, adoration, holy mass, prayer, examples of Saints etc. with quotes from the bible.

Tools of the Journey:

Journaling -Where are you planted?

Provides quiet time for participants to reflect on their life, where they were planted in the past and where are they planted now at this stage of their life.

----- Break-----

Small Group Activity:

Warm up activity: 1 Minute Stardom

Each person in the group is given a minute to talk, other members must keep quiet and cannot interrupt. The person may share about anything happening in their life or any random thoughts for 1 minute.

Discussion

Suggested discussion questions:

1. **Is there such thing as absolute right or wrong? What is the truth?**
2. What do you trust in the world?
3. Why did the pope choose this theme, “Planted and built up in Jesus Christ, firm in the Faith”?
4. Is it alright to sit on the fence-line and not take a stance on anything?
5. Should religion mix with politics? Why / why not?
6. How do you judge if you have made the correct stance e.g. on politics, on ethics/morality?

Conclude

1. **Song** – *Firmes en la fe* (WYD official theme song)

Attachment 1

FIRMES EN LA FE
Madrid World Youth Day Theme

Firmes en la fe, firmes en la fe!
We go forward in Christ, he's our companion and he is Lord!
Glory be to him! Glory be to him!
We go forward in Christ, made stronger in our faith.

Your love, it builds us up and keeps us rooted,
Your cross, it gives us constant strength and courage,
Your flesh, it ever saves us and sustains us,
Your blood, it flows to cheer us and renew us.

Firmes en la fe...
Your hands, they hold us when we have been wounded,
Your eyes, they purify the way we see things,
Your lips, they speak to us words of forgiveness,
Your feet, they guide our steps to find life's fullness.

Firmes en la fe...
Your breath, it is the breeze that blows from heaven,
Your smile, it is the sign of grace and blessing,
Your precious wounds, they are love's burning embers,
Your sorrows are the price of our souls' ransom.

Firmes en la fe...
Your face is like an icon of life's fullness,
Your countenance is light from death returning,
Your death, it is the reason for my living,
The baptism of my flesh in your salvation.

Firmes en la fe...
Your glory is our future, men and women
Who, aided by your grace, go forth together;
Your Church, a house which has a thousand doorways,
A house built on your rock, so firmly rooted.

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Your face is like an icon of life's fullness,
Your countenance is light from death returning,
Your death, it is the reason for my living,
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Firmes en la fe...
Your glory is our future, men and women
Who, aided by your grace, go forth together;
Your Church, a house which has a thousand doorways,
A house built on your rock, so firmly rooted.

Firmes en la fe...

We are the young, and Mary journeys with us,
And like a joyful bride she sings your praises;
With her we too shall sing and praise your triumph,
Because already death has been defeated.

Firmes en la fe...