

2nd SUNDAY CYCLE A TEEN groups

Materials: Bible, candle, meditative music

Opening Prayer: Dear Jesus, we want to be your witnesses of truth, love, and generosity. Thank you for revealing to your disciples and to us that you are truly God. Amen.

Reading Scripture: Genesis 12:1-4; Psalm 33:4-5, 18-20, 22; 2 Timothy 1:8-10; Matthew 17:1-9

Let's Reflect

The witness of every young person is important.

Reader 1: Light bulbs come in many sizes and strengths: 100, 75, 60 watts, and so forth. There is even the very small nightlight, which, in relation to the other bulbs, seems very insignificant.

Reader 2: However, this nightlight is the one light that helps family members and visitors to find their way and keep them from stumbling in the dark.

Reader 3: Do we see ourselves as lights for others? How important are we in God's plan of salvation?

Reader 4: Most of us are only little nightlights – but oh, how important our small light is in God's plan. The way we live our lives may help bring someone to Christ.

Let's Explore!

Leader: Form small groups. Each group thinks of a situation where the light (love, forgiveness) of Christ is needed. Prepare and present a skit that demonstrates how the teachings of Jesus can transform the situation.

Let's Talk!

Form small groups and discuss the following.

1. Discuss the skits that were presented.
2. In the Gospel, Jesus is transfigured and appears dazzling white. How can you tell when someone has been touched by God's love? Discuss. How can others tell when the light of Christ's love has touched you? Discuss.
3. Peter wanted to set up tents on the mountaintop. Have you ever wanted to freeze time, "set up your tent," to keep things from changing? Discuss.
4. When Jesus was on the mountain, he was among believers. How do you know when you are among believers? Discuss. Do you talk about God or religion with your friends? Share.
5. Is it difficult to live Christian values when others around you don't share the same values? Discuss.
6. In the Gospel, God spoke through a cloud. Where do you "hear" God speaking to you? Share.

Let's Live It!

Select one or more actions and be prepared to share next week.

1. Write a prayer, poem, or song about how we are to be a light to others.
2. Our global environment challenges us to conserve energy. Turn off lights when they are not needed.
3. This week let your light shine. For example, make the sign of the cross at meals (home/public) and each time you pass a Catholic Church.
4. Each evening, reflect on how you let God's light shine through you.
5. Every time you turn a light on this week, pray, "Lord, let me be your light to others."
6. Pray the Memory Verse each day.

Let's Pray!

Play soft meditative music. Darken the room and gather around the prayer table. Individually approach the table and hold the candle, a symbol of Christ, and pray silently or aloud for the strength to share the light of Christ with others. Conclude by singing an appropriate hymn and/or praying the **Our Father**. Share a sign of peace with each other.